



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Scheduled for online conference, Monday 11 October 2021 at 19:00

Committee Attending in the online conference: John Rombi (President), Noel Sharpe (Vice President), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Greg Bradford (Committee Member).

Apologies: Richard Curley, Dave Manning & Phil Kidd

NOTE: The Government restrictions surround the COVID-19 pandemic prevent any face-to-face meetings or activities. This meeting was held by committee members in a "Zoom" conference with full interaction.

1. **OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7:03 pm**
2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for committee meeting held 13/09/2021. Proposed by John Rombi, seconded by Noel Sharpe - Accepted.
3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 Cloud File and Equipment Storage
 - 3.1.1 We all agree on the need to store the society's digital assets in the cloud with some backup held by nominated committee members. John was looking at a Google Drive account but concluded that it did fit with what we needed, John is still investigating.
 - 3.1.2 John investigating storage options other than Kennards (\$6-\$8.50 a day).
 - 3.1.3 Committee resolved to compile an inventory of items needing storage to determine capacity required.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Report from Andy, received 09/10/2021.

Macarthur Astronomical Society Financial report for the period to 30 September 2021. The balance of the main bank account was \$19335.71. The balance of the PayPal Account is \$645.14. Currently 46 people have paid to receive a copy of Astronomy 2022. John Rombi has ordered 50 copies at the reduced price of \$20.80 each (\$25 posted to members)

It is noted that PayPal Here is no longer valid and that the society will need to find another payment system before our 'live' meeting resume. Andy Milton advised that given the small number of annual transactions, the cost of a new system would be prohibitive. The committee decided that members should complete transactions using their established personal online methods.

Moved by John Rombi, seconded by Greg Bradford - Accepted.

4.2 Membership:

Membership at the end of September 2021.

We have 128 Financial members that have renewed in total including 6 Hon. and 2 Assoc.

Moved by John Rombi, seconded by Andy Milton - Accepted.

4.3 Merchandise: no report as we have not had a forum. - On Hold

Currently Andy is storing the merchandise. Andy to source a merchandise table closer to 'live' forum start date.

4.4 Forum Speakers – Via Zoom.

Until further notice, all future forums will be held online via 'Zoom' web app. All presenters are keen and willing to participate online.

Remaining speakers for 2021.

October Prof Tim Bedding (USYD)
November Devika Kamath (MQ)
December Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)

4.5 General Business

4.6 Regular Viewing – All regular Viewing is restricted due to Covid-19 pandemic.

With changes to NSW Covid "Roadmap" first available viewing night will be Stargard 30th October, subject to approval of Wollondilly Shire Council (Noel to liaise). There will be an attendance cap of 30 or 50 members depending on NSW vaccination rates.

4.6.1 Stargard viewing.

Future dates.
30th October
6th November & 27th November
4th December & 25th December

Current hire agreement is for two night per month.

4.6.2 The Forest viewing

There is current no prospect for using the forest, this is not expected to change anytime soon. We will need to remove our cabinet out of the forest cabin, John will chase up access from Sydney University.

4.7 Other Public Outreach

4.7.1 Due to COVID 19, no mentoring this year, Phil Kidd contacted school and they are keen to start in 2022. We may be able to run a combined night later in 2021.

4.8 Members' Trips – None planed due to COVID-19. - On Hold

4.9 **Fundraising - Return and Earn – TOMRA.** Cards have been sent out and some donations have come through. Need to encourage membership to use card and donate. Recycle stations are back up and running.

4.10 **Storing all our display photographs –** currently with Tony. Storage is needed (see Section 3.1) and person to manage new photo publishing. When the society starting meeting again, we will look at printing new photos.

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report - On Hold

Mail checked, Bank statement dropped off to Andy, no other mail.
No publicity has been sent for future public forums or public observing due to Covid-19 pandemic.
Richard is storing MAS roll-up advertising stands.

4.12 Loan Scopes. - On Hold

The committee is looking to procure a solar scope for public outreach only. John to canvas if any member is interested in selling a solar scope. Currently on hold for a few months.

One scope currently available.

4.13 New Business Cards

2000 new business cards have arrived and will be distributed with Astronomy 2022 and general mail as required.

4.14 QR Code Compliance

Noel Sharpe raised the issue of QR code compliance, society to review this closer to starting 'live' meeting. Noel has obtained a QR code for MAS Stargard from Service NSW.

4.15 2021-22 Membership Subscriptions

Dave Manning raised the idea of not collecting membership subscription for the financing year 2021-22, the committee agreed unanimously that this was the correct response to the COVID-19 for our members.

Greg Bradford has checked the Constitution and By-laws and confirmed there is no impediment to this proposal. A small change to the By-Laws section 2 Membership was adopted by the to reinforce this.

4.16 Annual MAS Astrophotography Awards

Roger Powell has suggested the committee initiate a set MAS Astro-image of the Year awards. Committee agreed to implement - ongoing.

4.17 COVID management

MAS Covid 19 response and procedures are governed by current NSW Public Health Orders.

Currently, members wishing to attend Stargard will be required to check-in on-site using the Service NSW QR code and show proof of full vaccination or exemption to a MAS Marshall.

Changes dictated by NSW Public Health Orders will be promulgated to the membership by the President.

5. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

Monday 8th November 2021 – 19:00, online Zoom meeting.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING, 8:07pm.

Typed by Greg Bradford on 12/10/2021.

Approved by, Richard Curley Date, 09/11/2021