

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY Inc
Minutes of Committee Meeting

Date: 10th November 2003

The meeting opened at 7.50 pm in Noel and Carmen's House 24 Clydebank Cres

Present: Noel Sharp, John Rombi, Bob Bee, Ian Cook, Lloyd Wright, Dick Everett

Apologies No apologies

Reading of Minutes Past Mtg

Minutes were read and moved for acceptance as true record by Ian and seconded by Bob

Business Arising from Minutes

1. November speaker Dick Hunstead has sent synopsis of his talk for introduction
2. **Observatory Report** Discussions with Ragbir Bhatal re the non opening of dome telescopes for public nights revealed UWS policy difference over Nepean and Rotary Observatory at Campbelltown. UWS operate a public education program based on Nepean which functions well and attracts groups from Southern Highlands and Macarthur already. Consequently administration do not feel any obligation to duplicate this at Campbelltown. Ragbir is aware of MAS members concerns and has agreed to address the membership early 2004 re these matters.
3. **Advance notice** of membership fees due at end February, and Management Committee nominations will be made in November Prime Focus.
4. **MAS Website** construction proceeding: Secretary asked JR to compile Messier page and will approach other members for web addresses to other societies and information links. Astro photographers are encouraged to submit photos in either digital or film format with suitable captions
5. **Speakers for 2004:** We have one or two in hand waiting final arrangement, Monty Leventhal and John O'Byrne, but need more suggestion.
6. **Observing dates 2004** to be compiled by John R and submitted to next meeting
7. **End-of-Year BBQ** to be held 4.30pm Pembroke Park Minto December 8th
8. **Receipt Notice from Gaming and Racing** indicates our application for fund-raising permission has been accepted unless we hear from them before end of year

NEW BUSINESS

The following matters were tabled and discussed or agreed:

- A. Agreed that Minutes of Management Committee meetings to be displayed by Secretary for members to read at monthly meetings.
- B. MAS has been approached about joining a proposed Association of Amateur Astronomers Of Australia. This organisation will endeavour to negotiate better, less expensive insurance coverage for member groups. At the moment we are cooperating re information on our insurance coverage but have made no decision re membership. Bob is nominated as our liaison with this group as it meets in the city and he can go to meetings after his work.
- C. Mailbox items: Information entry re MAS in Camden Community Directory has been updated. Observational diary '2004 Sky Guide' advertising from Sydney Observatory. Insurance Questionnaires from proposed AAAA above.

Treasurer's Report

Expenses totalling \$53.83 were approved as per written report. Bank balance is \$4471.96 at 10th Nov.

Business For Next Meeting

Speakers for 2004 meetings

Advertising for meetings in newspapers

Observing dates and locations

Website launch

Astronomy Public Education program 2004 (workshop, etc)

Preparation for AGM

Belanglo firewood

NEXT MEETING

Meeting Closed

Feb 2nd 2004 at Lloyd and Mary-Lou's home 47 Tramway Currans Hill

9.35pm