

THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF S.A.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD IN THE
LECTURE HALL, S.A.A.O. ON THURSDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2000 @ 20h00**

PRESENT : Messrs. M A Gray, A McConnell, p De Villiers, A Mahomed, B Wagener, J Willmore, M Christianson & by invitation : A Jones and C Turk.

- 1) OPENING : The Chairman, M A Gray welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at approximately 20h00.
- 2) APOLOGIES : Received from R Bauer (Wedding Anniversary) and D Duprez (Income Tax problems). The Chairman acted as Secretary for the Meeting
- 3) MINUTES : The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2000, having been circulated to all members of the Committee, were taken as read, confirmed and signed..
- 4) ARISING : The only Matters Arising would be dealt with under the appropriate headings.
- 5) CORRESPONDENCE : There was no correspondence inwards or outwards to hand.
- 6) TREASURER : In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman reported that there was approximately R 3 600 in cash in hand and that income over expenditure stood at net R 1 500 to the good. Mr Turk advised that the Centre could receive about R 450 (January) and a further R 400 (February & March) from the "Starwalk" evenings at Kirstenbosch.
- 7) APPLICATIONS : There were several Applications completed but the Treasurer had these in his possession. They could not be dealt with. It was suggested that Applicants should be screened before being approved. It was also suggested that a Visitor's Register be kept at each meeting.
- 8) THINK TANK MATTERS : These were discussed at fair length, the results being as follows :
 - a) Membership List to be published on at least an Annual basis
 - b) Agreed to have 500 copies of the Rules printed by Zip Print (Fish Hoek) in A5 format at an estimated cost of + R 700. (*Actual cost is R 573.42*). Mr Turk suggested that the Centre approach the ASSET Trust for financial assistance. (Done)
 - c) A "Bring and Braai" evening is (subject to permission from the SAAO) to be held on Saturday 1st April 2000, the venue being the old tennis court at the rear of the Lecture Hall. Good publicity to be given. Messrs. Jones, Turk and De Villiers can supply the drums for the fires.
 - d) Emphasis on practical astronomy is to be given to the Beginners' Talks, talks in Hall to be at least 20 minutes each followed by open air viewing. A Sub-Committee to be set up to deal with details. ALL Committee members who are interested to attend on Tuesday 14th March 2000.
 - e) Viewing after meetings - dealt with under (d) above.
 - f) Miss J Willmore was sincerely thanked for the improvements to the Notice Board. Items should in future be DATED before placing on the Board.
 - g) Miss Willmore also presented a very nice design for a Membership Card. It was decided to put this one on "hold" until closer to the A.G.M. and was thanked for her efforts.

h) Logo designs were still in hand. However, Miss Willmore presented a design for a new "Flier" which was highly commended. Permission granted to run off 1000 of these on A4 format cut into three per page.

i) There were no further items raised under this heading.

9) SPEAKERS : A Mahomed advised that C Turk will speak on 8th March, April is "blank", Dr Patricia Whitelock will speak in May, Prof. Brian Warner in June. July is at present vacant but he will contact Prof E Foster of Stellenbosch & John Richards of the SABC. Chairman to contact Tony Fairall at the Planetarium with a view to a visit there.

10) SECRETARY : Mr Ross Bauer had managed to retrieve the Secretary's brief case and contents, and this is now back in the Centre's possession. The problems of the Secretary's position have now been solved and the matter is regarded as closed. However, this leaves the Centre without an official Secretary. The Chairman called for nominations to this position and as there were no nominees, he offered to continue as official Secretary and Centre Representative on Council until the August Annual General Meeting or earlier if a volunteer could be found. Approved

11) GENERAL : It was agreed that the Beginners' Talks subcommittee should meet on Tuesday 14th March 2000

Dr A Mahomed reported that Mr C Turk had been awarded the Long Service Award by Council (Applause).

B Wagner offered his assistance as a "stand by" for the Kirstenbosch evenings. Tony Jones noted this.

M Christianson advised that he and his wife are leaving for overseas on 25th March until end of May. He was wished a very pleasant voyage and safe return.

A Gray suggested that a letter of thanks for his efforts be sent to Ross Bauer. Agreed.

12) NEXT MEETING : It was decided that the next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th April 2000 at the same venue and at 20h00.

13) CLOSURE : There being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present for their participation and valuable input, and declared the Meeting closed at 21h23.

Dated 2000

Signed
Chairman