

A S S A
CAPE CENTRE.

Minutes of the Committee meeting on 20th Jan. 1998.

1. Abe Mahomed welcomed all to the first meeting of 1998.
2. The full committee was present. No apologies.
3. The minutes of the meeting of 21st. Oct. 1997 were proposed and accepted as read.
4. Treasurers Report: Chris Forder confirmed that the decision last year not to increase subs but to request donations in lieu thereof, had worked well. The Centre stood at present with a "profit" of R600. There were only 9 defaulters on subs, R1858 had been collected from donations which with a further grant from the Trust fund brought in R2450. It was proposed and accepted that the same procedure be again adopted for the coming year. The editor of the Newsletter must be requested to make this announcement in forthcoming issues.
5. Librarians Report: Abe Mahomed had not made any particular choices of books to be obtained and requested all members to search sources such as Willman bell and S&T catalogues for material. Bernard Wagener said he had found some real bargains at the "Kilo Shop" in Tyger Valley. These shops are at several places and everyone who has the opportunity should try and do some browsing.
6. Instruments. Richard sessions said that there was no change to the status quo and Martin Legrange was still busy with restoring. It was proposed that the Centre obtain a low cost VCR and Monitor. This is to be held over for further discussion at a later date.
7. Public Astronomy: The V&A Waterfront has approached Richard Sessions to request that we stage a Star Party on St. Valentine's day (14th Feb). They are prepared to pay for two extra security guards to be attached specifically to our area, and are also prepared to give us our choice of site and parking! (They obviously have come to realise the attraction of our previous outings). The date however is co-incident with full moon and Richard will make a proposal for Feb. 7th. Pick 'n Pay, Constantia Village are interested and will be further sounded. The Council open area adjacent to the Shopping centre also has potential and will be further investigated.
8. Field Trips. Gordon Bosch has put forward a schedule for alternate monthly outings to the Quarry and to Paarl, with "backup" dates to accommodate weather washouts. The first is the Quarry, 24th Jan, alt. 31st. He has also requested the Cederberg Observatory to host the Centre on Sat. 24th. April.
9. The roster of speakers for the informal evenings proposed in the Agenda must be shifted forward by one week and now as follows:
Jan.8th; Andrew Gray.
Feb. 4th. Steve Kleyn.

- Feb. 11th. FORMAL. Roberts, "Footprints at Langebaan".
- 18th. Abe Mahomed.
- 25th. Gwyneth Quick.
- Mar. 4th. Richard Sessions.
- 11th. FORMAL. Peter Linder, "Floral evidence for Gondwanaland".
- 18th. Bernard Wagener.
- 25th. Pat Booth.
- Apr. 1st. Gordon Bosch.
- 8th. FORMAL. TBA.
- 15th. Chris Forder.
- 22nd. Andrew Gray.
- 29th. Abe Mahomed.
- May. 6th. Gwyneth Quick.
- 13th. FORMAL. TBA.
- 20th. Richard Sessions.
- 27th. Bernard Wagener.

10. The roster for tea duties was approved.

11. Other Business. A roster of Subjects for the proposed Beginners Courses has been prepared by Andrew Gray and was enthusiastically received. Presenters for each session are to be decided and it was agreed that these should be aimed at 10 minutes for presentation and

say 5 minutes for direct questions arising, further questions being handled during/after the rest of the evenings scheduled talk.

Andrew is to be congratulated for this very special effort. The Beginners Courses are to be given on the 1st. and 3rd. Wed. of each month and the Newsletter must publish details

Steve Kleyn gave formal notice that as he is soon moving to Hermanus he has to resign as Secretary, but will be maintaining membership of the Cape Centre. Gwyneth Quick was proposed and accepted to take over the portfolio.

As there is already one short on the Committee it was proposed that Martin Legrange be co-opted onto the Committee.

12. Special Business. Dr. Ian Glass joined the meeting for a short while to discuss the Centre's participation in the planning of the forthcoming Physics conference. He requested Treasury assistance. Chris Forder volunteered his help with setting up a Data Base to keep track of delegates names and details, fees paid/unpaid etc. he will liaise directly with Dr. Glass on this. Dr. Glass will prepare an enrolment form and deal with the arranging of time-tables etc. The Centre will assist with staffing of reception tables and the hosting of an informal "Braai" for delegates. Abe Mahomed will maintain contact with Dr. Glass to make arrangements for further assistance as and when required.

13. Date of next meeting: Tues. March 24th.