

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE HOME OF J. WATSON ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2000

Present : R.Roth, R.Clifford, J.Watson, A.Hill, R.Joubert

Apologies : P.Hawkins, G.Culverwell, C.Lake

1. Meeting commenced at 7.00pm - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - 10 Members & 7 Visitors at excellent Rosetta viewing evening
- Letter written to Hampton, Virginia, USA
3. Planning 13/ 9/2000 'Distances in Space' by Dr Vincent Couling, at University campus
11/10/2000 Astro Software demo by RR - more constellation mythology stories by RC
25/10/2000 JW to address KZN Tourguides Assoc at the observatory
8/11/2000 Arthur Arnold (Durban Centre) to give talk on 'Archaeo Astronomy'
9/12/2000 Xmas party - get out of town for a braai and viewing ?
4. Membership New Members Sharon King Proposed J.Watson Seconded R.Roth
JW has prepared updated list of Membs, with telephone numbers (Mailing list now 88)
5. Correspondence Letter of thanks written to Colin & Sue Regnard (Rosetta)
Invitation to attend AGM of Pmb Tourism - JW to phone through apologies
"Telescope SA" brochure (Paul Dogon) - cheaper telescopes ?
NDABA being received by e-mail - not requested by us !!
Distance learning brochures from Liverpool, Manchester, and CD from Swinburne(Australia)
JW has retrieved various letters & publications from W.Russell
6. Treasurer Balance on hand : R 3612,04 (O/S subs approx R 2015,00)
Budget 2001 Income R 5865 Expend R 4730 Profit R 1100
Fund raising required to pay off debt on Observatory
7. STARDUST (to be ready by 27/9/2000)
RR looking for contributions - will use material supplied by A.Koopman on Zulu names for the Moon etc, together with some Zulu star-lore
8. Library Some 'new' books donated by JW (actually quite old !)
Ms G.Archer is going to donate her late father's astro books - JW to collect
GC to phone D.Mann re S&T donation, and also to liaise with RR re binding of S&T
9. P.R.O. B.Lawrence has finished preparation of new publicity/application brochure - JW to print copies
Excellent article by RR in "The Mirror" this month
Dr P.Green (Aylesbury Ice-cream !) has invited us to put up a display in his Hayfields shop for a month - RR and AH will investigate
RC to follow up on meeting with Mr Moodley (Educ Dept)
10. Observatory & Instruments
AH constructing a) security gate
b) Cylindrical Bearing Equatorial Platform for 12" Dobsonian which will make it into a 'tracking' instrument
c) equatorial mounts for himself and T.Morley
Rifle sight needed for 12" telescope - also look at electric polar drive for Dancer ?
Work party on 17 September 2000 - the rains are coming !
A petrol mower is now needed to keep the cleared area in trim - AH to explore at University farm
11. Education RR entertained Pmb 3rd Cubs and Scouts on evening of 11 August 2000 at observatory
JW used the observatory for a small group of friends on 28 August 2000
Verulam Brownies have asked for observatory visit on 25/26 September 2000
Visits to Cowan House and Maritzburg College in the pipeline ?
12. General PH currently away overseas]
RC will be away overseas from 16 September 2000 until 2 October 2000] MASS EXODUS !!!
JW will be away overseas from 9 September 2000 until 15 October 2000]

NEXT MEETING - 3 OCTOBER 2000 at the Observatory at 7:00 pm