

Present : J.Watson, R.Jarmain, R.Roth, S.de Vos, K.Hampson

Apols. : P.Hawkins, A. Versveld

1. Meeting commenced at 2000hrs. - minutes of previous meeting read & corrected & accepted.
2. Matters arising.
 R.J. has drafted a copy of Octobers Stardust article as suggested by R.R. - copy's handed to committee members for comment please.
 Apology from R.J. re Toti Rotary Cheque for R150.00 not R450.00
 Natal Witness feature on N.M.C. did appear -with mistakes! although J.W. did correct it for them ,apparently no notice paid to corrections
 Correction of time of meeting did appear in later issue at J.W's insistence.Lovely photo of our astronomers did give good publicity!
 + interview with J.W. -Lots of interest & questions from public.
 PMB. Model Engineering Society want a talk & maybe a viewing evening
 R.R. to organize.
3. Planning.
March 12/3/1997 R.R. Meteors, meteorites & impact crators
April 9/4/1997 J.W. Cosmology for beginners
 Discussion re problem with St Charles audiovisual classroom & alarm system - J.W. to speak to Bursar & Headmaster.
4. Membership
 New members -Dr albrecht Scheuer, Miss leanne Hearman.
 Prospective members - Mrs Beryl Lavender, Mr Guy Lavender
 Mr. Stan Tyrer
 Committee in Agreement - Geography Dept. University. to be made honorary member - send Stardust for students to read ,K.H. to tell Prof McGie.
5. Correspondence
Letters Received - Brian ^{Wilmot} + Grahamstown SCIFEST Brochures - brochures handed out at meeting
 - J.W. received Occultation Floppy disc from Danie Overbeek
Letters written - to Headmaster St Charles + meeting schedule
 Thank you letter to Danie & Andy Overbeek for book present
 Pied Blageek slides+poem+ covering letter to Editor MNASSA
Letters still to write - Return letter to Tim & Hillary Chance + paper cuttingof Natal Witness feature
 Thank you letter to Toti Rotary club for Donation
Contact with outside World
Complaint to ASSA re 1. Handbook never being out by December of preceeding year.
 2. Quality of Diagrams in Handbook very poor
 R.R. to make copy's using own soft ware
 K.H. &R.R. to draft letter to accompany this with our complaints.
- Symposium
 J.W. had phone callfrom Louis Barendse -Pretoria Centre querying why no Symposium. J.W. told him he had spoken to Natal Centre & mentioned it to Andrew Gray in a letter. J.W. to find out what is going on from Natal Centre.
6. Treasurers Report
 Gen Fund now R1 415.75
 Scrap S&T renewal notice get S&T through ASSA
 25 Handbooks sent - only 20 charged for by ASSA -committee in agreement to pay for 20 less 20% as stated in Invoice

6. Treasurers Report Cont.
K.H. to pay invoice from Publicity Association for NMC membership.
7. Stardust
Meeting Attendance -16 members(2 being new), 4 visitors, 1 apology
R.J. foresees no problem
R.J. to continue with format of stardust. J.W. to get copy reduced
& then photocopy
8. Library
S.de V. started to tape Astro. Programmes
Goeff Prosser has book Small Astronomical Observatories -still to put
library label in it
Dr. Bary Lewis says he will ask his brother to bring out from U.S.A.
History & practice of Sundials for us in May NMC will pay him then
Bary also says we may borrow his other books on Sundials if we wish
K.H. to organize
W.Herschel still not contacted K.H. to get phone number from J.W.
Still to sort out S&T binding
9. P.R.O
R.J. wrote to Editor of Natal Witness re incorrect diary advert for
NMC. -had phone call back from Mrs. Joan Mathewman -now in charge
of Witness diary - says she will sort it out.
??? Outreach to other race groups
10. Instruments & Observatory
Success at last after no result phone calls to Irene Ross -J.W.
had phone call to say phone Reddimix & tell them what day we want
concrete - they will get an order number from Frankipile
Need help to float slab -? Sat A.M. or late one week afternoon
J.W., R.R., R.J. Ivan Schroeder Herman Buchler contact to help
Plastic sheet needs replacing -has been degraded by sun -R.R. to
organize.
Fantastic clearing progress with trees made by D.Kain, R.J. R.R.
& Ivan Schroeder
R.R. has received through E. Mail information on Planetarium &
Projects in Japan
11. Education
Brian Wilmot (Grahamstown) says plenty of money available for
science centres being set up around country - if NMC. serious
about observatory centre - says think big, plan a science centre
with it, money will be available!
Hayfields church wants a repeat talk & show Distance to the stars
P.H. to organize
12. General
R.R. approached by Dr Grainger from Botany Dept.- asks if he can
take 6 bags of humus from observatory site for project on Fungi
No objection by committee if a donation to observatory fund

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING 18/3/1997 at J.W. Home,