

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE CAPE CENTRE HELD AT THE
S.A.A.O. ON THURSDAY 1974 NOVEMBER 21 AT 20 HOURS

Present: Mr C. Turk in the Chair, the Honorary Secretary Mr C. Larmuth and committee members Messrs J. Bondietti, J. Churms, R. De Kock, G. Larmuth, B. Molyneux and N. Saville.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs R. Hurly, W. Grimwood and Dr G. van Dugteren.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the committee held on 1974 August 20 were read and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The Honorary Treasurer reported that the sum of R198,51 was on hand, and sixty one subscriptions for the 1974/75 year had been received.

The programme for the monthly meetings was again discussed. As Drs Stoy and Evans would be in Cape Town around January 21 to 23, it was decided to arrange a meeting at which one or both could talk. Professor Warner had agreed to speak on February 12, and the Planetarium would be visited on March 2.

With reference to the minutes of August 20, it was reported that Mr Hurly had recently lectured on astronomy at some local schools.

It was noted that Mr Cary was interested in acquiring various parts of telescopes belonging to the Centre which were presently stored at the SAAO, and it was agreed that these should be offered to him in return for a suitable donation.

The Ron Atkins twelve inch telescope and dome were then discussed. The Honorary Secretary reported on discussions held by the sub-committee appointed to investigate this matter, and said that it was considered that to re-figure the mirror was beyond the capabilities of the present members, and with this in mind, it might be advisable to buy ready-made optics. Enquiries had been made in the United Kingdom with rather unsatisfactory results. The Chairman said that the University of Cape Town might be interested in assisting in the project if they were granted observing facilities. He also said that owing to the growth of trees in the immediate vicinity of the dome, he had been making enquiries for a more suitable site. It was agreed that an idea of the numbers of members wishing to use the telescope should be obtained, and discussions should be had with the University as to what they had in mind and the extent to which they would assist the Centre.

The next item on the agenda was a farewell party for Mr G.A. Harding to be held on December 18 at the SAAO. At this point Mr Harding joined the meeting and said that he wished to contribute to the party. It was decided that the Centre would provide the liquid refreshments and Mr Harding the snacks. Mr G. Larmuth undertook to make arrangements for the supply of liquor. Invitations to be sent to all members and their wives or husbands of the staff of SAAO, University of Cape Town Astronomy department and the Cape Centre.

It was decided that the Centre should make a presentation to Mr Harding. The Chairman would see to the purchasing of a suitable gift.

The meeting closed at 21h28.

Signed as correct

Date *1975 March 6.*
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C. S. Turk.
Chairman