

Meeting location: Martin & Linda Ferlito's – 13 Pine Ave. Bradbury

1. **Present:** John Rombi, Martin Ferlito, Dick Everett, Kate Johnson, Daniel Ross, Lloyd Wright, Bob Bee  
**Apologies:** N/A
2. **Minutes of Previous meeting** dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007:  
Moved/Seconded that they be adopted. CARRIED
3. **Business Arising from Minutes:**
  - 3.1 **Raffling of spare society telescope.** Further consideration was given as to which scope should be raffled. It was agreed we raffle the recently acquired 8" Dob, as the 6" MacDob had a more member-friendly carrying box and accessories. M/S/CARRIED
  - 3.2 **Progress with layout of website.** Work on website layout is still in progress. The test website is currently located on a part of Chris Malikoff's own website.
  - 3.3 **Report on meeting about issues with Chat Room proposal.** This meeting has not occurred yet as Chris wanted a chance to talk with the Committee first. The committee discussed the pros & cons of having a 'members only' forum and a Chat room, including the legal responsibilities and possible risks to MAS. In any event, MAS would have to have in place clear policies re the operation of either facility to protect MAS if problems arise. If we were to proceed, it was considered best to do the Forum (members only) first and see how it works before considering an open Chat Room. It was noted that if a group of members wished to have an on-line communications process, there were existing free facilities on ninemsn that would serve the purpose with no exposure of MAS to risk.  
  
It was agreed that John Rombi would first conduct a 'straw poll' of society members to assess the demand for either facility on the MAS website before any further action is taken. The efforts that Martin and Chris have made on this issue to date were recognized and greatly appreciated.
  - 3.4 **Progress with Asset register items locations.** Dick has spoken to the members currently holding assets and arrangements will be made over the holidays for them to be returned as appropriate.
  - 3.5 **Sale of Astronomy 2008 and planispheres.** It was reported that 23 of the 30 copies held were purchased, as well as 2 planispheres.
  - 3.6 **Status of 'Section' leaders.** This had been raised at the November General meeting. The following Sections/Leaders have currently been agreed upon:

<b>Section Subject</b>	<b>Leader</b>
Deep Sky	John Rombi
Amateur Telescope Making/Hardware	Dick Everett
Astrophotography/Imaging/Alignment	Martin Ferlito
Double Stars	Ian Cook
Lunar and Planetary Astronomy	Ned Pastor
Binocular Astronomy/Constellation Identification	Bob Bee

4. **Regular Business:**
  - 4.1 **Treasurer's Report:** The report to 30 November 2007 was tabled and discussed.  
Moved/Seconded/CARRIED that it be adopted.

**4.2 Speakers for 2008.** So far we have: February (Gerahnt Lewis – Galaxy Cannibilisation); March (The Rosses – Greenwich + websites for planetariums); May (Brian Gaensler).

**4.3 Rotary Observatory Report.** No report as no nights are organized.

**5. Correspondence**

**5.1 Inwards**

- a) **Membership application from Michael Clark and Eddy Bagnall.** Applications and cheques received. Moved/Seconded/CARRIED that both applications be approved. Secretary to write to both with receipts.
- b) **Campbelltown City Show Society re space at April 2008 Show.** The Show will be on Fri-Sun 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> April 2008. The opportunities that the proposed display at the Show provided were discussed and it was decided that MAS accept the offer, subject to some checks first. Need to check if this is OK by our Public Liability Insurance. Then need to check we will sufficient members to man the stall (minimum of 2 people at a time) on the 3 days (this is a condition of the Show). Bob will contact Insurance Company to check. Show organizers need to have all paperwork by 25<sup>th</sup> January.
- c) **Journeys Worldwide P/L re Russian Eclipse Tour.** The brochure for the Russian Eclipse travel package was examined. MAS will take no further action except make the details available to individual members if requested.

**5.2 Outwards**

- a) Letter to Wayne Harrison re approval of Membership application. Noted.

**6. Membership:** No further discussion.

**7. New Business**

7.1 Kate will produce a Prime Focus for January 08. Deadline for articles is 14<sup>th</sup> January.

**8. Business for Next Committee Meeting**

8.1 Workshops for 2008.

**9. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Martin & Linda Ferlito's

**10. Closing of Meeting:** Meeting Closed 9:45pm.

**11. Action Items for Next/Future Meetings**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Action By:</b>	<b>Action</b>
3.1	John Rombi	Make arrangements for raffle of 8" Dob in 2008.
3.3	John Rombi	Conduct straw poll of MAS members regarding interest in either a members forum or chat room in macastro website.
3.4	John Rombi, Dick Everett	Follow up members with MAS assets for return as appropriate.
5.1	Bob Bee	Write to Michael Clark and Eddy Bagnall about membership application acceptance.
5.2	Bob Bee	Contact Insurance Company about cover at the Campbelltown Show.
5.2	Bob Bee	If OK for Campbelltown Show (Insurance and resources), send details to Show organizers by 25 <sup>th</sup> January 08.