

Minutes of committee meeting held at the home of J.Watson on 19/7/99

Present: R.Roth, J.Watson, P.Hawkins, R.Clifford, B.Lawrence, W.Russell

Apologies: C.Lake, R.Joubert

1. Meeting commenced at 19:30 - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - WR commended for his efforts in producing 'Stardust'  
- RC thanked for talk at the last meeting of Centre
3. Planning 11/8/99 RR to lead discussion on Planetaria - meet at Girl Guide camp  
8/9/99 Opening of Observatory  
13/10/99 MOON evening  
Future - refer to schedule of topics (minutes 17/5/99)  
- Mr Hill (Model Eng) can talk about bronze casting for possible making of sundials  
- JW to discuss regular use of Girl Guide camp, and the cost thereof
4. Membership New members - Mario di Maggio Prop B.Lawrence Sec R.Roth  
Patricia MacArthur Prop P.Hawkins  
Sec H.Tunmer  
Resignation - Ds Gerrit de Beer (Ladysmith) after 10+ years  
- he has retired and is moving to Brackenfell in the Cape
5. Correspondence - Newsletters and August S&T  
- letter from A.Gray re his travel arrangements etc  
- letters of thanks from R.Hampson & Epworth  
- various occultation notices  
- SAAO Annual Report  
- mailing list/database update request - from 'African Skies' ??
6. Treasurer - Balance on hand R3420 - subs coming in nicely  
- JW to negotiate purchase of 2nd-hand OHP from City Computers, using profit from Basic Astronomy course (share cost and usage with Hilton Baptist Church)
7. STARDUST - RR to prepare article on Sundials as intro to Planetaria  
- Advertise Opening of Observatory, missing S&T issues
8. Library - RC donation of slides of Greenwich observatory  
- members to be invited to 'lend' books, hire of videos for R4  
- a catalogue of books and videos to be printed & circulated
9. P.R.O. - Invitations printed & personalised by BL and S.deVos  
- agreed to a R500 advance for catering costs
10. Observatory & Instruments  
- mounting ready for 5" Dancer - 'lift-off' next weekend  
- Dobsonian mount for 12" constructed by G,Prosser - mirror needs to be silvered - some sort of finderscope required  
- PH can purchase 2nd-hand generator for R400 - H.Buchler to be asked to check it over before going ahead  
- RR also demonstrated a reasonably priced 'strip' light which can be run off a car battery  
- WR has investigated grassing of surround (using Cedara recs) which will work out at approx 10cents/sq.m - work party (CL)  
- a further work party is reqd to level braai area
11. Education - 26 people on Basic Astro course - going well  
- JW to do a 'star evening' with Rotary students on 21/7/99
12. General - "The Mirror" are keen to have a monthly astronomy column  
- Mr C.Swann has an 8" blank - needs advice

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 16/8/99 - Venue to be advised