



MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at 1 Brewster Place, Leumeah, NSW
on Wednesday 1st June 2011

Meeting opened at 7.27 pm, closed at 9.08 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES Present: Trevor Rhodes (Chair), Tony Law, Lloyd Wright, Stewart Grainger, Carol McVeigh & Roger Powell. Apologies: Chris Malikoff (illness).

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The previously distributed minutes were taken as read. Motion: "That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted." Moved TR seconded SG, carried unanimously.

Clarification re Item 2.4 "Appointments for 2010-11": The original agenda motion moved by RP included the proposed reappointment of Geoff Young as Editor of Prime Focus. The motion was subsequently amended by the Committee to omit the appointment of Editor, deferring it until after Geoff had been consulted.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 New Constitution: The new MAS constitution came into force today.

3.2 UWS: the Executive Dean has been interstate and will contact us on his return, to arrange a meeting.

3.3 Appointments for 2010-11: appointment of Prime Focus Editor. Motion: "That Chris Malikoff be appointed as Editor of the 'new look' Prime Focus". Moved: TR seconded TL. Motion carried unanimously.

3.4 Weekend Away: proposed visit to Parkes. This will be a weekend in September or October. We need 35 to 40 but so far only 12 guaranteed. Cost approx \$450.00.

3.5 Overseas Trip: proposed trip to Hawaii. Expressions of interest only for trip in 2013.

3.6 Identity badges: status – deferred.

3.7 Video recordings: Guest Speakers – deferred.

3.8 Aspirations: next 5 years.

Motion: moved RP, seconded TL: "That this committee aspires to achieve the financial growth and scientific excellence that will empower the future acquisition of advanced astronomical equipment and the property in which to house it. To achieve this we resolve to increase our membership; improve our practical expertise; and institute a fund raising programme, whilst still giving value for money to our members and continuing with our outreach programme."

Future agendas are to include Fund Raising; Membership Aims, Advancement of Expertise; and plans for Public Outreach.

3.9 Any other business: arising from the minutes. no other business.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

Monthly financial report: a cash report (dated 31st May) was provided by TL (attached). Summary:

Term deposit:	\$7,000.00
Cash account:	\$4,394.15

PayPal account:	\$2.53
Refreshment float:	\$40.00
Merchandise float:	\$100.00
Cash not yet banked:	\$40.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS:	<u>\$11,576.68</u>

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

4.2 Membership:

Motion "That the membership applications from Penny Reid, Daniel Sharpe & Peter Scott be approved"; moved TL, seconded LW, carried unanimously. Current membership status is 89, which includes 3 honorary members. The opportunity for members to renew their memberships expired yesterday. Members failing to renew included Pickup, Pew, Whicker, Finch, Harrison, Devlin & Blandin de Chalain.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding: Monthly Sales: \$83.00
 (iii) acquisition of new stock: deferred, on basis that existing stock needs clearing.

4.4 General meetings:

Guest speaker list 2011: Jun: Lisa Harvey-Smith; Jul: Mike Ireland ; Aug: Geraint Lewis; Sep: Chris Malikoff; Oct: Gary Kopff; Nov: Bryan Gaensler.

4.5 Members observing nights:

(i) since last meeting: Stargard (28th May) cancelled. (ii) before next meeting: Forest (4th June & 2nd July); Stargard (25th June). The Forest will be available to members from 3 pm.
 (iii) Forest cabin clean-up: Following our last weekend at The Forest (29th-30th April), the next occupant complained that the cabin was found in disarray and rubbish was left behind, attracting vermin. TL said it was vacuumed and left tidy but was not sure if anyone disposed of the garbage.

4.6 Public outreach events:

(i) NSW Sport Aviation Club (7th May): Very successful with a big turnout of members of both organisations.
 (ii) Wollondilly Anglican College (11th June): TR will call for volunteers again. At least six definites. Barbecue 6pm, video 7pm, viewing from 8pm. It is a private event.
 (iii) Macquarie Fields High School No date has been arranged with the school.

4.7 Fundraising:

To attract income from potential advertisers, sponsors, public grants and other activities, a fund raising sub-committee will be formed to set up procedures, determine targets and coordinate efforts. The committee will initially consist of TL and RP, with one other person.

4.8 Prime Focus magazine: the deadline for contributions is 13th June. The committee is looking forward to a fresh approach.

4.9 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook: Need to increase the number of topics on the Forum.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Correspondence in:

Michael Lear (Kentucky USA) document re 1922 Eclipse expedition. Contents noted.
Laurie Ferguson MP: Letter re National Volunteer Awards. Contents noted.

5.2 Correspondence out:

E-mail to Professor Celler UWS

5.3 Publicity:

Media statement re Forum meeting on 20th June (and Lunar Eclipse) plus diary notices for print and electronic media and Facebook, all going out next week.

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Committee Dinners:

The Committee Dinners are for committee members. President has discretion to issue occasional invitations to an ordinary member to make up the numbers. New venues are being investigated by TR.

6.2 Future Donations:

CMc proposed adopting a protocol for consideration of donations from Macastro funds (appended). If any future donations are considered, should we adopt a less rushed business approach and ask ourselves what is in it for MAS? Will the publicity for the donation be worth the expenditure? What evidence should we seek? What safeguards? What conditional public acknowledgement should be sought? How are they raising the rest of the money? Who else is donating? Why do they need our money? Are we really in a strong enough financial situation to donate money and goods? Should we be more businesslike?

6.3 Astro Events:

CMc suggested that we should promote major events in the night sky that the public may find interesting (ie the recent planetary alignment or ISS flyovers) prior to the event. The committee agreed.

6.4 Light Pollution:

TR received a message from Robert Leonard about CCC planning to install uplights in Mawson Park. It was agreed to contact Councillors about this.

6.5 Mentoring:

Discussion on the huge importance of mentoring new members at meetings and observing nights. Also for the President to welcome them during the meetings. New members may lose interest if they are not stimulated.

7 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Wednesday 6th July at Chris Malikoff's house.

8 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

*Roger Powell,
Secretary
2nd June 2011*

Signed: T. Rhodes (President) R. Powell (Secretary)

Guidelines for Considering Applications for Sponsorship / Donation.

- a) If Macastro is registered as a Non Profit organization how are we able to advertise the fact that we have funds to donate?

Are there guidelines that we are breaching with regards to accumulating funds?

- b) In there an existing affiliation? If so in what capacity?

Are the applicants members of Macastro or another astronomy group?

- c) Has there been a past affiliation? If so what? What was the reason for truncating the relationship?

Is there history that is detrimental to this situation?

- d) Is there a conflict with Macastro competitor?

Is the applicant receiving funds from a similar club, if so will Macastro be given prime sponsorship space?

Where will the donation from Macastro be recorded or acknowledged?

- e) What benefit to Macastro? Long term / short term?

What is the connection to Macastro. Will the applicant become an active member and remain an active member for a reasonable length of time?

- f) What fund raising activities is the applicant undertaking?

What funds are required and what fund raising activities are the recipients of the funds personally doing to raise these funds?

- g) What will the funds be directly used for?

What will our donation be used for. Can we have proof?

- h) Do we receive receipts for our donation?

How do we know the funds donated have been used for the purpose stated?

APPENDIX 2: MAS TREASURY & MEMBERSHIP REPORT 31st MAY 2011

Treasury

Cash float of **\$40.00** for coffee etc.

Stewart has **\$100.00** cash float for merchandising

PayPal account **\$2.53**

Cash not yet banked **\$40.00**

Term deposit **\$7,000.00**

Banking

17/04/2011 International H 324						\$70.00	*	\$4,467.15
17/04/2011 MFHS	325					\$500.00		\$3,967.15
18/04/2011 Chris-DVD	326					\$64.50	*	\$3,902.65
18/04/2011 DOFT	327					\$41.00		\$3,861.65
18/04/2011 DOFT	328					\$48.00		\$3,813.65
27/04/2011 Deposit	85300/1/ 5/5	\$190.00			-\$5.00	\$185.00		27/04/2011 \$3,998.65
2/05/2011 D.Wijesinghe	85303	\$40.00				\$40.00		2/05/2011 \$4,038.65
6/05/2011 Deposit Wollondilly		\$73.00	\$40.00	\$16.00	\$27.00	\$156.00		6/05/2011 \$4,194.65
9/05/2011 Council	329					\$95.00		\$4,099.65
17/05/2011 International H 330						\$70.00		\$4,029.65
20/05/2011 Deposit TL-postage	85305- 308,310	\$190.00				\$190.00		20/05/2011 \$4,219.65
31/05/2011 etc Wade McCartney	331					\$43.20	*	\$4,176.45
31/05/2011 via PP	85309	\$40.00				\$40.00		\$4,216.45
							* not presented	\$4,394.15

Membership

Renewals were received from Wade McCartney, Bruce Reardon and Karim Kooros. Huyman Quereshi will also be rejoining.

Three new memberships to approve, Daniel Sharpe, Peter Scott and Penny Reid

Total Membership stands at 86 members and 3 Honorary.

Tony Law
Hon. Treasurer