

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1983 November 7 at 20h00 at SAAO  
Cape Town

1. Present

Mr.J.Bondiotti in the Chair, Professor Brian Warner, Dr.Peter Mack, Miss P.Booth, Messrs W.C.Bentley, F.N.G.Orpen, J.Spencer-Jones, C.Turk and the Hon.Secretary H.E.Krumm.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Professor A.P.Fairall, Professor W.M.Feast, Dr.A.W.Cousins and Messrs R.Hurly and J.Simenhoff. Up Country Members automatically accepted.

3. Minutes

Minutes of two previous Council Meetings held on 1983 June 13 and 1983 September 5 at 20h00 at SAAO, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

1983 June 13

- (1) 4(i) Natal Centre Constitution. A copy of a notice from the Natal Centre setting out the proposed amendments to their Constitution (Rules) had been referred to Mr. C.Turk for his comments. He proposed that the amendments be accepted by Council. Agreed.
- (2) 4(iv) Recognition of Long Service to the Society. Mr.C.Turk proposed that this matter be placed on the Agenda for the next Council Meeting.
- (3) 7(1) Port Elizabeth Peoples' Observatory. Nothing further to report.
- (4) 10. Gill Medals. A letter dated 14 October 1983 from the South African Mint stated that the dies for the medal, which the Mint had previously advised were no longer available, had now been traced by them and that an order could be executed should a further supply be required. The price would be approximately R75 each depending on the price of silver on the date of the completion of the order. After a competent discussion it was agreed to order 10 medals cast in sterling silver and packed in leatherette cases, as before. The Mint was to be asked to return the dies to the Society for safe keeping, together with the medals.

1983 September 5

- (1) 4. Appointment of Alternates. 1. Dr.Peter Mack, Pretoria Centre Alternate, would also act for the Transvaal Centre and Mr. P.Janse van Rensburg for the Natal Midlands Centre. 2. Mr. M.Soltynski is the Cape Centre representative on Council and is not an alternate. 3. Herare Centre: for Mr.C.B.Archer read Mr.R.Fleet (See Minute No 7(iv) below)
- (2) 9(2) ASSET. Mr. C.Turk agreed to write an article for publication in MNASSA.
- (3) 10. McIntyre Award. The recommendation that the Award be increased to R500 was confirmed.

## 5. Finance

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Financial Statement, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The Statement showed a credit balance of R1012-83, and was adopted.

## 6. New Members

- (1) The election of the names of new members appearing in the Minutes of Council Meetings held on 13 June 1983 and 5 September 1983 was confirmed subject to the publication of the names in MNASSA and no objections being received.
- (2) The following new members were elected subject to the publication of their names in MNASSA and no objections being received:-

Mr.R.G.B.ANDERSON	217 Seventh Avenue, Bezuidenhout Valley, JOHANNESBURG 2094
Professor G.F.R.ELLIS	Dept. of Applied Mathematics, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, RONDENOSCH 7700
Mr.P.W.G.GREEN	21 Anne Barnard Way, EDGEMEAD 7405
Dr.R.B.HAWKES	Tongaat Hulett Sugar,Ltd.,Private Bag X.01 MOUNT EDGECOMBE 4300
Dr.P.A.JOUBERT	10 Morgenrood Road, KENILWORTH 7700
Mr.P.M.MOORE	P.O.Box 2424, PIETERMARITZBURG 3200
Mnr.M.S.MULDER	Posbus 15, KATHU 8446

## 7. Correspondence

- (i) Professor A.P.Fairall - President : Absence on Sabbatical Leave.  
In a letter dated 4 October 1983 the President indicated that it was highly probable that he would be spending 1984 overseas on Sabbatical Leave. As his absence would coincide with the remaining six months of his Presidency, he suggested that either he step down as President so that some local person could fill in for him or that he retain the Presidency and prepare an illustrated address to be read on his behalf at the 1984 Annual General Meeting; he also suggested the possibility of putting his address on tape.  
It was unanimously agreed that Professor Fairall retain the Presidency of the Society for the remainder of his term of office and that he prepare an illustrated address to be read on his behalf at the 1984 AGM.
- (ii) Mr.Danie Overbeek: Reimbursement of Directors of Observing Sections.  
Mr.Overbeek had indicated in a letter of 2 November 1983 that an approach was to be made to Council for the reimbursement of Directors of Observing Sections for out of pocket expenses. The subject was not discussed as Mr.C.Turk would be meeting Mr. Overbeek before the next Meeting of Council and would take the opportunity of discussing the matter with him. Mr.Turk to report to next Meeting of Council.
- (iii) Enquiry from Mr.Anthony Appelyard of Manchester: Astrophotography.  
In a letter dated 14 September 1983, a certain Mr.Appelyard requested information regarding observing conditions in South Africa as he was keen to extend his interests in stellar photography to the Southern Hemisphere. The meeting came to the conclusion that Professor W.M. Feast would be the best person who would be able to answer Mr. Appelyard's queries and asked the Hon. Secretary to forward the letter to Professor Feast and respectfully ask him to kindly reply.
- (iv) Mr. C.B.Archer: Resignation as Chairman of Herare Centre of ASSA.  
In a letter dated 31 October, Mr.Archer informed that he had resigned his Chairmanship of the Centre as he would shortly be moving to South Africa. His new address would be 29 Queen Street, 1675 Irene, Transvaal.

8. McIntyre Award : Presentation.

Arrangements and a possible date for the presentation at the SAAO of the Award to Professor Brian Warner would be discussed by Professor Fairall with the Chairman of the Cape Centre. It was agreed that the occasion take the form of a cheese and wine party and that the Society would cover expenses up to R100.

9. Planetarium at the South African Museum.

Mr.J.Bondiatti reported that building operations were due to start in the very near future and that the Planetarium would become operational by 1986, hopefully in time for Halley's Comet; hopefully but not expectantly.

10. Next Meeting of Council.

It was agreed to hold the next Meeting of Council on Monday 30 January 1984 at 20h00 at SAAO.

11. There being no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 21h30.

Date.....30.1.84

Chairman.....*J. Fairall*

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 7th NOV., 1983.

<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>		<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	
	R. c.		R. c.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", including freight charges thereon, July to October 1983	1437-64	Balance Brought Fwd. 1/7/1983	624-50
Cost of production of MNASSA, Novr. 1982 to April 1983	1209-34	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Addressing and despatch of publications, July to October 1983.	93-81	Arrears	27-50
Postage on A.G.M. Notices and on publications, July to October 1983	361-09	Current	10063-42
Stationery and printing	28-00	Advance	<u>48-00</u>
Postage, other than above	15-80	Entrance Fees	82-50
Phonograms re arrangements for Annual General Meeting	10-22	Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	70-00
General Sales Tax on "Sky and Telescope", July to <del>September</del> <sup>October</sup> 1983	129-58	Sales of MNASSA Summary Volume	68-00
Import Surcharge on above	91-30	Sales of Handbooks, 1983	435-00
Fire Insurance on Society property	20-20	Sales of Spare Back Numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	6-65
Insurance of Society's Telescopes	49-47	Interest on Building Society Shares, Forbes Bequest	12-92
Transferred to "Plusplan" A/c., July to October 1983	7000-00	Commission paid and exchange gains	40-04
Bank charges	19-25		
Credit Balance at 7th November 1983	1012-83		
	<u>R11478-53</u>		<u>R11478-53</u>

R1000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at an interest rate of 12%.

The balance in the "Plusplan" A/c. at date R9350-00.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R2946-63, of which R2000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society (R1000-00 at 12% and R1000 at 15%)

HON. TREASURER.