



PO Box 17, Minto, NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Held at 31 George Caley Place, Mt Annan, NSW
on Wednesday 5th January 2011

Meeting opened 7.35 pm, closed at 10.02 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

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

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The previously distributed minutes were taken as read. Motion: "That the minutes of 1st December 2010 Meeting be adopted". Moved: JR, Seconded: TL, carried unanimously. The minutes were signed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Room Booking: We sent four detailed room applications for 2011. (a) to Provost; then (b) Ragbir Bhatla; then (c) UWS Connect (who rejected our room waiver application); then (d) the Vice-Chancellor. The Office of the Vice-Chancellor initially supported the waiver rejection (which means we will pay approx. \$140 per meeting) but later provided us with a twelve month free extension, to enable us to make new arrangements for 2012.

It was agreed that we would not appeal the unfortunate UWS decision but would instead immediately re-badge our general meetings as the "Macarthur Astronomy Forum" and seek sponsorship for it. Initial action will be to seek advice from Professor Gaensler; explore Federal funding through the MP for Macarthur; then discuss with Professor Watson next month. If these avenues fail, local sponsors will be sought to either finance the Forum or provide a free room; and a list of local rooms for hire will be drawn up.

3.2 Membership Fees: motion: "That membership fees remain unchanged for 2011-12." Moved: JR, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

3.3 Proposed Changes to By-laws: (i) following a detailed review of the proposed draft, some further minor amendments were agreed. (ii) motion: "That the previously circulated proposed changes to the By-laws 4 & 5; and the proposed new By-laws 7,8,9,10,11 & 12, as further amended, be approved by the Management Committee." Moved: RP seconded TR, motion carried unanimously.

3.4 Review of Constitution:

(i) following a detailed review of the proposed draft, some further minor amendments were agreed.

(ii) motion: "That the previously circulated proposed changes to the Constitution, as further amended, be approved by the Management Committee and made available to members for comments and suggestions." ; moved TR, seconded JR, motion carried unanimously.

(iii) the timetable for comments and approval of the new constitution by the membership was agreed. However, the comments of DOFT would not be sought.

3.3 Any other business arising from the minutes: None.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

(i) Monthly financial report: a cash report (dated 5th January) was provided by TL (attached). Summary:

Term deposit:	\$5,000.00
Cash account:	\$4,536.18
PayPal account:	\$95.40
Refreshment float:	\$37.25
Merchandise float:	\$100.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS:	<u>\$9,768.83</u>

The \$5k term deposit has been incorrectly reinvested by the bank. The bank also deducted tax. It was agreed that TL should approach the bank to increase the investment to \$7k and seek release of the tax deduction.

(ii) motion: "That the Treasurer's Report be adopted" moved: TL, seconded: SG, carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership:

Motion "That the membership application for Anthony Jelich and family be approved"; moved TL, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding: no recent sales. Stock value is \$2,262.68 as per attached SG report.

(ii) acquisition of new stock: Purchase of additional seven shirts was authorised. It was suggested that a starter pack be given to new members.

4.4 General meetings:

Guest speaker list 2011: Jan: Tony Law; Feb: Fred Watson; Mar: Les Dalrymple; Apr: AGM and Daniel Ross; May: Andrew Hopkins; Jun: Lisa Harvey-Smith; Oct: Gary Kopff; Nov: Bryan Gaensler. Jul, Aug Sep: Mike Ireland, Tim Robshaw, Rob McNaught, Geraint Lewis also agreed. We need more "hands on" speakers.

4.5 Members observing nights:

(i) Since last meeting: The Forest: (4th Dec. cancelled); Stargard: (11th Dec & 1st Jan both clear);

(ii) Coming up: The Forest: (8th Jan); Stargard: (29th Jan).

4.6 Public outreach events in 2010:

Braidwood: Photographic display. We await details from Braidwood Historical Society.

4.7 Prime Focus magazine: the deadline for contributions is 14th February.

4.8 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook: Chris noted that providing links to a page in the member's section does not always work with older browsers.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Correspondence in:

Membership application from Anthony Jelich and family with cheque for \$75.00

Australia Post: advising later opening time of 9.00 am.

Bintel: Night Sky for December (x10).

Mamre House: Request for donations.

5.2 Correspondence out:

Membership approval to Matt & Mel Anderson.

Room Application No 4 to Vice Chancellor Reid at UWS

5.3 Publicity:

No Media Statements this month, just diary notifications for General Meeting

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Photographic Competition: TL suggested a 'Photograph of the Year' competition.

7 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Wednesday 2nd February at Trevor Rhodes' house.

8 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 10.02 pm.

Roger Powell, Secretary
6th January 2011

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

APPENDIX 1 – FINANCIAL REPORT

Macarthur Astronomical Society, Financial & Membership Report as of 5/1/2011

Treasury

01/12/2010	Interest	\$0.22	\$4,222.51
03/12/2010	Deposit, incl membership – Mel Anderson \$75.00	\$287.20	\$4,509.71
23/12/2010	Interest from Term Deposit	\$26.47	\$4,536.18

Membership

We have a new application to consider for family membership from Anthony Jelich and Robyn Haywood

Tony Law
Treasurer

APPENDIX 2 – MERCHANDISE REPORT

Macarthur Astronomical Society, Stock List as of 5/1/2011

DVD's			
Magnitude x 1		\$4.50	\$4.50
Magnitude II x 9		\$2.50	\$22.50
Star Wheels			
Large x 6		\$19.20	\$115.20
Small x 1		\$12.50	\$12.50
Sew on Patches			
White x 17		\$7.00	\$119.00
Black x 14		\$7.00	\$98.00
Beanies x 16		\$11.22	\$179.52
Baseball Caps x 10		\$13.90	\$139.00
Coffee Mugs x 78		\$8.50	\$663.00
Astronomy 2010 x 2			nil value
Astronomy 2011 x 17		\$17.30	\$294.10
Emu Dreaming x 8		\$10.00	\$80.00
Heavens Above x 11 (on loan)			
Shirts			
Mens White	Mens Navy	Mens Black	Womens Navy
M x 2	M x 4	S x 1	12 x 1
L x 1		M x 4	14 x 1
XL x 2		L x 2	
		XL x 1	
Total of 19 shirts @ \$28.44 ea. = \$540.36			
<u>Total stock value \$2267.68</u>			