



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.
Monday 3rd Feb 2020 at 7.30pm

Committee Attending: Allan Hobbs(President), John Rombi (Vice President), Greg Bradford (Committee Member), Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), Phil Kidd (Committee member), Andy Milton (Treasurer); Barry Moore (BM) (Secretary).

Apologies:

1. **OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7.30 pm
2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for December committee meeting held 2/12/2019 Proposed by Barry seconded by John
3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising) will be stepping down from his position (By end of MAS financial year)
 - 3.2 Mike Nichols (schools Liaison officer) has stepped down from his position (Phil Kidd has offered to do this)
 - 3.3 **Motion** (20/1/2020 at Jan Forum). That the club donate \$1000 to the Rural Fire Service for Bush fire relief and gift attendance donations from the next 2 public Forums at WSU. Moved by Allan Hobbs, Seconded by John Rombi. Passed by show of hands – no shows of hands against. **Action** – Payment of \$1000 , rest later to be made by cheque when possible after

Update to Change of Patron. – see Item in General Business at 4.14

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Current balances as per bank accounts

Attached please find Macarthur Astronomical Society financial report to 31 January 2020.
Also sent to committee are the financial reports for November and December 2019.

The Society cheque account balance as at 31 January was \$14961.89.

The Paypal Account balance as at 31 January was \$547.52.

There are some receipt numbers still to added to the reports.

An amount of \$25.00 cash received in January is yet to be identified.

The Committee has decided to donate \$1000.00 to the bush fire appeal. An additional \$xx was donated to the appeal at the January forum. The Committee needs to decide what specific organisation should receive this proposed donation.

There is one un-presented cheque outstanding for \$300.00 to Ingleburn Lions Club.

Action: Barry to email Lions club re the un-presented Cheque.

Report proposed by Andy, seconded by Barry Passed

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

Membership at the end of Jan 2020: 140 members in total including 6 Hon. 2 Assoc.

Renewals of 30 members. Current Associate member are now 2

Moved by Henry Seconded by Phil Passed

4.3 Merchandise: (reported by email from Brendon Waterhouse 1 Feb 2020)

Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising.

Initial Cash Balance April 2018	\$96.00
Cash Allotted from Sales or Donations into COH	\$4.00
Cash awaiting internal allotment or distribution to Treasurer	\$47.10
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$147.10
Total cash till - Cash On Hand - (COH)	\$100.00

Notes

- 1 - Last Forum - Same situation as last year, We had little donations made by the schools attendee's.
 - 2 - Next Forum- Please let me know in advance about what gifting the committee thinks should be given to the MAS Member. Also please note that I may not be available to attend.
 - 3 - Position of Merchandising Officer - I would like to inform the committee that after the close of this current MAS financial year (29 Feb 2020), I will be stepping down from this position. However, I will still complete the committee report and the yearly report for the MAS Committee meeting in early March.
- Report moved by Barry , seconded by Allan Passed

4.4 Forum Speakers

17th Feb	Prof Fred Watson – new book release	
16th Mar	Prof Tim Bedding (USYD)	
20th Apr	Les Dalrymple	
18th May	Dr Luke Barnes (WSU)	
15th Jun	Dr Lucyna Chudczer (AAL) – Australian Astronomical League	
20th Jul	Dr Kim-Vy Tran (UNSW)	
17th Aug	Dr Emil Lenc (ASKAP)	
21st Sept	Prof Michael Wheatland (USYD) – the Sun	
19th Oct	Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)	
16th Nov	Prof Charley Lineweaver (ANU)	
7th Dec	Students will present astronomy projects	Sixth Annual Students Night

Completed Action – Allan, WSU (Ragbir) has been-notified to book lecture Hall - item 4.98 and emails in appendix 2

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 - Stargard, Forest and Public Outreach are published.

4.5.5 Request to attend Astrofest. Same night as public night on June 27th.

John has been talking to the organisers of Astrofest and has been handling it since inception 3 years ago.. Members can choose to go to this or the Public night at the Domes.

4.5.6 Camden Library - servicing Telescope collection at Camden Libraries

Action John and Greg to contact Camden Library and scope the job for Camden library indicating what is needed and possible costs involved. Camden Library should see BINTEL (or similar) for replacement parts and servicing help as required.

4.5.7 Donation to **Australian** Dark Sky Alliance of \$500 – done.

4.5.8 High Vis vest logo – Iron on type. Vest are available now. Carol Mc Veith is bringing the other MAS vests back to Greg for logo printing.

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – reports on viewings Jan18th – cancelled as smoky
Future dates.

Feb 15th, March 14th, April 18th, May 16th, June 13th

July 11th, August 15th, September 12th, October 10th, November 7th, December 5th/12th

4.6.2 The Forest report for 27/28/29 Dec - cancelled due to smoke and poor visibility, Jan 25th Cancelled
Future dates.

Feb 22nd, March 21st, April 25th, May 23rd, June 20th:

July 18th, August 22nd, September 19th, October 17th, November 14th, December 12th:

Note from Tony Law re these dates

I would like to suggest we run Stargard and the Forest the weekend on 14/15 August. I understand from John that IH is down for 22 August (not confirmed on calendar yet). Otherwise we miss out on our free weekend and two shots in the month to get decent skies!

4.6.3 MAS Outreach Nights at the Domes

May 2nd Public night 1

May 30th Public night 2

June 27th Public night 3

July 25th Public Night 4

August 29th Public night 5

September 26th Public night 6

4.7 Other Public Outreach

4.7.1 Mentoring for 2020. – only 3 mentors at the present for Broughton.

Action – send document “Student Projects in Astronomy – A guide to teachers and Mentors” to Roger Powell for inclusion on our website. Done (NOTE BM 2/3/2020 it was sent incorrectly to Roger’s email)

- a list of dates for 2020 (timetables based on school terms and semester) for all 3 schools that have expressed interest in mentoring has been prepared by Phil Kidd - done.
- Notes from Ned have been placed on website.

4.7.1.1 Broughton Anglican college has requested assistance for a year 12 student (started this in 4th term 2019). Ric Foster has offered to be the Mentor for this HSC student. In Progress.

4.7.3 Schools Outreach

4.7.3.1 Macarthur Anglican School

for Terms 1, 2, 3 would like talk on astronomy in general during schools hours. Bob, Mike and Phil went to school to find out what was required. Bob to give a talk 20-30 min three times in a day. Year 10. Luke Barnes will also be talking about cosmology in the schools. In Progress.

4.7.3.2 Broughton Anglican School

Email re Science week Astronomy display Tues 11/8/2020 1.00pm to 5.00pm– Outreach from submitted – Approved by committee.

4.7.4 Australian Botanical Gardens, Narellan – approved dates are

Friday 29th May

Friday 14th August (Science Week)

Note re invoice from Christian.

For future invoices, please make sure that you make them out to the Royal Botanic Garden and Domain Trust and then send them to me (not to our accounts team). This way you will not be asked to add codes that you are not able to provide. Please also include your vendor number which is 662867. \$300 per event.

Christian Eckardt - Team Leader Education and Community Programs, Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands

T (02) 9339 6664 | M 0420534053, E Christian.Eckardt@bgcp.nsw.gov.au

4.7.5 Students from International House, 1st quarter moon at the Forest, 22 August.

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 JPL May 2021 Tony has circulated a form, provisional trip details and has names of people interested 17 people interested – cut off is 20. In progress.

4.9 Fundraising Return and Earn - Greg has reapplied for Aug 2020 – in progress

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

4.11 Storing all our display photographs – currently with Tony . A is home needed and person to manage new photo publishing.

Action: Allan to ask for help at the next Forum. In progress.

4.12 Finding new MAS members for outreach and mentoring

Action: Phil to write a Note for newsletter to find new members.

4.13 Missing photographs from Durham Green Village Night – Photos are deemed lost.

4.14 Change of Patron

Prof Bryan Gaensler has now formally stepped down as our patron and will be made an Honary member.

Action: John will be sending obtaining a plaque to celebrate his association with our society.

Our New patron Prof Geraint Lewis who has accepted the position ..

4.98 Forums booking at WSU.

All dates are entered by Ragbir EXCEPT DEC 2020. This needs to be done in June 2020.

4.99 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.99.1 Publicity for the next forum Feb 17th sent to the following emails and websites

Hayley.Neville@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au; Laura.Brunick@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au; editor@macarthurchronicle.com.au; editor@tdr.com.au; wollondilly@parliament.nsw.gov.au; Mike.Freelander.MP@aph.gov.au; Angus.Taylor.MP@aph.gov.au; camden@parliament.nsw.gov.au; An.Hennessy@westernsydney.edu.au; Anne.Stanley.MP@aph.gov.au; MacquarieFields@parliament.nsw.gov.au; tourism@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au; editor@districtgazette.com.au;

<https://macarthur.com.au/submit-a-listing/submit-event/>

<https://www.districtgazette.com.au/events/>

<https://www.macarthuradvertiser.com.au/story/5069811/so-youre-holding-an-event-share-it-with-the-community/?cs=12710>

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

4.99.3 Attendance – December Forum : 32 members, 10 Non-members; total 42

January forum ; 27 members, 3 Non-members; total 30

4.99.4 Correspondence

Emails as Per attached appendix2 in the Feb 2020 agenda (BM removed from these formal minutes because of their length). All Matters have been addressed in these minutes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Camden Astronomy Public Lecture –

Action. Where will it fit and who is available?. MAS outreach is full up with Broughton and Macarthur Anglican Schools efforts, six outreach public nights, two Botanical Gardens nights and an international House event. Barry to reply accordingly.

5.2 Changes to Macarthur Heights and Newbrook at Airids Welcome Programs

Noted. No further action required.

5.3 Youth Week grant

Noted. No further action required.

5.4 Nominations for Management committee Position 2020-2021

Allan as President, Barry as Secretary /Public officer and Greg as Committee Member will not be re-standing for any committee positions at the AGM in April 2020

Action: Barry to print Nomination forms for next forum and distribute.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon **March 2nd** 2020 at John Rombi/ home.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.20 pm

Typed by Barry on 3 Feb , edited 7 Feb 2020

Approved by John Rombi and Committee Date 2/3/2020