

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the home of C Kay on 16 September 2002

Present: F de Bruyn, C Kay, L Hearmon, R Roth, R Clifford

Apologies: P Hawkins, J Watson

1. Meeting commenced at 19:30. In the Chairman's absence R Roth lead the meeting.
2. Matters Arising  
No matters arising from previous minutes.
3. Planning
  - October – F de Bruyn, Early Universe – a quantum theory
  - November – Sunspots, sundials, eclipses etc – open forum, John to lead.
  - December – C. Kay, String theory.
  - Frikkie thanked Rogan for his talk on meteorites at the previous meeting.
4. Membership
  - Mr J Schuermans was accepted as a new member
  - Resignations were received from D Kane & P McCarthur.
  - Rogan received an e-mail from Rusty suggesting a commemorative plaque or photo to be displayed in the observatory in memory of Mr M Christianson. This was agreed to by the committee. Rogan to find out prices of the 2 options.
5. Correspondence  
Received:
  - Dbn Newsletter, Canopus, Cape Observer, Pretoria newsletter.
6. Treasurer
  - August bank balance was stated at R4 819.22.
  - 18 Outstanding subs are still owing, reminders to be sent with Stardust.
  - Roger suggested we do a stock take of all NMC's assets, this was accepted and will be organised within the next few months.
  - It was generally accepted by the committee that a 'enter at own risk' sign is displayed at the observatory and that safety measures are taken to avoid any injury, especially on the open public evenings.
7. Stardust
  - It was decided that, whenever possible, Stardust will print a brief summary of the previous meeting's topic – to be supplied by the speaker in question.
8. Library
  - A new video tape was received from Roger.
  - Colin is constructing a database of the library stock.
  - R130 was made at last week's meeting with the sale of the duplicate S & T's and the science fiction books.

9. P.R.O

- In future Rogan will fax information to the newspapers instead of e-mailing, as they tend to favour this form of correspondence.
- Frikkie has received a quote of R150 to do our banner, which was accepted by the committee.
- Roger & John have been liasing with the museum staff regarding the planetarium. We will have a display up in the museum and assist with the running of the equipment, with proceeds to be donated to the society.

10. Observatory & Instruments

- Work party was suggested – 12 October at 9am. Rogan will ask Harry to bring his mower.
- Rogan to open the observatory on Friday night in John's absence.
- With regard to the Illuminising Plant from Mars Engineering Rogan to find out the size of it from Ray Moffitt in order to organise accommodation space for it.

11. Education

- John to Hilton Woman's Institute on 9 October 2002.

12. General

- Rogan to approach Mr V de Brunn, a retired geologist, to possibly give a talk at one of our meetings next year.

The meeting was declared @ 9:00. Next committee meeting will be held at the home of R Roth on 14 October 2002.