



MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at 260 Ellis Lane, Camden, NSW
on 5th March ~~2011~~ 2012

Meeting opened at 7.38 pm, closed at 9.05 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Present: T. Rhodes (Chair), C. Malikoff, T. Law, L. Wright, S. Grainger, C. McVeigh & R. Powell.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Corrections: (i) Meeting was held at "31 George Caley Place, Mt Annan", NSW; and (ii) item 5.3 should say: Astronomy 2012: "Email to nine members who had ordered a copy, asking whether they still required it."

2.2 Motion: "That minutes dated 6th February, as corrected, be adopted." Moved RP, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park.

Meetings and discussions: No further meetings have been held with local MPs.

Site identification: Awaiting a response regarding two potential sites from Chris Keyzer at NPWS.

Observatory concept: Still working towards a final concept.

Dome and telescope requirements: Still working towards a final concept.

Budget cost: Still working towards a final concept.

Potential grants: No specific further action to be taken until budget cost estimates are fully developed.

Sub-committee: A sub-committee of TL, TR and RP was formed but has not met yet.

3.2 Annual General Meeting

Auditor: Graeme Bellamy has agreed to audit the accounts.

Annual Reports: Required from President, Treasurer, Auditor. Deadline 19th Mar. TL will assemble to a PDF.

Ten Year Badges, Five and Fifteen Year Certificates: TL will establish names. ChM will prepare certificates.

Election Renominations: Four current members have renominated for seven vacancies: ChM, TL, SG & LW.

Standing Down: Three current members are standing down: CMc advised that she would be unable to fulfil duties due to personal circumstances. She said that she might be willing to stand as a member of a sub-committee, depending on circumstances. TR and RP standing down, as previously advised.

Three Vacancies: Two new nominations have been received: Deb Taylor and Nicole Ireland. It was suggested that Henry Swierk be asked if he would like to nominate for the third position vacated by CMc.

Returning Officer: John Rombi has agreed to conduct the election.

3.3 Motion: *That By-law 6 be rescinded.* (By-law 6: Borrowing of Society Equipment. New members may not borrow society equipment within the first three months of financial membership). Moved RP, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

3.4 Photographic Exhibition: Proposed weekend exhibition at Art Gallery. RP contacted Nicholas Smolonogov re grant and 7th-8th July has been agreed, subject to funding support from Council.

3.5 Invitations from Other Societies

(i) Western Sydney Amateur Astronomical Group: Invitation to Linden Observatory on hold.

(ii) Sutherland Astronomical Society: Invitation to Observatory on hold.

(iii) Central West Astronomical Society. Invitation to Astrofest on 14th July. Clashes with Stargard. TL to gauge membership interest. Self-drive, no coach.

3.6 Sister Society: ChM is obtaining a list of Norwegian societies.

3.7 Meeting Catering: CMc advised \$35.70 was received in the refreshments jar at the February meeting.

3.8 Children's Booklet: ASAW publication – no developments.

3.9 Proposed Expenditure: deferred.

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

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

(i) Monthly financial report: a cash report, dated 29th February was provided by TL (appended).

Summary:	Term deposit:	\$10,000.00
	Cash account:	\$5,172.20
	PayPal account:	\$7.90
	Refreshment float:	\$40.00
	Merchandise float:	\$100.00
	SG Cash in hand (less payment to BB)	\$227.00
	TOTAL CASH ASSETS:	<u>\$15,547.10</u>

Four cheques to be presented for signature: T. Law – recover dinner costs \$139.80; Kwik Kopy – PF Feb \$80.00; IH Forest – March \$120.00; Australia Post \$93.00 for mail box.

(ii) Direct deposit is due for renewal on 23rd April.

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

4.2 Membership: Motion: "That the membership application for Laura Bach be approved." Moved TL, seconded CMc, carried unanimously. Total membership for 2011-12 is **93** of which only 27 renewals remain unpaid.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) Sales: SG reported that sales were \$66 in January; \$178 in February (of which \$45 is due to Bob Bee). \$28 was received in donations at the February meeting. Three ordered members shirts are available for pickup (one paid).

(ii) Astronomy 2012: Wayne Harrison's copy has been posted. SG advised that 4 copies are left. D. Wijsing wants his, P. Elston does not want his copy, this will go to B. Rearden, M. Wells has not responded to communications, if he does not take it SG will buy it. R. Jackson has paid and is yet to collect. ChM suggested Prime Focus should be included in merchandise reports.

(iii) Stock Holding: deferred.

4.4 General meetings:

(i) March: Les Dalrymple. Committee dinner at Thai-Centric Restaurant, subject to confirmation by TR.

(ii) April: AGM & Dr. Gemma Anderson.

(iii) May: Prof. Fred Watson.

4.5 The Forest:

(i) Last event: 24th Feb (8) 25th Feb (8) 26th Feb. (cancelled), total of nine members over the weekend and a profit was made of \$120.

(ii) Next event: 23rd Mar; 24th Mar; 25th Mar.

(iii) Key Safe Proposal: No developments.

4.6 Stargard:

(i) Last events: 18th Feb (cancelled);

(ii) Next event: 17th March.

4.7 Public outreach events:

(i) Public Nights: We will hold public nights on 28th April, 28th July and 20th October, all at The Oaks. TR will confirm clearance from Wollondilly Council with N. Sharpe TR will seek volunteers.

(ii) Schools & Community: Next event is at Fairvale High School on 22nd August.

(iii) Transit of Venus (Wed. 6th June): No event was decided upon. RP has asked members to express their interest and posted links on the website for purchase of solar filters, to generate interest.

4.8 Fundraising:

- (i) Bunnings barbecue: TL has booked 2nd June at Bunnings, Narellan and will seek another for November.
- (ii) Forum sponsorship, website advertising & Prime Focus advertising mail-out: On hold.

4.9 Prime Focus magazine:

- (i) the deadline for contributions is Tuesday 10th April
- (ii) ChM pondered whether the members appreciate Prime Focus.
- (iii) TR was asked to be "page 3 girl".

4.10 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook:

- (i) Content usage: RP to review web change procedures with TL. Absolutely vital to keep it current.
- (ii) PayPal malfunctioning: ChM says PayPal code is having problems in the Joomla "wrapper" and it may be resolved by going to a shopping cart. In the meantime, PayPal payment may be made by direct payment into the MAS PayPal account "contact@macastro.org.au".

4.11 Technical Advancement:

- (i) JR will organise a winter glob hunt, possibly at Stargard.
- (ii) We are considering reinstating occasional Lunar nights. No need to be at The Forest but do need to gauge membership interest. Can also view other bright objects and could introduce artist sketching.

4.12 Correspondence

- (i) Correspondence in:
 - Membership renewals Hannah Shuttleworth and Ahmad Alcheikh.
 - Invoice from Australia Post for Mail box renewal.
- (ii) Correspondence out:
 - Nil.

4.13 Publicity: Publicity for next meeting:

- Media diaries, paper and website, subject to receipt of information about speaker's talk
- Media statement due tomorrow but held for same reason.
- We now have approval to promote MAS Forum on the UWS web diary.

5 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Gifts for Guest Speakers: Les Dalrymple will be presented with a bottle of wine (\$20-\$25). CMc volunteered to purchase it. Speaker gifts, probably a bottle of wine, to be determined at each committee meeting, the amount to be spent to be determined monthly, with a view to spending a bit extra on our "special" speakers, Fred Watson, Bryan Gaensler and Geraint Lewis.

6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Monday 2nd April at Chris Malikoff's home.

7 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Roger Powell,
Secretary
7th March 2012

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

MAS Treasury & Membership Report 29th February 2012

Treasury

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

Stewart has **\$100.00** cash float for merchandising plus cash in hand from sales \$272.00 (including \$45.00 for Heavens Above sales to be paid to BB)

PayPal account **\$7.90**

Term deposit **\$10,000.00**

Bank Transactions 01/2/2011- 29/2/2012

Date	Details	Cheque	Receipt	Merchandise	Membership	Forest	Other	Income	Expense	Balance
24/01/2012	IH- Forest	364						\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 4,249.04
30/01/2012	A&R Jelich			\$ 65.00				\$ 65.00		\$ 4,314.04
1/02/2012	Interest							\$ 0.04		\$ 4,314.08
2/02/2012	Rahmi Jackson		85411	\$ 23.00	\$ 40.00			\$ 63.00		\$ 4,377.08
7/02/2012	Allan Hobbs		85412	\$ 35.00	\$ 30.00			\$ 65.00		\$ 4,442.08
8/02/2012	Mems+ Merch		85383/4&41 8&375	\$ 25.00	\$ 225.00			\$ 250.00		\$ 4,692.08
10/02/2012	Wollondilly Council	365						\$ -	\$ 98.00	\$ 4,594.08
14/02/2012	Insurance	367						\$ -	\$ 745.88	\$ 3,848.20
20/02/2012	P Scott		85413	\$ 23.00	\$ 40.00			\$ 63.00		\$ 3,911.20
22/02/2012	T Rhodes		85414		\$ 60.00		\$ 36.00	\$ 96.00		\$ 4,007.20
22/02/2012	L Wright		85424				\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00		\$ 4,025.20
24/02/2012	Deposit		401/422/3	\$ 54.00	\$ 795.00		\$ 18.00	\$ 867.00		\$ 4,892.20
27/02/2012	Deposit		85403-410		\$ 40.00	\$ 240.00		\$ 280.00		\$ 5,172.20
28/02/2012	Clark Family		85415		\$ 65.00			\$ 65.00		\$ 5,237.20
28/02/2012	Chris For-Nov)		85416			\$ 15.00		\$ 15.00		\$ 5,252.20
29/02/2012	Moh.Baddah		85417		\$ 40.00			\$ 40.00		\$ 5,292.20
29/02/2012	IH Forest	366						\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 5,172.20

Cheques for signature:

368 T. Law – recover dinner costs \$139.80

369 Kwik Kopy – PF Feb \$80.00

370 IH Forest – March Forest \$120.00

Membership

One new application to consider – Laura Bach.

Total Membership stands at 90 members and 3 Honorary, assuming LB approved.

Tony Law

Hon. Treasurer