



PO Box 17, Minto, NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at 33 Hickson Circuit, Harrington Park, NSW
on 2nd April 2012

Meeting opened at 7.43 pm, closed at 9.29 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Present: T. Rhodes (Chair), C. Malikoff, T. Law, S.Grainger, N.Ireland, B.Moore, H.Swierk & R. Powell.

Apologies: C. McVeigh, L. Wright.

Welcome: TR welcomed Nicole Ireland, B.Moore and Henry Swierk to their first meeting.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: "That the minutes dated 5th March be adopted." Moved TR, seconded ChM, carried unanimously.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Annual General Meeting

Audit: Graeme Bellamy has audited the accounts.

Annual Reports: TL will assemble to a PDF.

Fifteen Year Certificates: Ian Cook, Dick Everett, Lou Timpano. Printed.

Ten Year Badges: Henry Swierk.

Five Year Certificates: Ray Armstrong, Christiane Gurney, Kate Ross, Geoff Young, Matt White, Jack White, Michael Rafferty. Printed.

Nominations: Four committee members have renominated: ChM, TL, SG & LW. Deb Taylor withdrew her nomination. Three new nominations have been received: Nicole Ireland, Barry Moore and Henry Swierk. Nominations expire today.

Arrangements: NI and HS will be absent from AGM. RP will deputise as Secretary after the AGM until Nicole's return.

3.2 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park

Meetings and discussions: A message went to B.Doyle today, asking for an urgent update.

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 and will meet following the AGM.

3.3 Photographic Exhibition Magnitude II: 7th-8th July

Display content, printing, mounting. Council will fund the hire of The Arts Centre and permit a limited number of new prints. ChM will research and purchase image mounts (oversized A3).

Initial Promotion: ChM will provide a new poster. RP will issue poster to Council and request publicity on Council & Arts Centre websites and listing with any school holiday activities.

Arts Centre: RP will seek a meeting to confirm arrangements, access to external projector & indoor AV equipment, mounting technicians, access to foyer for display and signage inside and outside.

Merchandise: SG will review merchandise requirements for sale.

3.4 Invitations from Other Societies

Western Sydney Amateur Astronomical Group: Invitation to Linden Observatory – deferred.

Sutherland Astronomical Society: Invitation to Observatory on hold – deferred.

Central West Astronomical Society: Invitation to Astrofest on 14th July. Clashes with Stargard. TL to gauge membership interest.

3.5 Sister Society: deferred.

3.6 Meeting Catering: deferred.

3.7 Children's Booklet: deferred.

3.8 Proposed Expenditure: deferred.

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 March was provided by TL (appended).

Summary:	Term deposit:	\$10,000.00
	Cash account:	\$5,874.48
	PayPal account:	\$18.16
	Refreshment float:	\$40.00
	Merchandise float:	\$100.00
	Cash in hand	\$195.00
	TOTAL CASH ASSETS:	<u>\$16,227.64</u>

Cheques: were presented for signature: Quickcopy: \$80.00 and International House for April: \$120.00.

Direct deposit: due for renewal on 23rd April. Decision on amount to be reinvested deferred.

Public donations: for the financial year amounted to \$1,068.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's Report be adopted," moved: TL, seconded: TR, carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership

Motion: "That the membership application received from Rose and Robert Avery be approved." Moved TL, seconded TR, carried unanimously.

Status: as at 31st March, total membership for 2012-13 is 84 (including three honorary) and ten members have not renewed yet (M.Raftery, P. O'Neill, M. Livingstone, R. Jones, A. George, K. Kooros, H. Qureshi, B. Whiter, K. Livanis, R. Grech). R. Grech has now rejoined. TL tabled a list of annual membership recruits since 1996 – see Appendix 2.

4.3 Merchandise

Sales: SG reported receipts of \$7.00 donations, \$60.00 merchandise sales and \$54.00 Prime Focus sales.

Stock Holding: CMC has offered to assist SG with Merchandise spreadsheets. A shirt will be given to Lucyna Chudczer.

4.4 General meetings

April: AGM. Dr. Gemma Anderson has withdrawn due to ill-health. It was decided to proceed with the AGM without a speaker and utilise an astro-quiz and other possible activities.

May: Prof. Fred Watson.

June: Dr. Lisa Harvey-Smith.

2013: Professor Brian Schmidt has confirmed but date tba.

Gift for April guest speaker: deferred.

4.5 The Forest

Last event: 23rd, 24th & 25th March. Attendance: five Friday and Saturday. Sunday cancelled. \$15.00 profit.

Next event: 20th, 21st & 22nd April.

Key Safe Proposal: deferred.

4.6 Stargard

Last events: 17th March (cancelled); 30th March (unscheduled – three attended).

Next event: 14th April.

4.7 Public outreach events

Public Nights: 28th April, 28th July and 20th October, at The Oaks. All cleared with Wollondilly Council.

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

Transit of Venus (Wed. 6th June): Currently no interest in an MAS event. RP will invite a limited number of members to view on his driveway.

4.8 Fundraising

Bunnings Narellan barbecue 2nd June: discussion deferred.

Bunnings Narellan Barbecue November: TL advised too early to apply.

Forum sponsorship, website advertising & Prime Focus advertising: mail-out deferred. RP has been negotiating with 'Telescopes Direct' regarding advertising in Prime Focus.

4.9 Prime Focus magazine: the deadline for contributions is Tuesday 10th April.

4.10 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook

Content: Facebook is now directly visible the website.

PayPal: malfunctioning buttons will be replaced with an alternative method of making payment

4.11 Technical Advancement

Glob hunt: JR prepared a list of 97 globular clusters. TR is sorting it into viewing order and developing rules.

Lunar nights: First Quarter Moon, sketching. Concept to be developed. No decision on date.

4.12 Correspondence

(i) Correspondence in:

- Bintel – March edition of Nightsky (x10).
- Rose & Robert Avery membership application.
- Membership renewals from Robert Zindler & Eddy Bagnall.

(ii) Correspondence out:

- E-mail to NPWS seeking current situation update re proposed Observatory.
- E-mail to B. Doyle MP seeking current situation update re proposed Observatory.
- E-mail to UWS Venues re advising Security of room access.
- Membership approval to Laura Bach.

4.13 Publicity

Publicity for next meeting: Media diaries, re AGM, to go out this week. No media statement for AGM.

Publicity for Public Night: RP to issue media statement.

5 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Heaven's Above

It was noted that Bob Bee's long-running fortnightly feature in 'The Chronicle' has ended. Some discussion ensued about seeking an alternative outlet but no decision was made.

5.2 Meeting Night Refreshments Catering

TR will call for a new volunteer Refreshments Manager at the AGM to succeed CMc.

5.3 MacDob Imaging

NI has MacDob, ChM will arrange with her to get images taken.

5.4 Retiring Committee Members

Trevor thanked all committee members for their hard work during the year. On behalf of himself, Roger and Carol he thanked everyone for their friendship. Pleasantries were exchanged all round. Trevor also urged the new committee to delegate jobs wherever possible to avoid having to do it all themselves.

6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Monday 7th May at Chris Malikoff's home.

7 CLOSE OF MEETING The meeting closed at 9.29 pm.

Roger Powell,
Secretary,
3rd April 2012

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

APPENDIX 1

MAS TREASURY & MEMBERSHIP REPORT 31ST MARCH 2012

Current Funds

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

Stewart has \$100.00

PayPal account \$18.16

Term deposit \$10,000.00

Cash un-deposited \$135.00 Forest & \$6.00 for PF from Carol

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

Date	Details	Cheque	Receipt	Merchandise	Membership	Forest	Donations	Other	Income	Expense	Balance
1/03/2012											\$
2	B/fwd										5,172.20
1/03/2012								\$	\$		\$
2	Interest							0.03	0.03		5,172.23
5/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
2	J Rombi		61923		65.00				65.00		5,237.23
5/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
2	D Ross		61924		65.00				65.00		5,302.23
5/03/2012	Deposit fr SG			\$					\$		\$
2	Jan/Feb			227.00					227.00		5,529.23
5/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
2	Sarkis		61925		40.00				40.00		5,569.23
8/03/2012				\$	\$				\$		\$
2	W Harrison		61926	23.00	40.00				63.00		5,632.23
14/03/2012	Deposit CM dinner		61921/2		\$			\$	\$		\$
12					80.00			18.00	98.00		5,730.23
14/03/2012	Dinner TL	368							\$	- 139.80	\$
16/02/2012	KwikKopy -PF	369							\$	- 80.00	\$
19/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
12	N Sharpe		61933		40.00				40.00		5,550.43
19/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
12	B Butters		61927		30.00				30.00		5,580.43
19/03/2012									\$	- 93.00	\$
12	PO BOX	371							\$		5,487.43
21/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
12	Deposit		61928/29/30/1/2/4		290.00				290.00		5,777.43
21/03/2012					\$				\$		\$
12	M Anderson		61936		65.00				65.00		5,842.43
22/03/2012	S. Nicoara ex PP		61935		40.00			\$	\$		\$
12								9.00	49.00		5,891.43
26/03/2012	T Rhodes, dinner							\$	\$		\$
12								36.00	36.00		5,927.43
27/03/2012									\$	- 120.00	\$
12	IH Forest	370							\$		5,807.43
28/03/2012	M				\$			\$	\$		\$
12	Muratovic		61939		65.00			2.05	67.05		5,874.48

Graeme Bellamy has once again audited our accounts and copies of his report financial statement have already been sent to the committee. Our signed copies are in our files. Items of note for 2011/12:

- 1) We were able to generate a surplus of \$4699.91 this financial to raise our total Assets \$18,270.05
- 2) The impact of higher charges from International House can be seen in our costs of \$1260.00 for Belanglo and Stargard
- 3) Sales of Merchandise fell 14%
- 4) Donations from Public nights rose from \$271 to \$1068

Membership

We have one Family Membership, Rose and Robert Avery of Mount Annan to consider. Total Membership stands at 84 paid up members including 3 Honorary, 10 members have yet to renew – assumes approval of the Avery's.

Long service Membership Certificates are ready for the AGM and new Membership Cards are available.

Tony Law

Hon. Treasurer

**APPENDIX 2
TABULATION OF THE YEAR OF JOINING FOR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Members</u>	
1996	7	
1997	2	
1998	4	
1999	1	
2000	3	
2001	2	
2002	1	
2003	0	
2004	2	
2005	0	22
2006	7	
2007	12	
2008	6	
2009	17	
2010	12	
2011	15	69
2012	3	
	94	

*Tony Law
Treasurer
31st march 2012*