

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the home of P Hawkins on 17 February 2003

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

Apologies: T Morley

1. Meeting commenced at 19:32.
2. Matters Arising
 - Correction – John was to get the optics of the Dancer checked at the University, not store it there.
3. Planning
 - March – Joan Houston, History of Astronomy – Roger to present the constellation of Gemini.
 - April – Rogan to speak (subject not finalised)
 - May – Frikkie, Nuclear Fusion.
 - Frikkie suggested that we focus on a specific area of sky, and every few meetings have a talk on the stars that can be found there – whereby ensuring a good knowledge of the different stars by the end of the year.
4. Membership
 - No new members.
 - Membership regarding the Hilton College boys was discussed and because of their school year it was agreed to have their membership payable on a calendar year basis instead of July to July.
5. Correspondence

Received:

 - Durban & Cape newsletter, Canopus, MNASSA

Sent:

 - Letter to Magda Streicher in acknowledgement of her donation.
 - Letter to ASSA requesting the R500 as promised for our banner.
 - Letter to Girl guides indicating our schedule for 2003.
6. Treasurer
 - January financial situation was stated at R4 869.25.
 - In addition to the above figure, most of the Handbooks were sold at the public meeting.
7. Stardust
 - John handed Rogan some articles, which could be useful for publication in the Stardust.
8. Library
 - The committee have phoned a number of members in an attempt to get back in some of the library's missing books. So far 2 were returned and a further few were promised for next month's meeting.
9. P.R.O
 - Roger suggested we advertise our meetings in the list of events on Remax's free distribution pamphlet. Rogan to look into it.

10. Observatory & Instruments

- John inquired at the University about the Dancer, but they seemed rather unhelpful.
- It was decided that the society would attempt to clean the reflector ourselves.
- It was noted that some of the workman up at worlds view have actually done a lot to help in the clearing of the observatory site.
- No word has come from Trevor with regard to the pews at the University; Rogan will contact Alan Hill about it.

11. Education

- John to Cowan House in March to do a presentation.
- Due to John's absence in July the committee have nevertheless decided to run the Astronomy course. John to call a meeting in April with those who are willing to assist to discuss the course in more detail.

12. General

- SA Institute of Foresters presentation evening will be held on 9 June @ 5:30.
- John has started to pull out info about the history of the society for Chris de Coning of ASSA.
- Philip suggested that Rogan start now with the requesting of new committee members in Stardust.
- Roger has left our display up at the museum
- The 'Christmas' party will be held on 13 July 2003.
- John forewarned us of a possible increase in rent fees this year – Girl Guides' lease is up for renewal and may herald an increase for them whereby affecting our rent aswell.

The meeting was declared closed at 8:30. Next committee meeting will be held at the home of R Roth on 17 March 2003.