

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HOME OF MISS K.HAMPSON
on 17/9/1996

Present : J. Watson, R.Roth, P.Hawkins, R.Jarmain, K.Hampson.

Apol. : S. de Vos, A. Versveld.

1. Meeting commenced at 2000hrs. - minutes of previous meeting read and accepted.
2. Matters arising.
Thanks to R.R. for talk on Basic Astro Photography and running September meeting.
P.H. suggested to A. Kroukam to join committee - but declined
3. Planning.
October 9/10/1996 - monthly meeting - talk on Moon & Phases by Prof. Di Grayson. R.~~J.~~ to remind members in Stardust to bring reflecting balls! K.H. to organize with D.G. re copy's of Moon Phases
November 13/11/1996 - J.W. Cosmological talk.
December - End of year/Christmas party at Observatory site -bring & share braai etc bonfire! Tent/marquee to arrange
Dates suggested Sat. 7th or 14th - Bring to attention of members at next meeting.
Future Meeteorites & impact crators -R.R.
4. Membership
New members : Biddy & Robin Hall
Confirmed - Mike Imber has not resigned
Resignation - Martin Lowery has resigned
R.J. queried country members to pay less fees- descision against as fees to cover cost of Stardust & postage.
5. Correspondence
Thank you letter for thank you letter received from Prof.Maughn-Brown!
Thank you letter from Mike & Lorraine Christianson - put up at next meeting for members to see.
6. Treasurers Report
General fund R1209.27
Observatory fund R403.31
P.H. wants to transfer funds from General fund to Observatory fund
Committee in agreement
St. Charles A.S.S.A. Fees not paid P.H. to rectify
J.W. & P.H. to contact A.S.S.A ? N.M.C.'s payment 96/97
P.H. & K.H. to write out tactful reminder of membership fees - to send to members defaulting as per P.H.'s list
K.H. to get A.S.S.A./N.M.C. stamp made for P.H. for receipt book
7. Stardust
R.~~J.~~ has in hand
P.H. knows of another telescope to advertise ^{for sale} -will give R.~~J.~~ details
8. Library
S.de V. looking for cardboard to bind unbound S&T's
P.H. suggests to use old binders from other books
R.R. suggests - budget to set aside money to bind present years & previous year- then next year do same + 1 year back - bring up at next committee meeting.
J.W. to phone J. Dye re Book Ages in Chaos
S.de V. & R.J. to copy video Astro tapes -bring to committee to view for approval - committee will then make funds available
cost of blank tape ± R14.00
Committee to sort out which slides still needed in collection
9. P.R.O.
No report

10. Instruments & Observatory

Projector screen - now being kept by K.H. - A.J. still owed R10.00
R.J. made out invoice for P.H. - to rectify
Telescope for sale - see 7. Stardust
J.W. has a 6" reflecting telescope-donated by daughter & Son-in-law
of Mr. Parkinson. J.W. has offered to clean it up & get it working
and make a dobsonian mount. -give it to Umgeni Valley Jeanette
Stewart will look after it. -committee in agreement
Observatory - Floor has been compacted -cement slab still to be
thrown - R.R. to organize apertures in floor for telescope mountings
before slab thrown -reinforcing needs to be cut through.
M.C. has a contact doing ready mix concrete -says any left over
concrete from a job (eg 3 cubic metres) will take to observatory
site & lay the slab in sections -instead of waisting the concrete -
R.R. will dicuss with M.C.
Remainder of bricks have been moved to R.R.'s home still a few left
R.R. will collect these + 100
Ivan Schroeder list of estimates of cost to dig trench & lay electric
& water cables to site & cost of steel door to R.R.
John Lawrence to take soil sample from site for testing at Cedara
will tell N.M.C. what type of grass will be best to grow.

11. Education

R.J. contacted John Schroeder at All Saints re Astronomy talk -
? Sat. 5/10/96 will contact J.W. -members of N.M.C. invited &
spouses to have supper with them -donation will be given to
N.M.C. for Observatory.
Ladsworth School Astronomy talk confirmed for 25/9/96 1830 -2030
Telescopes needed J.W., R.J. & K.H. - pupils will donate to Obser-
vatory fund.

12. General

Fundraising - R.J.'s crossword puzzle & explanatory letter on
back - 5 copies to be sent to each centre with Stardust - R5.00
to enter competition -ask centres to make more copies if members
interested - prize R50.00 book voucher - N.M.C. members can enter
for fun & smaller prize -R2.00 to enter -closing date Feb. 1997.
Draw of correct enteries at Feb. 1997. meeting.
For later competitions - Spot difference cartoon drawn by A.D.
& Starsearch by R.J.
Calendar - R.R. showed monthly starmaps, which can be used & dates
filled with astronomical information for viewing, photographing etc.
K.H. to phone friend, printing works owner for costing
Postcards - with astronomy information & starmaps is another idea
for fundraising R.R.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tues. 15/10/1996 2000hrs J.W. home

* Committee in agreement that gas & batteries
will work just as well as electricity to start with
when observatory built.