



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

## MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Greg's place, Glen Alpine

Monday Mon 4th<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019 at 7.30pm

**Committee Attending:** Tony Law (President), Ray Armstrong (Vice President), Barry Moore (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), Greg Bradford (Committee Member2), Mike Nicholas (Schools Liaison),

**Apologies:** Noel Sharp (Liaison Member to Wollondilly Council), John Rombi (Committee member1), Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising)

**1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7.30pm

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for February committee meeting held 4/02/2019 Proposed by Barry Moore seconded by Henry Swierk Passed.

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

none

### **4. REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Andy Milton

The Society Account balance as at 28 February was \$10607.68. There are no outstanding cheques to be presented. During the month we paid \$784.38 to Local Community Insurance Services for Annual Public and Product Liability Insurance for the year to 5 March 2020. Two outstanding payments exist to Tony Law: \$56.49 for guest speaker and dinner expenses For 18 February forum; \$62.50 for 10 Red light torches.

An amount of \$404.93 was credited to the Society Account for interest on the term deposit of \$21000 to 10 February 2019. This term deposit has been reinvested for 12 months at 1.9%

There is an amount payable to Pan Sports and Corporate Wear of \$281.50 for merchandise. As at 28 February the merchandise has not been received.

The No 2 A/c -China trip balance is \$1595.52. This Balance includes an amount of \$36.00 that represents membership fees paid to the wrong account by a member.

An amount of \$488.65 was transferred from Paypal to the Society account. The balance as of Paypal at 28 February was \$0.

Our financial year closes on 28 February. Draft Financial Statements will be prepared in the next few days and distributed to Committee members for comment in the next few days.

Approx \$1200 profit from Bunning's BBQ fund raiser.

Report proposed by Andy Milton, seconded by Greg Passed

#### 4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members - Sarkis Garabedian (Family membership?) and Andre Sarkis

New members - 2 in total.

Membership at the end of February: 153 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

Zixuan Rong has applied to join – no payment yet

63 members have renewed so far for 2019-20, Annual dues email has been sent.

New membership cards are white and are being issued.

Henry reports 79 members have not renewed their passwords. Committee reminds the Members they need to access the website and change their password. There are quite a few awards this year.

Moved by Henry Swierk Seconded by Tony Law Passed

#### 4.3 Merchandise: (reported by Tony for Brendon Waterhouse via email)

Donations Feb Forum \$49.65

Feb Sales \$78.50

##### **Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising.**

Initial Balance April 2018 \$ 96

Cash Allotted from Sales Donations \$19

Cash awaiting Allotment \$0.00

Total Cash Held by Merchandiser \$115.00

Total cash till (COH) \$115.00

A pdf spreadsheet (04 Mar 2019) from Brendan was emailed to the committee along with a Graph.

10 red torches have arrived

More Jackets needed to complete order – embroidery is a problem – looking into shop at Macarthur Square

Tony will send Ray a copy of the logo to try to embroider it.

Caps, shirts and beanies have been ordered

Merchandise order form is updated on the website

A new record layout will be tabled at this committee meeting

Report moved by Tony Law, seconded by Andy passed

#### 4.4 Speakers

This month's forum 18th Mar 2019 Dr Angel R. Lopez Sanchez (Macq Uni)

Next month: 15th Apr 2019 AGM – Guest speaker Prof Tara Murphy (UNSYD) - "Breakthrough! The detection of gravitational waves from a neutron star merger"

Full list of future presenters is listed below

20th May 2019 Dr Emil Lenc (ASKAP)

17th Jun 2019 Les Dalrymple

15th Jul 2019 Robert Brand Space Activist & Entrepreneur (Moon Landing and Space)

19th Aug 2019 Dr Lee Spitler (Mac Uni + AAO) Huntsman Dome

16th Sep 2019 Marnie Ogg – "The effects of Light Pollution on Astronomy & the Environment"

21st Oct 2019 Prof. Geraint Lewis (USYD) Cosmology

18th Nov 2019 Dr Brad Tucker (ANU)

9th Dec 2019 Fifth Annual Students Night

## 4.5 General Business

**4.5.1** We have a loan set of Binoculars now and 4 loan Telescopes. The loan scopes are currently in use with students working on astronomical projects with the mentors. 5 Mobile phone holders for the loan telescopes are being looked into. Ongoing item.

**4.5.2** Camden library (Oran park) wishes to hold Stargazing event on Thurs July 11, 2019. Difficult to get approval but done now. More pictures will need to be printed for this event. Members are asked to please donate pictures. See 4.7 below, *On Going*

**4.5.3 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment** nothing to report – on going

## 4.6 Regular Viewing

**4.6.1 Stargard** – 3 Mar - good viewing

**Future dates.** 30 Mar, 27 Apr, 25 May, 22 June, 27 July, 24 Aug, 21 Sep, 19 Oct, 21 Nov, 21 Dec.

**4.6.2 The Forest** – 8/9/10 March – poor weather forecast

**Future dates.** 5/6/7 April, 3/4/5 May, 31 May + 1/2 June, 28/29/30 June, 2/3/4 Aug, 30/31 Aug + 1 Sep, 27/28/29 Sep, 25/26/27 Oct, 29/30 Nov + 1 Dec, 27/28/29 Dec.

**4.7 Public Outreach** – current dates that are set for 2019. See website Calendar for confirmation close to date.

15<sup>th</sup> March Fri - Picnic under the Stars ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens) - \$1000 donation for 3 agreed events

30<sup>th</sup> March Sat - Earth hour event (clashes with Stargard)

13<sup>th</sup> April Sat – Public Stargazing at the Domes and IAU event

10<sup>th</sup> May Fri - Stars over the gardens ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens)

18<sup>th</sup> May Sat - Picton IlluminARTE

8<sup>th</sup> July Sat - Public Stargazing at the Domes

11<sup>th</sup> July Thurs - Camden Library Stargazing

13<sup>th</sup> July Sat – Campbelltown Library Stargazing

20<sup>th</sup> July Sat – Casula Power House Stargazing ad photo exhibit

21<sup>st</sup> July Sun Apollo 11 50 years Anniversary WSU

9-10<sup>th</sup> Aug Fri, Sat, Sun The Forest, Belanglo International House (Students night)

13<sup>th</sup> Aug Tues Broughton Science Fair (1-5pm)

XX August TBA Picnic under the Stars ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens)

7<sup>th</sup> Sept Sat - Public Stargazing at the Domes

5<sup>th</sup> Oct Sat - Public Stargazing at the Domes

**4.7.1 Sun July 21 Afternoon 12:56pm, 50 years anniversary of the moon landing**

Sunday 21 July 2019 “THE DISH” moon landing viewing event

Tony tabled a list of event names. The committee is considering the name “Apollo 11 to STEM and the Next Giant Leap”

One Giant Leap has 7 NASA/JPL specialists available for workshops – need more than 180 seats – looking to Western Sydney Uni for a lecture theatre and/or lecture rooms (344 large lecture capacity – 199 smaller lecture theatre) – venue approved.

Catering Tony and Barry to follow up with contacts (coffee van, lunch trucks, Sausage sizzle BBQ)

Sound and vision needs to be checked (Peter Godwin to be approached)

Mike is to look into using Eventbright booking or another company.

Campbelltown Library will assist with posters printing and image printing

Campbelltown Library also wants to runs a public observing night at their library – booked for Sat 13 July

Casula Power House night event 20/7/2019 (photo exhibition and a public viewing). A group 5 people will be needed to go to Casula to allow the main organisers to set up for the “the big event” at the UWS the next day.

Tony’s email 5/3/19 with summary decisions

*After long committee meeting last night, we now have a lot more work to do to bring this event to fruition.*

*Decision 1: The Event will be called “**Apollo 11 to STEM and The Next Giant Leap**”, blending our Celebration of the Moon Landing with our STEM Outreach and with NASA’s official “Next Giant Leap”. Also tying in the name of our co-conspirators One Giant Leap Australia!*

*Decision 2: We will outsource catering, visitors pay on the day (of course we will look after our overseas guests)*

*Decision 3: We will need access to the Lecture Theatres on Saturday afternoon to arrange setup. We will have to ensure we have 5 or 6 scopes and a speaker at the Casula Powerhouse event.*

*Decision 4: Tickets through Eventbrite (Mike Nicholas to advise) \$20.00 Adults and \$10.00 for children.*

*Decision 5: Funding, we are chasing up grants and sponsorships through the local councils and our bankers, plus we will have a small income from our events at the ABG and our Sausage sizzle income! Look for sponsorship from other entities, Tasco, Camera House, Bintel etc.*

*Decision 6: Need to check with OGLA if we can video the talks*

*Decision 6: TL to speak to Peter Godwin regarding sound/video set up together with WSU technician. Call upon members for assistance on the day.*

*Decision 7: We wait for licensing details/costs for The Dish and permission from NASA to use their logos (Greg Bradford)*

*TL will also speak to WSU regarding the event – we need to get the program to them within the next 4-6 weeks. There will be a further committee meeting in a couple of weeks.*

*Cheers  
Tony*

## **4.8 Members’ Trips**

**4.8.1 China 15 May to 29 May 2019**, All moneys have been paid to the tour company. Visa yet to be obtained and vaccinations where necessary *On going*.

**4.8.2 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*

## 4.9 Fundraising

Greg is to organise putting our club into the cash for bottles and cans recycling charities donation.

Bunnings BBQ date 2 March. Approx \$1200 after expenses. Actuals to be advised.

**4.10 Website, Facebook** – issues with email and passwords – being investigated.  
All members have been asked to reset their passwords.

## 4.11 Publicity and Secretary report Barry Moore

**4.11.1** Publicity for the next forum Mar 18 been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle

**4.11.2** Secretary will forward minutes as soon as they are approved by committee to Roger (webmaster) for member's perusal. Ongoing item

**4.11.3** Mail box has been checked each week – 2 bank statement received, investment account rollover and invoice for letter box (12 months usage).

### **4.11.4 Attendance – February Forum**

as per sign-on book: 41 members, 11 Non-members; total 52.

## 4.12 Correspondence

**received.** – Nothing of significance (except usual Bank statement and advertisements) received directly to secretary.

**sent** – nil

**4.13 Succession planning** – Tony has distributed nominations forms to committee members. We have nominations for all positions except President and Vice President. It is imperative that the members look into finding a President . Tony will address the members at the next Forum in March *On Going*.

**4.14 “2019 Calendar dates”.** The dates from the official calendar on the website have been transcribed into these minutes under the appropriate headings. (eg. Forest, Stargard, Outreach, Forum speakers)

## 5. NEW BUSINESS arising at the Meeting

The form for “video release” was discussed – Hayley, at the schools presentation, has included a video release clause in the parents' permission form that the school uses with the students.

## 6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon Apr 1st 2019 at Wivenhoe Village Club House, Hollyhock Drive, Cobbitty at 7.30pm on Monday 01 April.

## 7. CLOSE OF MEETING 10.28 pm 4/3/19

Written by Secretary, Barry Moore on 4/3/19, 5/3/2019, 14/3/19 by Tony, 1/4/19 Barry (change of next meeting venue)

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_