


<p>MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY</p>  <p>PO Box 17 Minto, NSW 2566</p>	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>of</p> <p>MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>Online conference Monday 14th March 2022 at 7.00 pm</p>
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Issue	Date	Details	Issued by
1	15 th March 2022	Issued for comments.	RP
2	17 th March 2022	No comments received. Final Issue.	RP

PRESENT: John Rombi (JR); Noel Sharpe (NS); Andy Milton (AM); Greg Bradford (GB); Phil Kidd (PK); Dave Manning (DM); Roger Powell (RP).

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting opened at 7.09 pm. No apologies. All present.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MEETING	DRAFTS CIRCULATED FOR COMMENTS	FINAL ISSUE
8 th November 2021	Issue 2: 14 th Feb 2022	Issue 3: 16 th Feb 2022
13 th December 2021	Issue 1: 19 th Feb 2022 Issue 2: 21 st Feb 2022	Issue 3: 23 rd Feb 2022
14 th February 2022	Issue 1: 15 th Feb 2022	Issue 2: 17 th Feb 2022

Motion: That the Final Minutes dated 8th November 2021, 13th December 2021 and 14th February 2022 be accepted. Moved RP, Seconded GB. Motion carried unanimously.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 Public Officer.

Dept. of Fair Trading correspondence by e-mail confirming registration of RP as Public Officer was circulated to committee members on 2nd March.

3.2 Bank Signatories

Bank wants a signed acknowledgment of resignation by Richard Curley. JR has discussed with Richard and is waiting for a written response. An alternative is to do it after the AGM and election.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report for February 2022

The report details were circulated to committee members by AM prior to the meeting. During the month of February our Local Community Insurance premium was paid for the year to 28th February 2023 for an unchanged amount of \$784.38. Except as noted below there are no outstanding amounts due as at 28 February 2022.

Membership payments have been received from Angie Thomas \$93, Sanjay Naravana \$19, Jan Hands \$36, Vishal Gaikwad \$72, Lizzie Harley \$48 and \$24, and Malcolm Ellis \$48. Confirmation is required that these payments are correct and not mistaken over payments due for a refund.

Term deposit	\$21,138.66
Cash & cheques on hand	-
Merchandise float	\$100.00
Membership Officer float	\$50.00
Coffee tea club float	\$40.00
PayPal	\$352.02
Main cheque account	\$15,112.95
2 nd cheque account-China trip	\$3.64
Grand total	\$36,797.27
Total cash at bank	\$36,255.25

AM has contacted Graeme Bellamy, who has indicated he will continue to act as the Society's Auditor. The audit certificate may be different due to a change in the Accounting and Auditing standards.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be adopted. Moved JR, seconded DM. Carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership Report

DM reported that the total membership is now 152, including honorary and associate memberships.

As per previous decision, 2022-23 membership fees will be waived for members joining before 6th December 2021. One member has offered to donate the waived fee.

The constitutional legality of waiving membership fees was reviewed.

DM reported that membership cards have been issued by post and that he had enough badges for this years awards but will need to order new badges for next year.

Motion: That the Membership Report be accepted. Moved JR, seconded NS, carried unanimously.

NS observed that the usual laser pointer statement did not appear on this years membership cards. It was noted that there is no legal obligation for MAS to do this.

4.3 Merchandise Report

Merchandise sales remain suspended and currently AM is storing the merchandise (refer to item 5.8).

AM to source a merchandise table when a return to forums at WSU is announced (refer to item 5.1.3).

4.4 Correspondence

JR has received correspondence from Barry Moore regarding potential use of Wooglemai Environmental Education Centre, at Sheehys Creek Rd, Oakdale, for observing nights. JR will organise an inspection.

JR received correspondence from Sydney University advising that no decision has been made on restoring and hiring out the Forest cabin (refer to item 5.13).

5 GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Forum

5.1.1 Last month's Forum

Dr Brad Tucker (Australian National University): "Shocking Supernova and discovering their progenitors of exploding stars".

5.1.2 Upcoming Speakers

JR reported:

This month	Prof Roberto Soria (University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences). "Revisiting the expansion of the universe"
April	Dr Tayyaba Zafar (Macquarie. University) following AGM.
August	Prof Joss Bland- Hawthorn.
Invitations	G. Lewis, E. Lenc.

5.1.3 Western Sydney University

JR advised that Dr Bhathal believes a decision on an imminent return to WSU may be possible soon.

Before returning, we will need to consider: appointing catering manager, appointing a merchandise officer, retrieving advertising stands from Richard Curley and determine responsibility for attendance register. Also the purchase of merchandise table (from item 4.3)

The possibility of broadcasting the Forum live or recording it and posting a link was discussed.

5.2 Stargard

5.2.1 Field Nights

Last successful event:	31 st December 2021
Recent cancelled events	5 th Feb; 26 th Feb, 5 th Mar. (all due to weather)
Upcoming events	26 th Mar; 2 nd April

Stargard is closed until further notice, following intense rainfall and flooding.

5.2.2 New Members Workshop at Stargard

The event scheduled for 12th March was postponed on 9th March, due to the disastrous flooding and subsequent damage to infrastructure in the greater Macarthur area. This was the second postponement and a new date 9th April was determined.

5.2.3 Covid compliance & safety issues at Stargard

Stargard attendees will continue to be required to show proof of full vaccination (three doses) or an exemption. NSW Government no longer requires check-in on-site using the *Service NSW* QR code.

5.3 Public Outreach Events

No events planned. We owe the Australian Botanic Garden one more free night.

5.4 Mentoring

PK has received an invitation from Broughton College to provide a telescope display on Tuesday 16th August from 3pm to 4.30 pm. It was agreed to attend.

DM suggested that members send him copies of images to display electronically. JR will ask members to provide suitable images.

5.5 Fund-raising

Money is coming in from NSW Return and Earn Scheme. No other fund-raising activities at present.

5.6 Loan Telescopes

GB advises that three telescopes are now in storage and one is out on loan.

5.7 Members excursions

None planned.

5.8 Equipment Storage & Inventory

Richard Curley is storing MAS roll-up advertising stands, which should go to the storage facility prior to the Forum returning to WSU. AM has some boxes of paperwork and has stored the merchandise stock during the pandemic. AM will arrange with JR to meet to handover for storage.

GB indicated that another set of shelves would be needed at the lock-up.

5.9 Digital Matters

5.9.1 Cloud File Storage

JR has identified a *Google* package that will suit requirements but needs assistance.

5.9.2 Website & Social Media

Nothing to report.

5.10 Publicity

None due to covid-19 pandemic.

5.11 First Annual Photographic Awards

JR will judge the awards.

5.12 Annual General Meeting 18th April

5.12.1 Nominations for Committee

Notice of AGM is posted on the website, with a link to nomination forms. Nominations close on 4th April. JR is collecting nominations. All current committee members have re-nominated.

5.12.2 Annual reports

Reports from President, Treasurer and Auditor and any other committee member to be sent to Secretary by 10th April for collation and will be made available to members one week ahead of AGM.

5.12.3 Auditor & Returning Officer

Graeme Bellamy will act as Auditor and Tony Law has agreed to act as Returning Officer.

5.12.4 Annual Membership Awards:

Awards will consist of certificates for all categories and badges for 10 and 20 years membership.

5.12.5 Quorum

RP said a quorum of 15 members will be required before proceeding with the AGM. Due to the very early start time of 6.45 pm and recognising last year's experience, this may be problematic. It will require repeated reminders to members leading up to the AGM. It might also be desirable to identify the members who do not switch on their camera if the default image does not identify them.

5.13 Forest Cabin

As per correspondence (item 4.4) JR has received an indication from Sydney University that MAS assets can be retrieved. These include filing cabinet, drinking glasses and 240V extension leads. Visit to be arranged.

5.14 Any Other Business

5.14.1 President's E-mail

JR requested committee members to channel communications through his astronut e-mail address.

5.14.2 Fuel

Committee members may be reimbursed for extended car travel while fuel prices are high.

6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 11th April, Zoom.

7 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed approximately 8.40 pm.