



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW
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MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 33 Hickson Circuit, Harrington Park
Thursday 8th October 2015 at 7.30 pm
Attending: TL, SG, HS, RC, CMcV.

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES

- Meeting opened at 7:47 pm by TL. Apologies JG and MN.

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- Proposed by TL, seconded by RC.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

3.1 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park

- This item is now relocated to section **4 Regular Business**. Refer to item **4.14**.

3.2 Other business

- No other business arising from Minutes.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report

- RC submitted the report via e-mail to all Committee members.
- A cheque intended for Dept of Fair Trading has been returned (incorrect address?) and is cancelled now.
- A \$50 cheque for Garry Bagnallie (refund of his membership payment due to relocation to Newcastle) has been lost by Garry and it is cancelled now.
- RC suggested that the \$15 bank cancelling fee should be levied at Garry and a new \$35 cheque be forwarded to him. Proposal accepted by CMcV and HS.

4.2 Membership

- New members; The Larkins (5), The Romans (4), The Janszs (2), Robert McGoven, Kira Leeon, Steve Crosby (free membership), Mark Sellars.
- HS to forward contact details of the new members to MN to follow up.
- Current membership stands at 117 members, including 4 honorary and 3 associate members.

4.3 Merchandise

- Donations \$68.10
- Sales last month \$75
- 150 pens with MAS logo were purchased, they will be sold for \$5. There are also 25 boxes to present the pens as gift to our guest speakers.
- Polo MAS shirts to be sold for \$35, no stock to be kept. SG to get more information about the style and the pocket option.
- 144 mugs (white with MAS logo) to be ordered, they will be sold for \$10.
- TL will also investigate a purchase of a box of wine possibly with MAS logo.
- Plaques for 20th anniversary (Feb 2016) to be ordered. Old records (minutes, notes and other related documents) need to be revisited to establish details of actual joining dates for the membership in 1996. TL to confirm how many members are to be awarded an anniversary plaque.
- "Tap and Go" Paypal unit/tablet. RC to obtain further details with a possibility of purchasing it.

4.4 General Meetings

- Dr. Lisa Harvey-Smith a research astronomer at CSIRO and the Project Scientist for the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP) to be our guest speaker on 19th Oct 2015.
- TL to contact John Rombi (or other member) to organise a dinner.
- Andy Thomas still a possibility for 2016.

4.5 The Forest

- Last gathering 11-12th September 2015
- Next 9-10th October 2015
- International House fee for use of the log-cabin will increase from January 1st 2016, it is to be \$140. Accordingly the MAS members will be charged \$20 first night and \$15 second night.

4.6 Stargard

- Last gathering 3rd October 2015.
- Next 7th November 2015.
- Gate damage noted, reported to Council.

4.7 Public Outreach

- TL confirmed that official launch of the Camden Library telescopes has been arranged for 28th October 2015.
- Other event: Launching of the refurbished domes by Ragbir and MAS on December 5th 2015.

4.8 Members' Trips

- Atacama/Machu Pichu 2016: 7 people signed, one spot still vacant.
- A possibility yet to be reviewed to organise a next year trip to Western Australia to visit ASKAP (Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder). Details to be advised.

4.9 Fundraising

- Bunnings BBQ possibly in May 2016. Details yet to be confirmed.

4.10 Website, Web shop, Forum, Facebook, Prime Focus Blog

- CM yet to set a new gallery on the MAS website to store new images.

4.11 Correspondence

- **Mail in:** A letter from School of Marketing, University of Adelaide regarding a research project of sky observation tours. TL to obtain more information.
- **Mail out - Nil**

4.12 Technical Advancement

- An astrophotography tutorial may be held in Oct/Nov, if any interest shown.
- UWS Penrith Observatory: UWS approached MAS for observing night with the telescopes at Werrington. This to be reviewed and decided.

4.13 Publicity

- Media release for the month of October has been sent out.

4.14 Future Observatory at Dharwal National Park

- TL met with Jai Rowell, MP for Wollondilly. JR will provide further advice on how to proceed.

4 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Development of Tours Policy

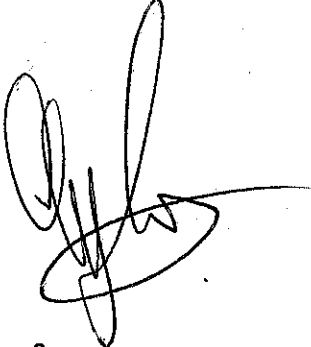
- This item to be discussed later to outline terms and conditions for future trips organised by MAS. This to address deposits, refunds, etc.

5.2 Aftermath of the Coonabarabran Trip

- CMcV has won a small telescope as a raffle prize at Coonabarabran Starfest. CMcV decided to donate the telescope to MAS. It can be used as a prize at a future MAS functions/events.
- Committee Management thanked CMcV for organising and conducting a very successful trip to Starfest in Coonabarabran.

6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING 2nd November 2015 at Stewart's place.

7 CLOSE OF MEETING at 9.43 pm.



President

