



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY Minute of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.
Monday 4th Nov 2019 at 7.30pm

Committee Attending: Allan Hobbs(President), Greg Bradford (Committee Member), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), Barry Moore (BM) (Secretary), Mike Nichols.

Apologies: Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising), John Rombi (Vice President), Phil Kidd (Committee member)

- 1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7:35pm
- 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for October committee meeting held 7/10/2019 Proposed by Andy seconded by Henry Passed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Successful evening at Durham for our Outreach night (2 Nov). 5 scopes – Member's with scopes were Henry, Neville, Rita, John, Mike and Greg. Ragbir presented a talk called "Searching for ET".

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Andy Milton

Macastro Financial report and Bank Statement transactions for 31 October 2019.

The Society Bank Account balance as at 31 Oct was \$13835.75

The Society Investment Account \$21000

The society Paypal account was \$160.48

Sundry Cash still to be banked \$ 12.00

The Number 2 Account (China) has a residual amount of \$3.64 representing sundry interest payments

An amount of \$149.50 was banked on 18/10/2019 as a direct deposit by Direct Credit 421520 TOMRA COLLECTION for donation to club from cans and bottle recycling.

Outstanding payment to be made: none

Outstanding Cheques to be presented : #723, \$300 Ingleburn Lions Club

Action Barry to ring them about this. (update 11/11/19 BM – Ingleburn Lions Club President has been contacted and is looking into this. Unfortunately their treasurer has been sick and has been in hospital).

There a number of receipts due to Macastro: Australian Botanic Gardens – \$1000

Action Allan/Andy to edit and then send modified Invoice to ABG – in progress (NB 11/11/19 BM – with Andy's car accident Barry will be investigating the delay in this Invoice).

Motion put to members present at the Forum meeting on the 21st oct 2019.

That the society pay a donation of \$500 to the "Australian Dark Sky Alliance" – Moved Allan Hobbs, Seconded Andy Milton, Passed by a large show of hands , No hands where shown in opposition.

The Australian Dark Sky Alliance donation is in progress.

Report proposed by Andy, seconded by Allan

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

1 new member since last report. Greg Cain. Paid and confirmed. ,
 Membership at the end of Oct: 138 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.
 An application from Peter Tebbe has been pre approved by the committee and his membership is awaiting payment of his membership fee.
 Moved by Henry Seconded by Andy, Passed

4.3 Merchandise: (reported by email from Brendon Waterhouse)

Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising. -

Initial Cash Balance April 2018	\$96.00
Cash Allotted from Sales or Donations into COH	\$27.90
Cash awaiting internal allotment or distribution to Treasurer	\$109
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$233.55
Total cash till - Cash On Hand - (COH)	\$123.90

Notes

- 1 - New stock items. - 2 Large jackets, offered to MAS at a special price.
- 2 - Astro 2020. Currently stands at 15 for order. Last year we had 27 copies. The November Forum is the last chance to place any orders with me.

Report moved by Allan , seconded by Barry Passed

4.4 Forum Speakers

This Month 18th Nov 2019	Dr Brad Tucker (ANU)
Next Month 9 th Dec 2019	Fifth Annual Students Night

Full list of future 2020 presenters is listed below (as per the Macastro website)

20th Jan	Ric Forster (MAS member)	
17th Feb	Prof Fred Watson	
16th Mar	Prof Tim Bedding (USYD)	
20th Apr	Les Dalrymple	
18th May	Dr Luke Barnes (WSU)	
15th Jun	Dr Lucyna Chudczer (AAL)	
20th Jul	Dr Kim-Vy Tran (UNSW)	
17th Aug	Dr Emil Lenc (ASKAP)	
21st Sept	Prof Michael Wheatland (USYD)	
19th Oct	Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)	
16th Nov	Prof Charley Lineweaver (ANU)	
14th Dec	Students will present astronomy projects	Sixth Annual Students Night

4.5 General Business

4.5.1 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment -- on going

4.5.2 "What we do" or "About Us" - Allan Hobbs - pamphlets - on going

4.5.3 Andy to create a Members attendance record at Public outreach night. Currently designing forms for this. On going

4.5.4 Calendar for 2020 - required ASAP - Action John and possibly Tony to draw up.

4.5.5 Request to attend Astrofest.

John has been talking to the organisers of Astrofest and has been handling it since inception 3 years ago. On going.

4.5.6 Camden Library *Subject: servicing Telescope collection at Camden Libraries*

Action John to contact Camden Library and scope the job for costs involved. Commercial request form to be completed and quote for paid assistance from them.

4.5.7 email from Punchbowl Boys High School outreach 2019 – not possible

Action- No Further Action required.

4.5.8 Donation to Dark Sky Alliance of \$500

It was moved that we send a donation of \$500 to Dark Sky Alliance.

Moved by Allan, Seconded Greg, Passed – update needed (NB 11/11/19 BM we need the AUSTRALIAN Dark Sky Alliance).

4.5.9 Sat 2nd Nov Durham Village Private Outreach night - see item 3 Business arising.

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – 19 Oct

Future dates. - 21 Nov, 21 Dec, 31 Dec

4.6.2 The Forest 25/26/27 Oct

Future dates. 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

4.7.1 Mentoring for 2020. Report by Mike Nichols

Broughton Anglican college has requested assistance for a year 12 student (started this in 4th term 2019). Step 1 for this student to find a mentor to assist him in his studies for his HSC.

A general enquiry from Dept of Education Curriculum advisory services who are also interested to find mentors for other study projects that HSC student are undertaking.

4.7.2 Mallincom, portable battery and monitor to be used at Public nights.

Action to Tony to find out status of this MACASTRO equipment.

School Outreach – Bossley Park – request to talk about Telescopes – will apply for next year

Macarthur Anglican School – for Terms 1, 2, 3 would like talk on astronomy in general during schools hours.

4.7.3 Air league Cadets Fri 8th at Smeaton Grange outreach night. Tony is running this Help needed. Event approved by committee

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 JPL May 2021 Tony has circulated a form, provisional trip details and has names of people interested.

4.9 Fundraising

4.9.1 Return and Earn is working well – 24 Nov is last date for donations though.

4.10 Website, Facebook – Chris is working on this, On going

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum Nov 18st sent to Advertiser and Chronicle. (change of email address for Oran park Gazette noted.

4.11.2 Mail box was has been checked each week – nothing to report – 2nd key is with Andy

4.11.4 Attendance – October Forum

as per sign-on book: 37 members, 3 Non-members; total 40

4.12 Correspondence

Received.

Sent.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 John raised the matter of a change to our current patron.

Prof Bryan Gaensler (Dunlap Institute, Toronto, Canada) is our current Patron. When he left Australia some time ago he stated that should the society want to appoint a different Patron we should proceed accordingly. Due to Bryan's distance from us, and his inability to keep in communication with us, this fact and Bryan's own comments at the time when he left Australia, the committee has brought this matter up as a consideration.

In discussion in committee, the following criteria was determined for a Patron.

The Patron is someone that is prominent in astronomical/physics circles, worldwide.

The Patron enjoys public outreach and in particular his trips to MAS.

The Patron would have to be one of our most popular guests, and always challenges us with their brilliant presentations.

The Patron would have to be a great asset to us and be vocal in encouraging the membership and support us in the outreach and the Public events we organise.

The committee felt that Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD) is certainly a possible person and that he would be a great asset to us.

Committee felt more discussion is needed to establish the benefits and risks associated with a patron change. In principle the idea is good. Actual expectations of our Patron are not clear. On going matter.

5.2 High Vis vest logo – iron on type. Greg has investigated the purchase of these and extra High – vis vest. Minimum 120 \$30 set up \$1.85 each. Greg authorised to get 120 labels (70 black 50 white) and 20 "MACASTRO" transfers all up \$370. Approved by committee.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon December 2nd 2019 at Allan Hobbs residence, Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closed at 9.23pm

Typed by Barry Moore on 4 Nov edited 11/11/2019, 29/11/2019, 2/12/2019 by Barry.

Approved by committee, Authorised by Allan Hobbs Date 2/12/2019