

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the S A Astronomical Observatory, Cape Town on Tuesday 1974 September 3 at 8 p.m.

Present Mr Harding (in the chair) Messrs. Bentley, Churms, Grimwood, Hurly, G. Larmuth, C. Larmuth, Molyneux, Orpen, Roberts, Russo, Simenhoff, Turk and Dr. Wild.

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Mr. Duveen of the Natal Midlands Centre.

Apologies for absence received from Drs. Cousins, Fairall, Thackeray and van Dugteren.

Alternates The following alternates were appointed/reappointed:-

|                              | <u>Principal</u>                                       | <u>Alternate</u>  |
|------------------------------|--|---|
|                              | Mr C. Papadopolous                                     | Mr W. Grimwood  |
|                              | Mr G.A. Harding  | Dr A. Cousins   |
|                              | Mr S. Booysen  | Mr C. Larmuth   |
|                              | Mr M. Overbeek   | Mr G. Larmuth   |
|                              | Mr M. Gray   | Mr G. Roberts   |
| Tvl. Centre Rep.             | Mr C.J. Poole<br>P O Box 28648<br>Sandringham 2131     | Dr G.R. van Dugteren<br>42 Kildare Rd<br>Newlands 7700                        |
| Natal Midlands<br>Centre Rep | Mr V. Duveen<br>1 Beaumont Rd<br>Pietermaritzburg 3201 | Mr J. Simenhoff<br>"Marnessa"<br>51 Belmont Ave<br>Oranjezicht Cape Town 8001 |
| Bloemfontein<br>Centre Rep   | Mr J. Rhodes<br><i>P.O. Box 392<br/>Bloemfontein</i>   | Mr J. Churms<br>S A A O<br>P O Box 9<br>Observatory 7935                      |
| Pretoria Centre<br>Rep.      |  | Mr G. Turk<br>20 Nerina Ave<br>Pinelands 7405                                 |

Minutes of meeting held 1974 June 25 were read and confirmed.

Matters arising S.A.A.P. Conference in Potchefstroom. No further report had been received.

Nova Search Section. Mr J. Bennett's offer to undertake directorship was gratefully accepted.

Variable Star Section Mr H.D. Overbeek's offer to take over the directorship from Mr. R de Kock was gratefully accepted.

MINASSA & Distribution of Publications

These two items were left over to be dealt with later in the Agenda.

Finance The following statement was presented by Mr Orpen and accepted on the proposal of Mr Molyneux, seconded by Mr G. Larmuth.

Addendum

Alternates

|              |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|
| Natal Centre | Mr G. Hobson<br>548 Windermere Rd<br>DURBAN 4001 | Mr H. Molyneux<br>34 Balfour Road<br>RONDEBOSCH 7700 |
|--------------|--|--|

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Finance (contd.)

Statement for presentation to Council Meeting of 3rd Sept., 1974

| <u>Expenditure</u>  | R. c.            | <u>Receipts</u>                                    | R. c.            |
|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", July & August '74              | 332-91           | Credit Balance at 1.7.74                           | 354-64           |
| Cost of production of MNASSA, June 1974                           | 146-24           | <u>Subscriptions</u>                               |                  |
| Cost of reprints of articles in MNASSA                            | 26-95            | Arrears  | 8-00             |
| Expenditure on production of Back Nos. of MNASSA                  | 7-14             | Current  | 1990-50          |
| Postage on publications, July & August 1974                       | 76-00            | Advance  | <u>78-50</u>     |
| Stationery and equipment  | 15-76            | Entrance Fees                                      | 25-00            |
| Postage, other than above   | 7-72             | Sale of MNASSA                                     | 187-34           |
| Essay Competition Prizes  | 14-00            | Sale of reproduced Back Numbers of MNASSA          | 72-00            |
| Transferred to "Plusplan" Savings A/c., August and September 1974 | 1500-00          | Sale of Handbooks                                  | 5-50             |
| Bank Charges  | 26-65            | Sale of back and extra copies of "Sky & Telescope" | 11-70            |
| Credit Balance at 3.9.74.   | 632-90           | Donations  | 10-00            |
|   |                  | Interest on Fixed Deposit                          | 32-50            |
|   |                  | Commission on cheques and airmail postage paid     | 12-59            |
|   |                  |  |                  |
|   | <u>R 2788-27</u> |  | <u>R 2788-27</u> |

An amount of R1000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at an interest rate of 9½%. The amount in the "Plusplan" Savings Account with the Standard Bank, Heeregracht Branch of R2061-17.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account remains at R451-62: of this R450-00 is on Fixed Deposit at an interest rate of 10%

(Sgd) Garrett Orpen  
Hon. Treasurer

The following were elected as members, subject to the usual proviso of publication of their names in MNASSA and no objection being received:-

Mr K.A. Danbrook  
C/o City Engineer's Dept  
P O Box 680  
DURBAN 4000

Mr. B.L. Fanaroff  
Dept, of Physics  
University of the Witwatersrand  
Milner Park  
JOHANNESBURG

Mr R. Lock  
42, Milner Road  
RONDEBOSCH 7700

Mrs A.M. Rietberg  
2 Watsonia Rd.  
THORNTON 7460

Mr. P.R. Hurly  
11 Shannon,  
Liesbeek Rd  
ROSEBANK 7700

Mr W.R. Ingpen  
23 Medway Road  
PLUMSTEAD 7800

Mrs Y.S. Middleton  
14 Ennerdale  
PINELANDS 7405

Miss A.M. Rietberg  
2 Watsonia Road  
THORNTON 7460

Mr J.J. Seymore  
36 Paul Road  
Kibler Park  
JOHANNESBURG 2001

Mr J.R. Sorrie  
P O Box 585  
SALISBURY  
Rhodesia

Mr M.O. Simpson  
27 Oak Avenue  
KENILWORTH 7700

Mr J. Soellaart  
Cydna Laboratories  
3 Atholl-Oaklands Rd,  
Abbotsford  
JOHANNESBURG 2001

#### Further Business

- (a) The Hon. Secretary had received an application from the Natal Centre to become a member of the Society in order to receive Sky & Telescope, MNASSA and the Handbook for the Centre's library. As the Centre was "part and parcel" of the Society, obviously this proposal had no meaning. The issue of the Publications to the Centre at a fixed rate to cover cost was the obvious way to meet this application. No definite decision was taken in view of the pending discussion on the sub-committee's report on the future of MNASSA.
- (b) Mr Duveen of Pietermaritzburg spoke on the activities of the new Natal Midlands Centre, of which he was Council Representative.
- (c) A letter had been received from the Department of Physics, University of Natal, inviting the Society to join jointly with them in the 1975 Conference of the Institute of Physics. The date was provisionally fixed for July 7 - July 11. An offer to arrange a section devoted to Astronomy was made, and Society members would be welcome to participate in other activities of the Conference.

Council was pleased to receive this invitation; however it was pointed out that the Society was made up largely of amateurs, and any papers of a more serious technical nature would have a limited appeal to our members. The Hon. Secretary was directed to convey Council's sentiments to the Natal University and to ask for further details of the Astronomy section envisaged.

#### Future of MNASSA

A report on the findings of the sub-committee appointed to deal with this question was presented by Dr Wild, and a copy is attached to these minutes. This report was considered clause by clause, and as some of the proposals were of a far reaching nature, it was decided to adjourn the matter until the next meeting. In the meantime members of the Council not likely to be present at the next meeting by virtue of their living out of Cape Town would be asked to forward their comments to the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible. Alternates of Centre Representatives would consult their Principals on Clause 5 II of the Report, and report back at the next meeting.

#### Distribution of Sky & Telescope

A copy of the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider this question is attached. This was duly read and noted. Mr Harding intimated that as a start the difficulty of delivering packets of Sky & Telescope from the Observatory Post Office to the University of Cape Town could be overcome, and he would arrange for means of transport as necessary. The other representations made were left with members for consideration.

It was asked that "Society equipment" should be included as an item on the Agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting thereupon closed at 10-15 p.m.

*J. R. Sorrie*  
*for Sec*

*Q. Harding*  
*Chairman*