



PO Box 17, Minto, NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY Inc.

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Held at 13 Namatjira Close, Eagle Vale, NSW
on Wednesday 3rd June 2009.

Meeting Opened 7.41 pm, Closed 9.30 pm

1. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

JR opened the meeting at 7.40 pm and welcomed Tony Law to his first meeting as Treasurer.

Present: J. Rombi (Chair), T. Rhodes, T. Law, S. Grainger, I. Fox & R. Powell.

Apologies: received and accepted from Lloyd Wright & Ragbir Bhathal.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 6th May 2009

The minutes were previously distributed and were taken as read. Motion: "That the Minutes of 6th May Management Committee Meeting be adopted" moved JR, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Open Nights

30th May – matters arising: The event was rained out. Approx 30-40 members of the public and nine MAS members attended a talk by R. Bathal: "Life On Mars". Successful under the circumstances. JR advised of his concern that R. Bathal had told three members that he had instructed M. Woolley of UWS to tell people not to come if it is cloudy, which is contrary to UWS/MAS agreement. He will e-mail RB about this.

4th July – next event: Suggestions: (a) obtain booking list from M. Woolley at c.o.b. 3rd July; (b) hand out business cards; (c) use traffic cones; (d) improve signage; (e) flyers advertising 'Telescopes for Beginners'; (f) membership forms; (g) waive joining fee if joining on the night.

3.2 Rotary Observatory

Six members (C. Malikoff, G. Young, R. Armstrong, M. Clark, D. Taylor & R. Powell) completed training on both instruments and are available for backup duty on public nights, plus D. Ross (already trained).

3.3 Telescope Building Optics

The gift of mirror blanks to MAS was advertised and C. Malikoff was the only person to express any interest. Chris agreed to make a small donation to MAS in exchange for the materials.

3.4 Bank Account Signatories

The four account signatories have been changed to JR, TL, TR & RP.

3.5 Telescopes for Beginners

One registration of interest so far for a possible junior course, as advertised on the home page.

3.6 PayPal Account

JR is still trying to obtain release of \$80.00 and has been told to expect a resolution next week.

3.7 Any Other Business arising From The Minutes

No other business arising.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report

TL reported the following:

Balance at last meeting:	\$6192.74
Donations, Open Night 2 nd May	+\$164.75
DVD sales	+\$40.00
Beanie sales	+\$195.00
Membership	+\$365.00
Cash from coffee sales	+\$210.00
Cash, Open Night 30 th May, incl DVD	+\$35.00
Annual DOFT fee	-\$45.00
Trivia Night	-\$20.94
Printing	-\$308.00
Beanie purchase	-\$204.00
Guest speaker dinner	-\$30.00
Cabin fees	-\$33.00
Current Balance:	\$6,396.80

Float: D. Taylor \$37.25 for coffee. Since the above, H. Pew rejoined (\$35.00) and D. Cartwright's membership cheque has been returned as he had already paid. Motion: "That the Treasurer's report be adopted and accounts passed for payment" moved TL, seconded IF. Carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership

Membership: TL reported we have 60 paid up members, and 2 honorary members. Nine members failed to renew. Two are definite cancellations. The total of 62 is one ahead of last year.

TL Suggestions: members should encourage friends to come to public nights (agreed); waive \$10.00 joining fee for those joining at the public night (agreed); sell MAS beanies to public (agreed).

Membership ID cards and name tags: TR has done the new name tags. Membership cards to follow. David Wijesinge: TL has no details on membership database. JR to locate membership form.

4.3 Merchandise

Stock: SG circulated a monthly stock-take, which included 13 shirts (value \$315.25); 5 beanies (\$51.00); 7 starwheels (\$112.80); 28 Magnitude DVDs (\$126.00); Total stock value: \$605.05. 15 beanies sold.

Possible orders: MAS patches; more shirts, more beanies; laminated moon pictures; long sleeve shirts.

Prime Focus: SG to advertise merchandise in *Prime Focus*.

Public Night: Donations: \$10.00, sold two DVDs and one beanie.

4.4 General Meetings - Room Bookings & Guest Speakers

Room is booked to end of year.

15th Jun: Bob Bee; 20th Jul: Chris Malikoff; Aug: Geraint Lewis; Sep/Oct: ??; Nov: Dr Tim Robshaw (Parkes).

2010 possibles: Dr Orsola De Marco (Macquarie Uni); Rob McNaught; Patrick Tisserand (Dark Matter).

4.5 Members Observing Nights

Since last meeting: 16th May: Stargard cancelled; 23rd May: Forest: 3 members & one visitor had clear sky for 4 hours.

Coming up: The Forest: 20th June; Stargard: 27th June.

4.6 Public & Community Education Events for IYA2009

13th June – Tudor House: Bob Bee presentation, followed by students viewing. RP to visit 4th June.

4.7 Prime Focus magazine

Deadline for next issue. Next Monday 8th June. Geoff Young has taken over as Editor.

4.8 Website & Forum: administration & content

On-line Shop: Chris will make the membership form interactive. JR will discuss with Chris M.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Mail Inward

UWS: Copy of article from The Weekend Australian 9-10 May re SETI (x2)

Bintel: Night Sky May edition.

United Edge: Literature about database software for organisations.

Membership renewals: M. Baddah; L&K Southwell; D. Cartright; R. Monkcom; H Pew.

Tom Richards: complaint re Open Night on 2nd May. (no return address given).

Cawdor Public School: JR received invitation to school on 29th June (accepted).

5.2 Mail Outward

Dept of Fair Trading: Form 12 and cheque for \$45.00

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Laser Pointers: IF advised that he had been complying with Camden Police request to advise them when using his laser pointer at home. Recently he was emphatically (and incorrectly) refused permission to use it. RP said another member (R.Bee) had also called Camden Police as a courtesy and was not treated seriously. Members may advise police but this is not required by law or MAS. The police do not have the authority to refuse permission. No further action at this stage.

7 BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Public nights, Tudor House, Membership ID cards and name tags, PayPal, Merchandise.

8 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1st July, 7.30 pm, at Tony Law's residence.

9 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Roger Powell
Secretary
4th June 2009