

Minutes of committee meeting held at the home of R.Clifford on 15/11/99

Present: R.Roth, J.Watson, P.Hawkins, R.Clifford, C.Lake

Apologies: W.Russell, B.Lawrence, R.Joubert

1. Meeting commenced at 19:30 - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - good talk by Alan Hill - JW to write letter of thanks
- 8 responses thus far for Xmas Party
3. Planning 18/11/99 LEONIDS - weather maps (Internet) look promising
- no 'official' gathering - RR and PH will drive around the country to find clear sky ?
11/12/99 Xmas Party - replies to be in by 6/12/99 to BL
Future Radio Astro - Roger O'Neill (Radio Club)? } *for Feb meeting?*
- anybody in Durban ?
Star Lore - Museum or University ? (RR to enquire)
4. Membership New members - Veeren Rampersad Prop R.Roth Sec P.Hawkins
Rodney Whitley " R.Roth " P.Hawkins
Reinstated - Veronica Collingwood
Other news - Letter from Lorraine Christianson - Mike is much better - needs a further operation
5. Correspondence Newsletters from other Centres
Subscription to Scientific American - not wanted
Brochure re SCIFEST 2000 - JW to send for programme
6. Treasurer Balance on hand R2239 - agreed to pay RC a further +/- R500
Subs defaulters to be suspended
Natal Witness cheques to be made out to ASSA (not to R.Roth)
- RR will use money thus far to pay for S&T binding
NBS getting fussy about variety of 'pay to' names on cheques
- will they accept if officially stamped by Centre ?
R50 required to pay Girl Guides for hire of hall (4th quarter)
7. STARDUST To be ready by 24/11/99
Lots of info from RC regarding Library and Observatory plans
JW to prepare updated telephone list for new year - in the meantime print new numbers for RR, JW and PH
8. Library Congratulations to RC for sterling efforts in organisation and tidying up
Good idea to open at 19:00 - more time & better lighting ?
More new books - JW has supplied some missing S&T magazines
Missing photo album discovered by S de Vos
Video synopses almost completed by RR
St Charles faxed re missing books - no reply - PH to follow up
9. P.R.O. Leaflets for publicity - awaiting photos
BL to write article for MNASSA re Opening of Observatory - the Natal Witness photos not available ! - photos from S de Vos can be used
Monthly 'Mirror' articles to continue along "what's up" lines
Observatory - public evenings - Training ?
10. Observatory & Instruments
RC has completed detailed plans and a model of proposed extensions viz: Education Centre, Utilities, Planetarium etc
Estimated costs R200 000 (Buildings R100 000, P/T R70 000)
Will need 'glossy' brochures for fund-raising & approval by Municipality and Girl Guides
Other 'projects' to be itemised in STARDUST, as well as the usual work parties for wattle clearing, grass planting, building of braai etc
No response as yet from A.Lawrence re security gate - JW to make enquiries re Insurance
Dennis Bayne's telescope to be returned - we will advertise it.

Raine

(PTO)



Obs & Inst (continued)

'Dancer' telescope - optics need a good clean and check for collimation/alignment etc - Univ Physics Dept have agreed to help - RA 'drive' needs attention/re-think? (H.Buchler to be consulted)

11. Education No Immediate commitments - training for public evenings
Monthly "Mirror" articles to continue
12. General IZINKHANYEZI 2000 in early May - speakers required
Leonids - Underberg, Bloemfontein, Kimberly ???

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 17 JANUARY 2000 AT P.HAWKINS HOME