

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the home of P Hawkins on 24 June 2002

Present: R Roth, J Watson, P Hawkins, L Hearmon, F de Bruyn, C Kay, R Clifford

1. Meeting commenced at 7:30 with the minutes of the previous meeting accepted as read.
2. Matters arising  
Election of office bearers:  
P.Hawkins – Chairman; L.Hearmon – Secretary; R.Clifford – Treasurer; R.Roth – PRO & Stardust; C.Kay – Library; J.Watson – Education & Observatory; T.Morley – Observatory Instruments.
3. Planning
  - Mid-winter party will be on 13 July, 3pm onwards – bring & braai, Durban branch have been invited to attend.
  - Following 4 months meeting topics finalised:
    - August – Space Travel by Alan Hill
    - September – Meteorites (Rogan to Convene)
    - October – Creation of Matter by Frikkie
    - November – Sun Spots, Sun Flares & Solar Eclipse
4. Membership
  - Mr D Whitfield & 12 Hilton College learners
5. Correspondence
  - Received: African Skies, Centre News Letters, Pretoria Symposium letter, Council correspondence.  
Sent: John sent letter of sympathy to SAAO on the death of Dr R Stobie
  - Council letter informs that the society will be known as a Public Benefit Organisation.
  - Leanne to reply to Lotto letter.
  - Philip to collect post and pass on to Leanne.
6. Treasurer
  - Bank balance stands at R2417.94 as @ 24/6/02.
  - Accounts for Subs to go out with July Stardust.
7. Stardust
  - Rogan to continue producing and Leanne will package and post.
8. Library
  - Colin will be take over the library and will get keys from Roy.
  - R4 must be charged for every video taken out.
9. P.R.O
  - Display has been set up by Roger in the Natal Museum.
  - Quotes to be obtained for the production of the ASSA banner.
10. Observatory & Instruments
  - Open every Friday in July.
  - A.Hill to fix focusing mechanism on the Dancer.
  - Good turnout was experienced last Friday.
  - G.Prosser to be asked if he can clean 12” mirror again once viewing season is over.
  - Roger to get quote on binocular mount & John to pursue idea of sit-on cupboard.
  - John to speak to Tevor about surrounding grass, & how to maintain it.

11. Education

- Basic Astronomy course to start on 27 June 2002.
  - Joan Housten will be speaking some of the evenings. Other evenings John will be assisted by our committee members on a variety of topics.
- John to give talks at the following venues:
  - 21 July, Laddsworth to the Observatory
  - 24 July, New Hanover School
  - 27 July, Rotary Leadership training at Umgeni.

12. General

- The idea of e-mailing Stardust to interested members was discussed, and a request for e-mail addresses will be included in forthcoming Stardust.
- Frikkie will be presenting a paper at the Pretoria Symposium.
- Roger suggested cancelling subscription for Sky & Telescope in order to save funds, however, this was not generally accepted by the committee.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:20. Next committee meeting to be held in August at the home of P.Hawkins.