

Minutes of committee meeting held at the home of Mr R.Clifford on 15/3/99

Present: R.Roth, J.Watson, B.Lawrence, R.Clifford, I.Schroeder

Apologies: P.Hawkins

1. Meeting commenced at 19:45 - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - cannot use City Computers for April meeting
- JW/RR to send photo of Roberts Refractor to Danie Overbeek for paper at ASSA Symposium - JW unable to go.
3. Planning *
10/4/99 - work party at Observatory to prepare Dobs platform
14/4/99 - 'Sundials - Theory & Construction' - RR - venue ?
12/5/99 - Constellation viewing at Observatory.
9/6/99 - A.G.M. || * 29-30/3/99 ASSA Symposium in Capetown.
4. Membership - New member - Miss Sarah Bryan
- M.Christianson now our alternate on ASSA Council as per latest edition of MNASSA - no agendas or minutes are ever received from Council any more ?
- R.Jarmain is now a member of ASSA (parent body).
5. Correspondence
- MNASSA and N/Letters from other Centres
- phone call from A.Slotegraf re photo of observatory
- letter from Mr R.Arco (Ladysmith) in reply to RR's letter. He is keen to keep in contact and have a joint meeting sometime - JW to send 'Stardust' and application form
- Details of occultation on 10/3/99 - Centre needs somebody to convene/coordinate occultation programme
- trips to Turkey to view eclipse in August 1999
6. Treasurer - Balance on hand R2255
- Post Box rental paid - only 3 1999 Handbooks left
7. STARDUST - to be ready by 30/3/1999 (if e-mail is working ?)
- RR to prepare a 'Chairmans Corner' re observatory needs
8. Library - IS has taken measurements of bookcase to make dust-cover
- appeal to members to return any books or magazines
- S.de Vos has presented large photo of N.Armstrong
- possible use of caravan lights & battery in observatory
9. P.R.O. - "Grand Opening" of observatory on Wednesday 11/8/99 or 8/9/99 - BL will draft a suitable invitation
- BL will also draft some leaflets for Pmb Tourism to hold
- 'The Mirror'/Japanese consulate to be contacted
10. Observatory & Instruments
- RC suggested use of concrete paving slabs to make the Dobsonian platform - more options than a single large permanent slab - agreed to go ahead and purchase
- RC presented plans for a braai structure - there are enough bricks left
- 'shopping list' - carpet, lights, brush cutter etc
- RR, JW and H.Buchler to visit G.Prosser on 21/3/1999 re new 12" reflector
11. Education - JW gave talk to Russell High on 1/3/1999, and due to go to St.Johns on 23/6/1999
- Advertising for Basic Astronomy course in July
- RR in contact with Cubs
12. General - BL queried status of Centre Constitution - to be discussed at next meeting

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - MONDAY 19/4/1999 - venue to be advised