

Present: M.Christianson, T.Chance, P.Hawkins, K.Hampson, S.de Vos, J.Watson

Apols: B.Lawrence, R.Jarman, H.Chance

1. Meeting commenced at 5.30pm - minutes of previous meeting read and accepted.

2. Matters arising

- a) JW has written to K.J.van Rensburg at Dept of Educ & Culture re financial assistance when money becomes available.
- b) Monthly meeting in Feb went well - A.Norris keen to help raise money for observatory.

3. Planning

April 10/4/96 - monthly meeting - News/Forum

- Observatory progress report
- Winged Spaceflight (TC)

May 8/5/96 - monthly meeting - discuss plans for Astro evening in June and elect a sub-committee

- Constellations of Virgo, Corvus & Crater

16-19/5/96 - IZINKHANYEZI at Everglades

June 15/6/96 - Astro Evening at Worlds View - observatory publicity and fundraising - sub-committee to meet well beforehand.

July Basic Astro Course at Umgeni Valley

4. Membership

- a) New member - Lorraine Karg Prop: J.Watson Sec: K.Hampson
- b) Subs defaulters to be culled from mailinglist.

5. Correspondence

- a) Letters to and from C.Turk re St.Charles subs - cheque for R200 sent to bring them up to date. Copy of latest ASSA constitution also received.
- b) Letter to Mr W.Bremer thanking him for his services as alternate on Council.
- d) TC requested that a letter be written to Natal Witness asking them to refer 'crackpot' calls to the UFO Society (Kitty Smith on 964007)

6. Treasurer's Report

- a) Balance on hand R 1590-19 Observatory fund R 713-13
- b) JW has 6 months worth of Secretarial expenses to claim !

7. STARDUST

TC to inform RJ of all important matters for next issue - comet sightings now and also in May to be mentioned.

8. Library

- a) Duplicate copies of old S&T not selling - approach A.Jarman to dispose of them at the Market.
- b) Photo album needs more contents and narrative/comments.
- c) Slides are all labelled and indexed except for a few - JW to assist.

b) Nice long letter from Andrew Gray - he is now our alternate on Council

- d) Agreed to expenditure of R40-00 for copies of some of TC's planetary slides (1 film's worth) before they are packed away.
- e) R.Joubert has asked Centre to consider the purchase of 'Journey through Time' - KH to investigate source and price.

9. P.R.O.

Excellent photograph and write-up in Natal Witness

10. Instruments & Observatory

- a) R.Findlay has sold Mr Reiners instruments
- b) Planetarium (P.Truter) has been donated to St Charles
- c) TC still has 'as new' 3" reflector for sale - R600 a fair price
- d) TC also wants to get rid of 16"/17" mirror (ex J.Campos) before going to UK.
- e) JW to contact A.Scafturis re parts of mounting for 6" reflector which he took away to clean up approx 2 years ago !
- e) Dr C.Graham enquiring about the 'Roseveare' telescope loaned to the Centre years ago ? - no record of same- maybe he means the Roberts Refractor ? - the whole situation at the University seems hazy.
- f) Need to set a TRUE North/South line at the observatory site and clear the area enough to mark out foundations - PH has a contact with a surveyor - committee to meet at site on Thursday afternoon/evening (21/3/96).
- g) TC has been given 1000 second-hand bricks - dumped in his garden !

11. Education

- a) Advanced Astro course ? - TC & JW to draw up list of topics.
- b) J.Stewart (Wildlife Soc at Umgeni Valley) keen to set up a meeting to plan Basic Astro Course in July.

DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING 16 APRIL 1996
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