

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the S.A. Astronomical Observatory on 1976 June 14 at 8 p.m.

Present Dr Wild (in the chair) Drs. Cousins, Feast and Warner.
Messrs. Bondiotti, Churms, Hurly, C.Larmuth, G. Larmuth, Orpen, Roberts, Russo and Turk.

Apologies for absence noted from Dr. Thackeray, Messrs. Bentley, Simenhoff and Vincent.

Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed after one amendment, viz Insurance premium to read R23-50 instead of R15-00.

Matters arising

- (a) The Secretary reported that Mr. Lincoln, whose resignation had been under discussion at previous meetings had passed away on March 26.
- (b) Prof. Warner intimated that Dr. Penfold had agreed to act as Advertising Manager. Mr. Russo reported that Dr. Penfold had already had discussions with Messrs. Churms and himself regarding possible sources through which advertisements could be placed in MNASSA.
- (c) There was nothing further to report on the item, "Associate Membership and possible Constitution inconsistencies".
- (d) Mr. Turk spoke on the proposed Reserve Fund. The sub-committee envisaged something on the lines of the Fund instituted by the Cape Centre. The appointment of Trustees would be necessary to administer the Trust, and there would be certain advantages if they were resident in the same area. It was considered that Principals, not resident in Cape Town and therefore unable to attend Council meetings in person should have an opportunity to consider the matter and speak through their Alternates. Action would be taken after the appointment of the New Council at the Annual General Meeting in July, and the matter again brought before Council at the first Council meeting following the Annual General Meeting.
- (e) Mr. Hurly said that he had been contacted by a Naval Officer, who intimated that the Defence Department were anxious to utilize the services of the Society in regard to "Astral Navigation". The various "Commands" would be informed and on receipt of their reactions, Society Centres would be contacted to enlist their possible assistance. Mr. Hurly was thanked for his efforts.

S A A O

Dr. Feast was congratulated on his appointment as Director of the SAAO from January 1977.

Finance

The Hon. Treasurer presented the following financial statement:-

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>RECEIPTS</u>	
	R. c.		R. c.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" for the year	3177-94	Credit balance at 1.7.75.	88-67
Cost of production of MNASSA, June 1975 to April 1976	1524-47	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Expenditure on re-production of MNASSA back nos.	5-17	Arrears 30-36	
Expenditure on production of Summary Volume of early Back nos. of MNASSA	250-40	Current 3536-82	
Cost of reprint of articles in MNASSA	60-80	Advance 212-00	3779-18
Cost of production of Handbook for 1976	905-50	Entrance Fees	167-50
Addressing and despatch of publications, June 1975 to May 1976	141-23	Sale of MNASSA	710-53
Postage on publications, June 1975 to May 1976	437-92	Sale of MNASSA Back nos.	68-00
Stationery	277-23	MNASSA page charges and sale of reprints of articles	45-00
Variable Star Charts	14-28	Sale of Handbooks	267-50
Postage, other than above	60-40	Sale of back and extra copies of "Sky & Telescope"	57-10
Insurance of Telescopes	15-15	Advertisements in MNASSA	30-80
Transferred to Plusplan A/c, July 1975	1000-00	Donations	76-06
Bank charges	95-22	Interest on Fixed Deposit	100-00
Credit Balance at 14.6.76	24-95	Interest on Building Soc. shares (Forbes bequest)	19-00
		Withdrawn from Plusplan A/c. Feb. and March 1976	1450-00
		Plusplan A/c, Interest	126-26
		Borrowed from United Bldg, Soc. on security of Fixed Deposit	895-00
		Pro rata refunds by Centres on Telescope insurance	8-49
		Commission on cheques, airmail postage paid and gains on exchange	101-57
	<u>R.7990-66</u>		<u>R7990-66</u>

The amount in the Plusplan A/c. with the Standard Bank, Heerengracht Branch is now R500-00, and the amount of R1000-00 is still on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at an interest rate of 10%, against which R895-00 has been borrowed at an interest rate of 11%.

The balance in the McIntyre Award A/c. is now R790-66, bond interest of R34-78 having been received during June 1976.

(Sgd.) Garrett Orpen
HON. TREASURER

New Members

The following were elected subject to publication of names in MNASSA, and no objection being received.

Mr M. Barnett
6 Medburn Road
CAMPS BAY 8001

Mr W.P. Maartens
P O Box 407
GROOTFONTEIN
S W A 9245

Mr C.J. Armstrong
42 Arcturus Road
Highlands
SALISBURY
Rhodesia

Mr R.V. Szeligowski
P O Box 18
Moeng College
MOENG
Botswana

Mr J. Robinson
Rhopulp Ind
P Bag 964
NORTON-NR
SALISBURY
Rhodesia

Mr I. Newlands had applied for re-admission as a member. He had on two previous occasions paid entrance fees. It was agreed that this could now be waived.

Sky & Telescope

The Hon. Secretary pointed out that at the present moment the Society was distributing 515 copies out of a standing order of 520. Agreed that no extra copies should be ordered until it was known to what extent the number of members was affected by the increased subscriptions from July 1976.

New Council 1976/1977

Only sufficient nominations to fill the positions were received, and the following were deemed to be elected:-

President	Mr.S.S. Booysen
Vice Presidents	Mr.R.F. Hurly Prof. B. Warner Dr. P.A.T. Wild
Hon. Secretary	Mr. T.W. Russo
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. G. Orpen
Members of Council	Mr. F. deJ. Bateman Dr. M.W. Feast Mr. M.A. Gray Mr. J.J. Muller.

Annual Report of Council

A draft report prepared by the Hon. Secretary in advance for the year ending 1976 June 30 was considered.

Unitron 4" Refractor

This had been returned from loan by the Cape Centre, and was available now for re-issue.

The meeting adjourned at 21h30.

T.W. Russo
HON. SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN