

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Minutes of Council meeting held at the S A Astronomical Observatory, Cape Town on Monday 1977 February 7 at 8 p.m.

Present: Messrs Bentley (in the chair) Bondietti, Churms, Dr. Cousins, Messrs Devine, Hurly, G. Larmuth, Molyneux, Orpen, Russo, Siemenhoff, Turk.

Apologies: for absence noted from Dr. Feast, Dr. Thackeray, Dr. Wild, Prof. Warner, Mr. C. Larmuth.

Minutes of the meeting held 1976 November 22, copies of which had been circulated were adopted.

Matters Arising:-

Endowment Trust. Mr. Turk spoke on the progress made to date. Matters were now nearing finality. He stated that the R200 mentioned in previous minutes as a possible donation to the Trust from the Natal Centre would not now be available.

McIntyre Award. The suggestion made at the last Council meeting to consider making awards of an international nature was debated. It was felt that paragraph 3 of the Appendix governing the conditions of the award covered this point.

Publication of lists of names of members. The Secretary reported that the Afric Mail Advertising Coy had quoted R28 to cut stencils from the details on addressograph plates. The Society would be able to run off lists in accordance with requests received. It was pointed out that the stencils would deteriorate in course of time and also could not reflect the true current position. A suggestion was made that the plates in use at an appropriate date in the Society year should be impressed on foolscap sheets of paper and these be photocopied on request and charged to the member applying for the information. It was decided that the Hon. Secretary should ascertain the cost of getting details direct from the plates on to convenient size paper.

It was noted that Mr. J. Hers had agreed to act as Director of the Variable Star Section during Mr. Overbeek's absence in the U.S.A.

Agreed that in the case of Mr. Bilse the subscription should be waived during his absence on military service.

Finance:-

Mr. Orpen presented the financial statement to date as appears at the end of the Minutes. 214

An estimate of the financial position which might be attained at the year end viz June 30 gave only a surplus of R400 of income over expenditure for the current year. This was in spite of the 50% increase in subscriptions. Mr. Orpen stated that foreign currency bank drafts were each subjected to a bank commission of 52c plus now an airmail charge of 50c. He was directed to query this with the Bank, also raising the feasibility of the Society operating a bank account in the U.S.A.

Two overseas members had not yet paid their current subscriptions. Mr Orpen was directed to write a letter to each party concerned. Accounts had already been rendered.

New
Members

The following full members were elected, subject to the usual proviso of publication of names in MNASSA and no objection being received.

Mr C. Broadbent
11 Floor,
Flat of Supervisor
Tulbagh Centre
Foreshors C T

or

P O Box 6483
Roggebaai
Cape Town
8012

Master Keith Falconer
54a Palliser Road
Eastleigh
Edenvale 1610

Mr M. Kopinsky
5 Cheney Ave
Savoy East
JOHANNESBURG 2192

Mr T.A. Gaughan
13 Essenhout St
Dalpark,
BRAKPAN 1540

Mr C.R. Presmeg
9 Vauxhall Road
MALVERN Natal 4093

Mr S. Gunn
19 Thomas-Jackson Street
Oatlands,
KRUGERSDORP 1740

Mr A. Raisun
4 Hawk Street
Horison Park 1725

Mr R. Guy
2 Tim Avenue
Edenglen
EDENVALE 1610

Mr O. van Oordt
Private Bag X141
PRETORIA 0001

Mr M.A. Komorous
P O Box 28732
Sunnyside
PRETORIA 0132

Mr R. Wade
239 End Street
Hatfield, PRETORIA 0002

Constitution

Mr Turk presented the draft of a new Constitution. Some aspects were discussed and it was finally agreed that each local member/alternate of Council should peruse this draft comparing its provisions with the existing Constitution. In this manner any anomalies and unacceptable changes could be ironed out at the next meeting. Thereafter an agreed version could be circulated to all members of Council for criticism and comments before an agreed final version could be put to a ballot of members. Mr Turk and Mr G. Larmuth were thanked for the tremendous amount of work and enthusiasm put into this task.


Miscellaneous

The United States Information Service through Mr Hurly presented a Lunar Globe to the Society. The Hon. Secretary was directed to write a letter of thanks.

Mr. Hurly reported on the cost of the production of the Handbook. This had shown a slight reduction per copy on last year's figure. He raised the question of a reduced charge to large bulk orders. One case mentioned was that of Prof. Jarrett who distributed copies free to visitors to Boyden Observatory. Agreed that Prof. Jarrett and the Planetarium should only pay 80c per copy.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22h20.

T.W. Russo
Hon. Secretary.


Chairman

2/5/57

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING, 7TH FEBRUARY 1977.

<u>Expenditure</u>	R c	<u>Receipts</u>	R c
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" : Jul-Dec 1976	1699.83	Credit Balance at 1.7.76.	360.43
Cost of production of MNASSA, May-Dec. 1976	1012.01	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Expenditure on MNASSA back numbers	5.68	Arrears 8.00	
Cost on reprints of articles in MNASSA	84.72	Current 4957.50	
Cost of production of Handbook for 1977	538.51	Advance <u>37.50</u>	5003.00
Addressing and despatch of publications	80.36	Entrance Fees	92.50
Postage on publications June - December 1976	260.06	Sale of MNASSA	384.99
Stationery and equipment	31.27	Sale of back numbers of MNASSA	97.00
Postage, other than above	33.40	Page charges and reprints of articles in MNASSA	177.50
Repayment of loan (made on security of Fixed Deposit)	895.00	Sale of Handbooks	95.10
Interest on above loan	18.65	Sale of back and extra copies of "Sky & Telescope"	85.70
Transferred to Plusplan A/c, Jul. Aug. & Sept. 1976	1500.00	Donations	6.35
Bank charges and exchange losses	96.91	Advertisement in MNASSA	6.00
Credit Balance at 7.2.77.	197.28	Interest on fixed deposit	100.00
		Interest on Building Soc, shares (Forbes Bequest)	9.50
		Commission on cheques, airmail postage and exchange gains	35.61
	<hr/> R 6453.68 <hr/>		<hr/> R 6453.68 <hr/>

An amount of R1000.00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society for two years at an interest rate of 10%, and the amount in the "Plusplan A/c with the Standard Bank, Heerengracht is R2000.00 at date. The balance in the McIntyre Award A/c is now R889.49, bond interest amounting to R34.90 having been received December last, and fixed deposit interest totalling R45.00 having been credited in July & January. Of this amount R450.00 is on Fixed Deposit at an interest rate of 10%

(sgd) Garrett Orpen.
 Hon. Treasurer.