



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 33 Hickson Circuit Harrington Park

Monday 5th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk, Stewart Grainger, Barry Moore, Richard Curley.

Apologies: John Rombi, Mike Nicholas

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7:31pm

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for February 2018 Proposed by Barry Moore

seconded by Richard Curley, passed

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Richard Curley.

Approximately \$ 5000 in bank accounts and cash in hand

\$21,000 in term deposit, total \$26000

There have been 53 bank transactions and 85 members have paid (includes family members)

The bank statements are being audited for the AGM in April.

Insurance annual payment has been paid (\$784.38), awaiting a copy of the payment by email.

PO Box annual payment is due by Mar 31 \$127

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members: 2 (Karyn Bradford , Izabella Ross).

Membership at the end of 2017/18: 128 members in total. 5 Hon. 3 Assoc. 120 rest.

Membership grew by 23 over the last 12 months. 37% are Full members, 32% Family, 21% pensioner/seniors, 3% students and 7% assoc/Hon.

Renewals for 2018 has been sent to all members by email, 85 members have renewed.

Current membership: 85 members.

4.3 Merchandise: Stewart Grainger – receipts books are currently being checked.

Donations \$ 17.65, Sales \$27

4.3.1 10 Red light torches have been ordered by Tony Law for sale to members.

4.3.2 The donated ETX telescope has been repaired.

4.4 General Business

4.4.1 This month's forum is Mar 19, 2018 Dr Luke Barnes (Uni of Syd) Title is ***The Universe and Entropy: The top 10 things to do before the heat death of the universe.***

4.4.2 Next month's forum Mon April 16th is our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – election of new committee

4.4.3 Tony has spoken to Allen and will follow up (Macarthur Astronomical Society Brochure)

4.5 The Forest

Last: 16/17 Feb 2.5 hours of any seeing only

Next: , 16/17 March

4.6 Stargard

Last: 10 Feb - Held on following wed 3-4 hrs but not good

Next : 10 March

4.7 Public Outreach updates

4.7.1 Astronomy in the Gardens at MT Annan Botanical Gardens Fri Feb 23. Was Clouded out

4.7.2 Rebecca Hay, 1st Camden Scouts has requested a visit for 30 scouts. Date advised and approved is 7.30pm March 1st at The Oaks on a (Thursday night). Good time but cloudy

4.7.3 Earth Hour 6pm- 9.30pm Sat 24th March. Ideally four telescope are required at the Campbelltown Arts centre.

4.7.4 Carnes Hill Library (Jessica Bruce) Requesting assistance for an event 12 April 2018. They need a couple of people for 1.5 - 2 hrs. Approved. John and have offered to attend

4.7.5 MDSI: Sustainable living & Natural Environment day. It is now going to be held on the **Saturday 14th of April in Macarthur Heights**. We would love if anyone from the society were able to attend and have a little stall to discuss astronomy, the society and possibly feature the solar telescopes that you mentioned. Would also be a great opportunity to have a tin for donations etc. To Be held at the Garden Of Light in Macarthur Heights

4.7.6 MDSI (Caitlin facilitator from Manganaro Macarthur Heights Community Development unit - Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative) is running a joint DOMES events on **Sat 28 April, Sat 26 May, Sat 21 July and Sat 15 Sept 2018**. They are also looking into a public toilet being left open behind the sales office. July 21 will be called "Mars Night" update. A port-a-loo and sausage sizzle will be run.

4.7.7 Camden Library public night for Wed 20 June 2018, also Photographers of the month New photos for displays are needed due to deterioration, submit to Tony Law by April 1 deadline for printing. Chris Malikoff to be approached to see if he can print and what his cost would be to do this. Border to be simpler than previous photos. Members to submit photographs ASAP. Approved. Help needed.

4.7.8 Cobbity Scout Hall: Joey Scouts Mob (via Kerry Wallace) requested for astronomy night. Approved for Mon 25th June. Approved. Help needed. 2 or 3 people required

4.7.9 Invite from Marc Noakes to attend the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) EXPO meeting for Tues June 26th 2018. Will be held in daytime at Tahmoor public school. What is required is a 30min explanation of a possible lesson that teachers could use with public school students. 50 teachers have already registered to attend. Committee discussed and approved. Help needed. Mike is coordinating

Mike Nicholas is pursuing Bargo, Picton and Tahmoor schools through Marc Oakes as the liaison person.

4.7.10 The 16 July 2018 Macarthur Astronomy Forum "Special Event" Amy Shira Teitel - more info to be announced.

4.7.11 on Mon 23 to Sat 28 July, One Giant Leap function will be held at Macquarie University. More to follow.

4.7.12 National Science week 2018 (11-19 August) – Monday 20 August, our normal monthly Forum as possible time for a “Public Event” with Ed Kruzins. We need to raise \$1500 to run these events. Jai Rowell has been contacted for an appointment re funding.

4.11.13 Broughton Anglican College has expressed an interest for assistance in a astrophotography project with a student. Ongoing update

4.8 Members’ Trips

4.8.1 Parkes visit. John Sarkissian from Parkes observatory has suggested a Macastro trip in 2018. Dave Manning asked is organiser. Date set for 18,19,20 May. 19 people going. Car pool in own cars.

4.8.2 China 11th May to 23nd May 2019, 12 nights, 13 days: Approx Cost \$3500. Draft itinerary has been determined. Tony Law is organising. Roberto Soria is our in-house contact at the Chinese observatories. China Odyssey tours are possible tour leaders, Breakfast and lunches are included. 22 people have registered their interest.

4.8.3 JPL July 2021 Estimate \$4000 needs to be increased. Will promote and ask interested members to start saving in our “trip” bank account. Could be combined with a Space X launch. On going item .

4.9 Fundraising updates

Bunnings fundraiser was held on Saturday 24 Feb 2018. Raffle could not be run. Hard work by the limited number of members that volunteered for the day with some having to do double shift. One member fainted due to the heat. The Bunnings event raised over \$1580 for club funds.

4.10 Website, Facebook

4.11 Publicity – Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum (Mar 19th) has been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle “what’s on” pages.

4.11.2 Secretary will forward minutes as soon as they are approved by committee to Roger (webmaster) for member’s perusal. On going item

4.11.3 Mail box was has been checked each week

4.12 Correspondence received.

PO box 17 mail box invoice for \$127

Secondary cheque account bank statement and main cheque account statement on Tues 6th March.

4.13 Succession planning

Nominations for VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer have been received. Two general committee positions and the Presidents position are still un-nominated for the 2018 AGM. Tony is stepping down as President but could continue on the committee in a general position. Carol will be stepping down. All committee members to talk to possible members about positions. On going item.

5. NEW BUSINESS - nil

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: wed 4 Apr 2018 at Wivenhoe Village Clubhouse, Hollyhock Avenue, Kirkham. New attendees should note my number should they need “homing in” when arriving, 0408259001 (Mike Nicholas.)

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9:18

