

Minutes of committee meeting held at the home of R. Joubert on 20/6/00

Present: R. Clifford, G. Culverwell, A. Hill, R. Joubert, C. Lake, R. Roth

Apologies: P. Hawkins, J. Watson

1. Meeting commenced at 19:45 - minutes of previous meeting accepted.
2. Office bearers for 2000/2001
  - R. Roth - Chairman & Stardust
  - J. Watson - Secretary, Education & Council Rep.
  - R. Clifford - Treasurer & Observatory
  - G. Culverwell - Library
  - P. Hawkins - Committee Member
  - A. Hill - Observatory & Stardust
  - R. Joubert - Committee Member
  - C. Lake - P.R.O. & Education
3. Matters Arising
  - thanks were expressed to B. Lawrence and W. Russell for help on the committee during the past year.
  - Roger to cut two extra sets of keys for new committee members.
  - contact Bianca for final draft of leaflet - to include web address of NMC.
  - fire season work party scheduled for Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July
  - re-allocation of observatory plots to be done
  - Meritorious Service Award - R. Clifford
4. Planning
  - 20/06/00 - Girls' High - talk - JW
  - 22/06/00 - Basic Astro. Course starts - JW
  - 28/06/00 - Rotary Leadership Course - Umgeni Valley - JW
  - 12/07/00 - Monthly Meeting - Guides - video "Reality on the rocks", preceded by constellation and telescope training session - Scorpius
  - 16/07/00 - work party, braai, viewing?
  - 25/07/00 - UK Students - observatory - JW
  - 9/08/00 - "Archaic Astronomy", Arthur Arnold?
  - 13/09/00 - astrophotography, Harry and RBR
  - Future - Star/Moon Lore - Adrian Koopman?, Extra Solar Planets, Spectroscopy, Telescopes/Observatories, Star Party, Radio Astronomy, Meteorites, History of Astronomy, Multiple Stars, Relativity - Vincent Couling?, etc.
5. Membership
  - application for membership from S.J. Thompson (proposed: RBR, seconded: RJ).
  - Lynn Wright joined month before (mention in Stardust)
6. Correspondence
  - goodwill call from Andrew Gray - Cape Town

- letter of thanks from Alliance Francaise.

7. Treasurer - donations: R91-00 from Alliance Francaise  
R75-00 from Pmb Model Engineers  
±R150 from sale of extra S & T's  
±R230 from RBR "Mirror" articles - use for binding and lights.
8. Stardust - to be ready by 28/06/00.  
- each dept. to provide short summary of monthly activities, Library, Observatory, Treasury, etc.
9. Library - up to date, will give RBR copies of S & T to be bound.
10. P.R.O. - obtain leaflets from B. Lawrence. Ensure meetings are well publicised.
11. Observatory and Instruments - Girl Guides agreeable to extensions at the observatory site  
- PMB Estates Dept. needs to be contacted re. Extending the lease and various modifications.
12. Education - Basic Astronomy course starts Thursday 22/06/00  
- members need to be taught how to use instruments - short session before every meeting?  
- perhaps SA Observatory could help with education programme - financially?  
- public viewing evenings - R5 donation/head suggested.
13. General - fund-raising - contact SASOL, Std. Bank, Nedbank, Anglo., etc. for sponsorship towards education centre costs e.g. "SASOL Scifest", Std. Bank Arts Festival, etc.  
- AH to make security gate  
- railing along ramp needed - elderly people fall off in dark!  
- better finder for PF12 to make it easier to use - "Telrad" finder?  
- it was suggested that before every meeting a short "know your constellations" talk.  
- RC wants various web addresses concerning astronomy topics  
- thanks to GC for producing minutes of this meeting.

It was decided that the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month would be a suitable date for future committee meetings - next meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July at RBR's.