

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1983 June 13 at 20h00 at SAAO
Cape Town

1. Present

Professor A.P.Fairall in the Chair, Professor Brian Warner, Dr. A.W.Gousins, Miss P.Booth, Messrs J.S.Bondiatti, W.C.Bentley; V.Duveen, R.Hurly, C.H. Larmuth, G.H.Larmuth, F.N.G.Orpen, J.Spencer-Jones, C.Turk and the Hon. Secretary H.E.Krumm.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Professor W.Feast, Dr. Peter Mack, Mr. C.S. Lake and Mr. J.Simenhoff.

Apologies for absence from up-country Members of Council were accepted in terms of Minute No.2 of Council Meeting held on 1983 April 11.

3. Minutes

Minutes of previous meeting of Council held at SAAO on 1983 April 11 at 20h00, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed after Mr. Bentley's initials had been corrected to read W.C. instead of J.C. and Mr. Hurly's name had been suitably adjusted to read Hurly instead of Hurley.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

- (i) 4(i). Natal Centre Constitution. After further discussion, Mr. G. Larmuth agreed to write to Mr. P.Cramb, Chairman of the Natal Centre, requesting a copy of the Centre's Rules which they now intended to print.
- (ii) 5(ii) Finance: Interest on Current Account. The Hon. Treasurer was of the opinion that the credit balance was too small for the matter to be pursued any further. Mr. C.Turk suggested that the Hon. Treas. negotiate with the Bank regarding service charges. Agreed.
- (iii) 5(iv) Finance: Authorised Signatories. Council confirmed the names of Messrs W.C.Bentley, R.Hurly and F.N.G.Orpen as the Society's authorised signatories, who then proceeded to sign the necessary slips.
- (iv) 8. Recognition of Long Service to the Society. Mr. M.A.Gray, in a letter dated 1 June 1983, suggested that the award might take the form of a book token for about R50. During the ensuing discussion Mr. V.Duveen suggested a Certificate of Merit. It was eventually agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until the next Meeting of Council in the hope that further suggestions would be forthcoming. Mr. Gray was thanked for his prompt reply and for his suggestion.

5. Finance

The Hon. Treasurer presented his financial statement which showed a credit balance of R786,23. A copy is attached to these minutes. These financial statements give a good idea of the not inconsiderable amount of money that passes through the Society's books. Council noted with deep appreciation Mr. Orpen's efficient handling of this important part of the Society's affairs.

6. New Members

The names of the following new members were in possession of the Hon. Treasurer but were not available at the meeting. Their election will have to be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

Mr. Patrick J. ASHWORTH	Green Valley, Venus Avenue, CONSTANTIA 7800
Mnr. A.J. BOTHA	Hoffstraat Oos 1167, Mōregloed, PRETORIA 0186
Dr. Johannes Hendrik de KLERK	Dept. Wiskunde en Toegepaste Wiskunde, POTCHEFSTROOM UNIVERSITEIT 2520
Mr. W.F. de LANGE	3 Allan Hirst Drive, Northern Park, PIETERMARITZBURG 3201
Mr. Christopher David Murray FORDER	P.O.Box 1261, CAPE TOWN 8000
Mr. Philippus Charles ROUX	7 Cocorico Street, Chantecler, DURBANVILLE 7550
Mr. Stephanus David le ROUX	Vista Drive 405, P.O.Box 872, Faerie Glen, PRETORIA 0043
Mr. A. LUBBE	P.O.Box 1178, JOHANNESBURG 2000
Mr. G. MICALI	P.O.Box 574, KEMPTON PARK 1520
Mr. Scott Robert NEWTON	"Sunrise", 20 Uxbridge Road, LAKESIDE 7945
Mr. Gabriel NOTHNAGEL	306 Dalbergia, 154 Walker Street, Sunnyside, PRETORIA 0002
Mr. Arayan Prakash PANCHIA	347 Ally Street, Actonville, Extension 2, BENONI 1500
Mr. R.J. OLIVIER	25 Marathon Road, Bluff, DURBAN 4052
Mr. Victor SANTI-LAURINI	117 Corlett Drive, Bramley, JOHANNESBURG 2192
Mr. John Peter WOODCOCK	6A Sowden Street, BLOEMFONTEIN 9301

7. Correspondence

Letter from Mr. M.A. Gray dated 1 June 1983.

- (1) Port Elizabeth Peoples' Observatory Society. From the context of his letter it was clear that arrangements for this "small but excellent" Society to become a recognised Centre of A.S.S.A. had not materialised, notwithstanding persistent efforts on his part. He was shortly to visit Port Elizabeth and would appreciate any comments from Council which might help him to take the matter further.
Mr. Tunk explained that according to the Constitution a group of not less than 10 members was required before they could form themselves into a Centre. The members of the P.E. Peoples' Observatory Society were not members of A.S.S.A. They were members of a Trust which was in some way tied up with the Port Elizabeth Municipality.
Mr. Gray was thanked for his initiative and his efforts and was given a mandate from Council to pursue the matter further.
- (2) Printing of Membership Address List. A query from Mr. Gray regarding the updating of the computerised list of members of the Society led to an extensive and complicated discussion from which it was difficult to minute any meaningful conclusion. The position will probably be clarified at the next meeting of Council. Mr. Gray was thanked for placing the services of his Wang machine at the disposal of the Society.

8. AWARDS

(1) The Gill Medal 1983

Previous discussions regarding the award of the 1983 Gill Medal were held in committee by Members of Council and alternates. They were not recorded in the Minutes as the proposed recipient, Dr. W. Feast, was a Member of Council and received copies of the Minutes of meetings. As Professor Feast was not present the meeting covered by these Minutes,

the Chairman could confirm that the procedure regarding the nomination and the election of the Gill Medallist had duly been carried out in terms of the Constitution and was able to announce that at least two thirds of all Council Members had voted in favour of Professor W. Feast being awarded the 1983 Gill Medal.

Professor Fairall would accordingly inform the President, Mr. Vincent, who lived in Herare, and request him to make an appropriate announcement at the Annual General Meeting in July 1983.

(2) The McIntyre Award 1983

A proposal had been received that Professor Brian Warner of the University of Cape Town should be the 1983 recipient of the McIntyre Award. The initial discussions were held in committee as Professor Warner serves as an alternate on Council and receives copies of the Minutes. It was agreed that Professor Warner would be a worthy recipient of the Award and to proceed with an election in terms of the Constitution. It was hoped that a sufficient number of ballot papers would have been received back by the time of the Annual General Meeting. It is recorded that Professor Warner had left the meeting before the above discussions took place.

9. Mnassa: Subscription Rates to Foreign Countries

In reply to a question from the Business Manager it was agreed to retain the existing rate of 10 dollars.

10. Gill Medals

Mr. Spencer-Jones reported that after the presentation to Professor Feast there would be only one Gill Medal left. The Hon. Secretary was asked to write to the S.A. Mint confirming that they had the die and asking for the composition and cost of the medal.

11. Report of Council for year ending 1983 June 30

The Hon. Secretary was requested to compile the Annual Report in conjunction with Professor Fairall.

12. New Council: 1983/84

As only sufficient nominations had been received to fill positions on the new Council it was agreed that the following office-bearers be nominated and submitted to the AGM for election:

President:	Professor A.P. Fairall
Vice Presidents:	Mr. J. Vincent, Mr. J. Bondhetti, Dr. G. Nicolson
Members:	Professor W. Feast, Mr. H.A. Gray, Mr. J. Hers, Mr. C. Turk
Hon. Secretary:	Mr. H.E. Krumba
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. F.N.G. Orpen
Business Manager:	Mr. W.C. Bentley

13. Council Resolution: Observing Section Reports

It was pointed out that Directors of Observing Sections were finding it difficult to prepare their Annual Reports in time for the Annual General Meeting. It was resolved that as from 1984 these Reports shall cover the period extending from January 1 to December 31. In order to bring the new arrangement into line, Reports submitted at the 1984 AGM shall cover the period from July 1 to December 31, 1983. This resolution to be submitted at the 1983 AGM.

14. BAA Journals

Mr. J. Spencer-Jones recommended that these journals should now be bound.

15. Next Meeting of Council. Agreed to hold it on 5 September 1983 at 20h00

16. Closing. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 22h20.

J. Vincent
7/4/83

[Signature]
21/9/83

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th JUNE 1983

<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	R. c.	<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	R. c.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", July 1982 to 1/1/ 1983 (April)	5946-52	Credit Balance B/Fwd 1/7/1982	63-03
Cost of production of MNASSA, May to October 1982	1323-37	<u>Subscriptions.</u>	
Expenditure in connection with Sales of Back Numbers of MNASSA	27-68	Arrears 25-75	
Expenditure in connection with Sales of Summary Volume of MNASSA (nos. 1 to XV)	29-15	Current 9872-68	
Cost of production of Handbook for 1983	1669-50	Advance 372-51	10271-94
Addressing & Despatch of publications, July 1982 to May 1983	278-30	Entrance Fees	230-00
Postage on publications (current)	1169-15	Sale of M.N.A.S.S.A.	998-12
Postage on Back Numbers of MNASSA	5-54	Sale of reprints of articles in M.N.A.S.S.A.	25-00
Postage on and packaging of Summary Volumes of M.N.A.S.S.A.	38-66	Sale of M.N.A.S.S.A. Back Nos.	45-04
Stationery and equipment	5-51	Sales of Summary Volume, MNASSA	404-01
Postage, other than above	54-24	Sale of Handbooks	421-40
General Sales Tax on "Sky & Tele- scope", July 1982 to May 1983	370-75	Receipts for postage and pack- aging of MNASSA Summary Volumes	33-35
Import Surcharge on above	436-75	Air postage paid by subscribers to M.N.A.S.S.A.	24-21
Variable Star Charts	45-69	Sales of spare back numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	50-60
Insurance of effects and of Society's Telescopes	55-55	Sales of miscellaneous Society Booklets	8-25
Transferred to "Plusplan" A/c., July and August 1982	5000-00	Donations	7-01
Bank charges	103-95	Interest on Building Society Shares (Forbes Bequest)	27-75
Credit Balance, at 13/6/1983	736-23	Pro-rata share of insurance of Society's telescopes in possession of Centres	3-35
		Withdrawal from "Plusplan" A/c., December 1982 and February and May 1983	4500-00
		Commission on inwards drafts and exchange gains	233-48
	<u>R17346-54</u>		<u>R17346-54</u>

R1000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at a rate of 12%.
The balance in the "Plusplan" A/c. at date is R2969-33.
The balance in the Molntyre Award Account is now R2950-80, of which R2000-00 is
on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at rates of 12% and 15%.
As soon as the total reaches R3000-00 (early in July 1983) a further R1000 will
be placed on Fixed Deposit

Samuel Orfan
HON. TREASURER.