



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at

1/30 Kings Rd, Ingleburn

Monday 5th June 2017 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Stewart Grainger, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk John Rombi and Mike Nicholas, Barry Moore

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: Opened 7.35, apologies from Richard Curley

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for 1st May 2017 Proposed by Tony Law seconded by Henry Swierk – accepted unanimously

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- Carol McVeigh tabled copies of the Flyer 'An evening with the stars ' (14 August event) and discussed their distribution (10 flyers to each school at least, possibly 40 to each school coordinator. Ken Sillburn, curriculum advisors office is our main contact).
- Mike Nicholas discussed 'An evening with the Stars' going through the spreadsheet in detail to look at where we are. Currently 3 schools have booked with 10 places each. 100 places are allocated to schools. General admission places are 120, 84 for members and 100 school places (40 held in Reserve). A total of 344 seats. Mike has excellent contacts for Schools. Update and discussed the current state of teachers turning up out of school hours and their pay. Eventbrite App will be connected to our website for booking.
- John Rombi suggested we ask our Patron Bryan Gaensler for a video message to be shown on the evening.

Action Point. Tony Law to send a copy of flyer to Bryan Gaensler and contact him for letter or video message acknowledging the event.

Action Point: Tony Law to design handout for all visitors on the night, which is to include information on joining MAS and the bios for all the guest speakers.

3.1 Other business:

- Thanks to John Rombi for hosting May Forum
- May Forum Meeting issues:**
1. There is a lack of signage for meeting.
 2. The meeting book needs improvement and wasn't available for the May meeting.
 3. There was EFT sales problems. Treasurer needs to be available at front take to take payments.
 4. We need to buy bottled water for Guest Speakers.
- Tony gave a report on talk with Ken Tran of Camera House. He will be meeting him again on Tues 14th June.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Report from Richard Curley was Tabled. Proposed by Tony Law, Seconded John Rombi. Approved.

Action Point. The committee discussed the roll over amount for the investment account. It was decided to leave it at the current amount of \$21,000.

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

- New Members: two recently applied and granted, membership cards sent
- Current membership/update: 111 members now including 1 Associate and 5 Honorary. This is a drop of 20 from last year. Henry is following up some of the older member to see if they will rejoin (including them paying the rejoin fee).
- Carol's draft ideas on 'gift' memberships – This idea was discussed and dropped (at this stage).

4.3 Merchandise: Stewart Grainger

- Merchandise Sales: from 15th May forum...> **Cash \$29, EFT \$78.50 total \$107.50**
- 15th May Forum.....> **Donations: \$67.55**
- Jackets to be ordered after sizes obtained. Cost of \$57 which includes the \$5 for embroidery.

Action Point 5 jackets to be ordered.

- The cost of gifts for guest presenters (pens, mugs etc) was discussed and considered acceptable.

4.4 General Business

- Next forum speaker: June - Andrew Hopkins – all ok.
- Future Speakers: July – Dr Lucyna Chudczer.
- Alan Williams has produced a flyer for consideration by committee. It was tabled and is under consideration.
- It was ratified that the cost for dinner of any guest presenters is to be paid for by Macastro. Members attending this diner to pay their own costs.

Action point A booking for the guest presenters on 14th August will be made.(John)

Action point Macastro is to pay for the 11 guests/presenters. Committee members needed to assist in transport.

Action point – High visibility vests to be purchased (Carol - 4 at approx \$5 each) for ushers to assist on the on 14th August.

Action point - Tony will look at cost of a slab cake at Costco and other refreshment items for 14th August event.

4.5 The Forest

- Last: May 26/27 The best night of the year! 5 visited on Friday and Saturday
- Next: June 23/24

4.6 Stargard

- Last: 20 May- postponed and then ran on Thurs 25 May which was excellent.
- Next: 17 Jun

4.7 Public Outreach

- Rotary Observatory, 03 June 2017 – poor weather conditions but probably 100 attended.> **Public donations from night: \$27.30**
- Camden Library public night, wed 07 June 2017, 5.00pm to 8.00pm – members have been asked to submit new images for this event. Only one submission so John Rombi and Tony Law installed old photos. New ones required due to deterioration.

(Secretary Note: This event was postponed due to bad weather.)

Action point: Photos to be taken down on 30th June

- Astrofest SYD 2017; Saturday 01 July 2017 from 4pm, details to follow.

4.8 Members' Trips

- Tony has emailed proposal on USQ visit for 5-8 October, approx. \$620/pp only 4 takers so will cancel.
- China 2019 costs and details to be determined – on going item.

4.9 Fundraising

- Bunnings fundraiser will be a Saturday in Sep-Dec block.

Action point: We have an Info-Table at Bunnings on Sat July 8

- A Bunnings BBQ for Sunday July 9th has been rejected.

4.10 Website, Facebook

- Chris Malikoff, Roger Powell and Tony Law getting together to complete website handover on Sunday 7 May. (done)
- Membership form in PDF format has been updated with new fees. It now needs a BSB number added as per action point below.

Action Point. Website to include a Bank account number for members to do an EFT deposit of members fees (BSB and account number). It was decided that the 'Hawaii account' be used for this purpose. Membership funds once deposited in this account would be then transferred into the main working account. (to be confirmed by Richard Curley)

4.11 Publicity

- Media release for the month of June sent out to media outlets. Andrew Hopkins Guest presenter.

4.12 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park

- The committee discussed identifying and evaluating alternate sites for a future observatory. On going.
- **Stop Press from NSWALC– no further response from TLALC, Troy trying another route.**

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Broughton Anglican – Rahmi Jackson and other schools
- Tuesday 15 Aug science fair at Broughton. Tony to follow up with a meeting. Suggested we can put in place a table and photos on boards.
- Possibility of a viewing night was discussed. More details needed. The idea of providing 'Mentors' may be difficult due to child protection laws.
- We now have 3 loan telescopes with the donation of a Schmidt Cassegrain Meade 90mm ETX with full go to and GPS capability.
- LED strips need to be fixed – Tony to discuss with Barry on this.
- Mike suggested we write a document elaborating our general response to requests for assistance from schools – under discussion.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 03 July 2017, 31 George Caley Place, Mt Annan.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9:58pm