



**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Held at 1 Brewster Place, Leumeah
on Wednesday 4th August 2010

Meeting opened 7.38 pm, closed at 9.33 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Present: John Rombi (Chair), Trevor Rhodes, Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Stewart Grainger, Chris Malikoff & Roger Powell. Apologies: Lloyd Wright.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The previously distributed minutes were taken as read. Minor correction to the address.

Motion: "That the minutes of 7th July 2010 Meeting be adopted". Moved: JR, Seconded: TL, carried unanimously. The minutes were signed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Australian Astronomical Observatory Visit, 13th - 15th August:

Bookings are closed with 26 people. Transport will be a 25 seater bus, a trailer and one car. Departure from Narellan at 9.00 am. LW will be driver, Geoff Young will be backup driver. Thirteen double rooms are booked. Lunch's are not included in the price, nor is the cost of the evening visit to the observatory in Coonabarabran, near the motel. Paul Cass from the local astronomical society will be our guide, as will Donna Burton (AAO Outreach Officer).

3.2 Review of Constitution:

The sub-committee of TR, TL & RP has met three times and is close to bringing a proposal to the committee for consideration. However, it is still awaiting publication of the DOFT draft constitution.

3.3 Any other business arising from the minutes:

None.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

(i) Monthly financial report to 30th June: TL presented a monthly report (appended). Cash position summary:

Term deposit:	\$5,000.00
Cash account:	\$9,687.20
PayPal account:	\$63.14
Refreshment float:	\$37.25
Merchandise float:	\$100.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS:	<u>\$14,887.59</u>
Est. liability for the AAO visit:	-\$6,095
New cheques:	-\$908.00
Net cash assets:	<u>\$7,884.59</u>

Since the report, the bank balance has increased from \$9,647.20 to \$9687.20. Cheques have since been written for mugs (\$858) and C.Malikoff (\$50.00) for DVDs.

(ii) Motion: "That the Treasurer's Report be adopted". Moved: TL, seconded: JR, carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership:

(i) membership approvals: motion "That the membership application for Carlos Ciudad Real be approved";

moved TL, seconded JR, carried unanimously.

(ii) membership status. Current financial membership is 79 financial and three honorary members. Total 82.

(iii) it was agreed that the membership form should include a reference to fees being non-refundable.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding: No formal report this month but several items were sold over the last month.

(ii) acquisition of new stock: 100 new MAS mugs are now in stock for sale at \$12.00 (\$10.00 to members).

4.4 General meetings:

(i) Andrew Hopkins withdrew from the August meeting but has arranged for Dr. Max Spolaor to talk on 'The Chemical Evolution of Galaxies' instead; Sep: Dr. N. McLure-Griffith; Oct: R. Bee; Nov: Prof. Gaensler.

(ii) Vanda Whitworth appears to have left UWS, so JR will be trying to talk to someone else about changing the room.

4.5 Members observing nights at Stargard and The Forest:

Last month's observing nights: The Forest: 10th July (cloudy); Stargard: 17th July (clear, approx 15 members).

Observing nights coming up: The Forest: 7th August; Stargard: 14th August. TR is in charge of Stargard.

4.6 Public outreach events in 2010:

(i) 21st August: International House – student's night at the Forest. Need lots of telescopes.

(ii) Future public nights: We may hold another public night on November 14th.

(iii) 4th - 9th October: 'Magnitude' event at Campbelltown Arts Centre:

Image Display & Printing: Chris is preparing each image. Council has offered to print sixty A3 astro-images free of charge and Chris will meet their print manager in the next few days to run tests. Chris asked for help with the text description for each display item. Chris will also ascertain lighting conditions at the venue. Council has also agreed to print postcards. Carol suggested 'The Domes' be included in the display and David Jones be approached to assist with historical display.

Telescope Display: Need to check Art Gallery insurance coverage. Website poll revealed at least 11 telescopes have been offered by members.

Merchandise: A stall will make our merchandise available for purchase, including A4 copies of display images by order form @ \$10.00 each. Chris has obtained a new run of the 2009 'Ice In Space Compendium' (150x). Chris will also make a '3D' image compendium of illuminated images to demonstrate how RGB images are compiled. Donations box required. Review need for credit card facility.

Daily Attendance: The poll revealed we can rely on about five members in attendance at any one time.

Promotion: Local tourism and media have been alerted. We may issue invitations to schools for the display during the week. Arts Centre to be consulted on this.

Coffee Shop: It was agreed to advise the coffee shop of the numbers expected on Saturday and they can make a commercial decision whether to be open or not.

Public Talks: David Reneke will talk from 4.30 - 5.30 pm. Both he and David Malin will then be offered a meal at the Club and this will be followed by David Malin's talk at 7.00 pm. David Malin's fee will be \$200, David Reneke will only charge for his fuel from Central Coast. Chris will determine if the talks can be fed to an external monitor and possibly recorded.

Opening: RP to issue a formal invitation to Council for the Mayor to open the talks.

Ticketing: The advantages and disadvantages of issuing tickets was reviewed. It was generally agreed to promote the event without tickets on a 'first come, first served' basis and to encourage early arrival.

4.7 Prime Focus magazine:

Contributions for Prime Focus and the Annual Report close with the Editor on 9th August.

4.8 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook:

It was noted that many members do not understand the Private message system. Chris was asked to give a short talk at the next meeting, in a effort to get members to understand it.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Correspondence in:

Bintel Night Sky magazines for July and August.
Membership application from Carlos Ciudad Real.
Letter from Wollondilly Shire Council about use of water at sportsgrounds.
E-mails from Domain Registration Services including receipt and certificate.

5.2 Correspondence out:

Membership approval letter to Murray Parkinson; and letter to Murat Ilhan, rejecting his demand for refund of his membership fees.

5.3 Publicity:

August Meeting: Diary notices (print version and web versions); Facebook; Website.
Art Gallery Event: CCC Website improved. Submitted to Southern Highlands Tourism and Art Centre.
Chronicle newspaper: Great article about the Art Gallery this week. MAS has agreed to make The Chronicle our 'Media Partner' for this event, on the basis that there are no conditions attached.

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Camden library:

SG will investigate a display at Camden Library.

7 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Business: Magnitude and a 'post-mortem' on the AAO trip.

Date: Wed 1st September. Location: <tba>

8 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 9.33 pm.

*Roger Powell
Secretary
5th August 2010*

Signed: *J.Rombi (President)* *R. Powell (Secretary)*

APPENDIX 1 - MAS Treasury & Membership Report 1st August 2010

Banking 20/7/10

24852 Murray Parkinson	Mem	\$50.00	chq
24853 Ray Armstrong	AAO	\$400.00	
24854 Henry Swierk	AAO	\$200.00	
24855 Dick Everett	AAO	\$200.00	chq
24856 M & C Jupe	AAO	\$400.00	
24857 Geoff Young	AAO	\$200.00	
24858 Deb Taylor	AAO	\$200.00	
24859 Graeme Bellamy	AAO	\$200.00	chq
24860 Sandy Devlin	AAO	\$400.00	
24861 Carol McVeigh	AAO	\$200.00	
24862 Jack Goralwski	Mem	\$50.00	
24863 Ned Pastor	AAO	\$200.00	chq
24864 Geoff Young	Dinner	\$28.00	
24865 Stewart Grainger	Dinner	\$28.00	
24866 Roger Powell	Dinner	\$28.00	
24867 Tony Law	Dinner	\$28.00	
Paid Cash to Ned	Forest	-\$41.00	
Donation		\$14.00	

\$2,785.00

Treasury

Bank transactions 01/07 – 31/07/2010

2/07/2010	Dave Wijesinghe - Aao in full	24868	\$250.00		5628.20	
2/07/2010	Chris Malokoff	299		\$40.00	5588.20	not yet presented
5/07/2010	Sarkis G -AAO in full	24849	\$250.00		5838.20	
19/07/2010	R&J Powell - AAO bal	24869	\$400.00		6238.20	
20/07/2010	T & A Rhodes dinner	24870	\$56.00		6294.20	
20/07/2010	See deposit slip for details	24852-24867	\$2,785.00		9079.20	
21/07/2010	Chris Malikoff - AAO bal	24871	\$ 200.00		9279.20	
23/07/2010	Mike Nicholas - AAO bal	24872	\$ 200.00		9479.20	
23/07/2010	Stewart Grainger - AAO bal	24873	\$ 200.00		9679.20	
23/07/2010	AG Law - for envelopes & postage	300		\$32.00	9647.20	balances with unrepresented cheque

Barry Moore is holding a cash float of \$37.25 for coffee etc.
 Stewart has \$100.00 cash float for merchandising
 PayPal account \$63.14

Membership

We have no new application to consider: Jack Goralewski's payment received at last meeting card. With the confirmed resignation of Murat Ilhan we have 78 members paid up for 2010 plus our 3 honorary members.

Tony Law
 Hon. Treasurer

(NB One new membership application received after this Report was prepared).