



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at

31 George Caley Place, Mt Annan

Monday 10th July 2017 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk, John Rombi, Mike Nicholas (part), Barry Moore, Stewart Grainger, Richard Curley

Note meeting for 3rd July was postponed to this date.

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: apologies none

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for June 2017 Proposed by Tony Law

seconded by Barry Moore – accepted unanimously

NOTE in future minutes will not be posted on our website until circulated and comments received from committee members should there be a need to correct them.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- An evening with the Stars-
 1. Booking so far Mike Nicholas reported:... Currently 205 total bookings with eventbright, 330 available: 11 spaces left for schools, 75 members have booked with 5 places left for them, 6 schools are attending, and 21 public people booked since last Friday with these places became available. Oran park post has run publicity.
 2. Tony will be visiting C91.3 to promote this event
 3. On August 9th the event will be discussed at the SW Sydney science teachers forum.
 4. Six chairs were purchased for the guest speakers
 5. Microphones have been ordered total audio hire cost \$375
 6. ESSEN (restaurant) dinner was discussed and numbers decided on for the booking.
 7. Accommodation has been booked (John Rombi)
 8. Other astronomy clubs notifications will be dealt with by Tony
 9. For the audience participation colours blocks for the members/public/schools groups will be used.
 10. Camera House has provided 3 lucky draw prizes for the 3 groups shown above.
 11. Refreshment is now biscuits, tea and coffee. 2 X 20 litre urns will be hired by Carol.
 12. There will be a new attendance book available by this event.
 13. Venue setup: - members will be asked to assist at 5.00pm 2 ushers and 6 others .8 people in total needed. Tony will write this up and request in the Newsletter.
 14. Five black Jackets have been ordered and are to be embroidered.
 15. Cost of fluorescent jackets \$21.90.
- John Rombi suggested we ask our Patron Bryan Gaensler for a video message to be shown on the evening. Has been done.
- **The Committee voted to appoint Mike Nicholas as the “Schools Liaison Officer” Carried unanimously**
- Tony Law to send a copy of flyer to Bryan Gaensler and contact him for letter or video message acknowledging the event. Has been done.
- 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. Has been done.

3.1 Other business:

- June Forum – all good new visitor book available

- Tony visited with Ken Tran of Camera House. See item 3 – 10 above

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer’s Report: Richard Curley

Invoices: Carols Invoice has been paid. Barry has forwarded the invoice to Richard

June Report from Richard Curley was tabled.

Proposed by Richard Seconded by Tony – Received. \$5900 in bank account.

Roll over of the investment account \$21000 will be addressed on 13 July by Richard and Tony at CBA Ingleburn Branch. Discussion was made as to the best investment

bank/building society and the problems and advantages of this.

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

- New Members: 5
- Current membership/update: 116 members in total
- Our primary bank account is available for EFT transfers of member’s fee on the PDF of the application form. All committee members agreed to this.

4.3 Merchandise: Stewart Grainger

- Merchandise Sales: from June forum...> **Cash \$ 0 , EFT \$ 0 total \$ 0**
Donations: \$ 0
- Jackets see item 3 - 14 above.

4.4 General Business

- Next forum speaker: July – Speaker is.. Dr Lucyna Chudczer
- Sept forum is Johnti Marshall
- Future Speakers: August 14th is “An Evening With The Stars”.
- Alan Williams has produced a flyer for consideration by committee. It was tabled and is under consideration. On going item.
- Macastro is to pay for the 11 guests/presenters at dinner. See 3 – 6 above.
- Committee members are needed to assist in transport for the dinner – in hand.
- High visibility vests are purchased see 3 - 15.
- DL exit flyer – copies tabled and all of the committee agreed it was good.
- Peter Godwin and “district reporter” article has been done.
- Business cards for President. Discussed and the current practice of the generic cards will be used until re supply is needed.
- Succession planning – all committee members are to look at a shadow person to assist in their absence. All committee members should seek out the same shadow person or another as a future replacement at the AGM if required.

4.5 The Forest

- Last: June 23/24 Superb night
- Next: July 21/22

4.6 Stargard

- Last: 17 Jun- Bad seeing
- Next: Sat 15 July

4.7 Public Outreach

- Next Rotary Observatory is 29 July 2017 – planning as per other. Final night will be Sept 30th

- Camden Library public night was postponed due to bad weather. It will now be held on Wed 6th Sept
- Photos were taken down on 30th June at Narellan (Camden Library. New photos are still needed due to deterioration.
- Astrofest Sydney 2017 (Sat 1 July) Great but light pollution spoiled it, 20 scopes in operation.

4.8 Members' Trips

- China 2019 costs and details to be determined – on going item.
- Proposed 2020 Space X rocket launch in California is to be considered.

4.9 Fundraising

- Bunnings fundraiser will be a Saturday in Sep-Dec block. Date TBC
- Info-Table at Bunnings on Sat July 8 was done. Tony met with Jo at bunnings

4.10 Website, Facebook

- Roger Powell – considerable work in fine tuning website top make it a better format and simpler to use.
- Button has been added so new members can go directly to the membership form.
- Membership form in PDF format has been updated with new fees. It now has our primary bank account BSB number and account number.

4.11 Publicity – Barry Moore

- Media release for the month of July to be sent out to media outlets. Dr Lucyna Chudczer JUNO MISSION. Copy was seen in Macarthur Advertiser (two weeks) and Macarthur Chronicle.
- Secretary to remember to use the BCC field in the email of the publicity material.

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. On going.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Broughton Anglican – Rahmi Jackson from Broughton Anglican College has chatted about need for mentors for 3 students projects. Under consideration to find the Mentors.
- Tuesday 15 Aug science fair at Broughton. We will have a place for a table and photos on boards. Photos will need to be reprinted.
- Possibility of a viewing night was discussed at Broughton. Need a very good lead time to organise. Mike Nicholas to liaise in future.
- We now have 3 loan telescopes with the donation of a Schmidt Cassegrain Meade 90mm ETX with full go to and GPS capability. A battery and cable has been purchased.
- LED strips need to be fixed – Tony to discuss with Barry on this. On going.
- Mike suggested we write a document elaborating our general response to requests for assistance from schools – Mike to draft a response letter and present to committee.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 07 August 2017 at Tony Law, 33 Hickson Circuit Harrington Park

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 10:28 pm

Written by Secretary – Barry S. Moore (7 Aug 2017 approved)

Authorised by President – Tony Law