

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE HOME OF R. ROTH ON 1 AUGUST 2000

Present : R.Roth, R.Clifford, J.Watson, P.Hawkins, G.Culverwell, R.Joubert, A.Hill, C.Lake

Apologies : NIL

1. Meeting commenced at 7.00pm - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - RC wants to contact Hampton USA (Pmb's twin city) with a view to exchanging info and ideas etc, NOT as a means of fund raising
- Public turnout at early morning viewing - only 2 arrived !!
3. Planning Proposed that committee members take it in turns to organise monthly meetings
5/ 8/2000 Viewing at Rosetta (Colin Regnard's farm)
8/ 8/2000 Talk and viewing at Laddsworth School (JW et al)
11/ 8/2000 Talk and viewing at Epworth School (JW et al)
13/ 9/2000 Invite Arthur Arnold (Durban Centre) to give talk on 'Archaic Astronomy' (JW to contact)
11/10/2000 Meeting on UNP Campus (AH to contact V.Couling)
8/11/2000 Zulu moon/star lore (RR to contact Adrian ?)
9/12/2000 Xmas party - committee to plan something exciting
Future Harry Tunmer prepared to give talk on Astro-photography
4. Membership New Members Trevor Morley Proposed A.Hill Seconded M.Hill
Pieter Wessels " J.Watson. " R.Clifford
Mailing List : 35 IM 8 FM 20 SS 3 ST 4 Hon 17 Oth (Total 87)
(We have a full quota of Hon Membs as per Constituion)
JW will circulate updated list of Membs, with telephone numbers, a.s.a.p.
5. Correspondence July and August editions of S&T have arrived
Letter written to Education Department (Mr R.D.Moodley) following visit by RC and JW
JW to write letter to Dr Sheryl Bailey, City Manager, Hampton, Virginia, USA, asking to be put in contact with any Astro Soc
6. Treasurer Balance on hand : Bank R 3333,36 Cash R 109,70 (approx 40 subs still o/s)
Profit from Basic Astronomy Training Course R 1062,80 - fee could still be increased ??
Repayment of loan only after finalising of Budget - should aim to finish in 5 years maximum
(RC's budget submitted last month has been mislaid)
Secretarial expenses for June/July (approx R433) include some capital items.
7. STARDUST (to be ready by 31/8/2000)
Correspondence/telephone calls with Fred Crooks continues !
CL requested a review of font / margins, to make print larger if possible - Web address to be included in heading banner
Mention names of members who have made donations to the Centre with subs payment
3 Handbooks for sale (offer at R15) - F.Crooks has his books for sale at R100 - advertise two telescopes for sale (D.Mann 4.5" TOWA reflector, H.Mallett 8" reflector)
8. Library GC to 'audit' contents and clean up/strengthen the cupboard - a further scrap-book is needed
"The Inflationary Universe" swapped for a Handbook - some other books from JW
D.Mann will donate some back copies of Sky & Telescope
9. P.R.O. JW to contact B.Lawrence and finish the preparation of new publicity brochure/application form
CL has contact with Secretary of Independant Schools Assoc - could help with fund raising ?
Ster-Kinekor (Peter) to be approached re a film premier ?
10. Observatory & Instruments
AH is busy making security gate - CL keen to put up the fence a.s.a.p.
RJ and RC have marked out and allocated all the "plots" again - some serious clearing of wattles is still needed - work party planned for 17 September 2000
11. Education Basic Astro course a happy experience
RC and JW met with Science Adviser of D.E.T. (R.D.Moodley & his boss) to get endorsement of plans to establish an Astronomical Centre at Worlds View
U.K.Students visit to Observatory on 25/7/2000 wiped out by cloud
Visits to Cowan House and Maritzburg College in the pipeline

NEXT MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2000 at home of J.WATSON at 7:00 pm