

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1984 January 30 at 20h00 at SAAO
Cape Town

1. Present

Mr. J. Bondiotti in the Chair, Professor W.M.Feast, Dr.A.W.J.Cousins, Dr.Peter Mack, Miss P.Booth, Messrs W.C.Bentley, W.Neilson, F.N.G.Orpen (Hon. Treasurer) M.G.Soltynski, C.Turk and the Hon. Secretary H.E.Krumm.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs R.Hurly, J.Simenhoff and J.Spencer Jones. Professor A.P.Fairall's apologies were accepted for absence on sabbatical leave overseas during 1984. Up-country members automatically accepted.

3. Minutes

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1983 November 7 at 20h00 at SAAO, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

(i) Minute No.4(iv) Council Meeting 1983 June 13

Recognition of Long Service to the Society. Except for a reply from Mr. M.A.Gray, no further suggestions had been received. It was agreed to go back to Mr.Gray and to ask him whether he would be prepared to draw up a list of proposals to enable Council to crystallize this somewhat long outstanding matter.

(ii) Minute No.7(ii) Reimbursement of Directors of Observing Sections.

Mr.C.Turk reported that he had not met Mr.D.Overbeek during his recent visit to the Cape although he had spoken to him over the telephone. Mr. Overbeek's only comments were that a decision should be taken in principle.

After a short discussion it was agreed to inform the Directors of the Observing Sections that they were at liberty to apply at any time, and as they felt the need, for their reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. Applications must be submitted to Council for consideration.

(iii) Minute No.8. McIntyre Award-Presentation. The McIntyre Award was presented to Professor Brian Warner at a function held at the SAAO on Friday 6 January 1984 at 20h00. It was a very successful occasion attended by about 50 members and guests. Mr.M.G.Soltynski was thanked for making the arrangements and obtaining the wine and the eats. Council approved the payment of R76-51 to Mr.Soltynski for out-of-pocket expenses.

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 R447-59 and was adopted.

6. Membership:Resignations and Suspensions

The Hon.Treasurer reported that 32 members had resigned since July 1984. Originally 30 had been suspended for non-payment of subscriptions but 8 have now paid their dues and have been reinstated. The influx of new members has tended to stabilise the Membership Roll which now stands at 466.

7. New Members

The following new members were elected to the Society in terms of Art. 5(1) of the Constitution:- (Their names will be published in MNASSA for information)

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ASTRONOMY SOCIETY OF THE HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL, SOMERSET WEST 7130. | |
| PROFESSOR J.J.CHADWICK | Dept. of Mathematics, University of TRANSKEI,
Private Bag X5092, UMTATA. |
| MR.D.J.CONNING | 27 Clifton Road, PIETERMARITZBURG 3201. |
| MISS M.C.K.DU TOIT | 30 Weavind Street, Colbyn, PRETORIA. 0083. |
| MR.E.GROBLER | 11 Philip Medalia Road, Edenglen, EDENDALE 1610. |
| MR.A.H.KARA | 1077 Third Street, Asiatic Bazaar, GERMISTON 1401 |
| MR.G.S.MABIZELA | Baldaskraal School, Private Bag 9948, LADYSMITH 3370. |
| MR.D.G.RUSSELL | P.O.Box 10066, MEER-EN-SEE 3901. |
| MR.S.O.SPERBUNO | Buffelsbank Marine, Private Bag X108, PORT NOLLOTH
8280. |
| MISS F.TUCKER | 5 Kilgetty Road, RONDEBOSCH 7700. |
| MR.B.V.van BOOMEN | 205 Thirteenth Avenue, KENSINGTON (Cape) 7405. |
| MR.V.J.van der PLUYM | 213 Boötes Street, Waterkloof Ridge, PRETORIA 0181. |
| DR.W.F.WARGAU | U.N.I.S.A., P.O.Box 392, PRETORIA 0001. |
| MR.M.WATT | P.O.Box 497, POTCHEFSTROOM 2520. |

8. ASSET

Mr. C. Turk reaffirmed his intention to write an article for publication in MNASSA. He reported that the United Building Society Savings Book, kept in his possession, had been stolen by a person unknown who had fraudulently drawn R200 from the Wynberg Branch of the U.B.S. Mr.Turk had subsequently repaid this amount out of his own pocket into the Endowment Trust (ASSET) account.

9. Gill Medal (Refer Minute No.4(4) 1983 November 7)

10 medals cast in sterling silver and packed in leatherette cases were received by the Hon. Secretary from the South African Mint on 30 January 1984 and just in time for this meeting. After members of Council had critically examined one of the medals for cracks and other blemishes and had expressed their admiration in glowing terms, the medals, including the one that had been removed for inspection, were handed to Professor W.M.Feast who had kindly offered to lock them up in the vaults of the SAAO where thieves could not break in and steal them.

Neither an account nor the dies accompanied the medals. The Hon.Secretary was asked to mention the matter concerning the dies when paying the account.

10. Appointment of Alternate (refer Minute No.4(1) 1983 November 7)

The Chairman extended a hearty welcome to Mr.W.Neilson who was attending his first meeting of Council and who had kindly agreed to act as an alternate. It was agreed that he should alternate for Mr. Danie Overbeek who was the Council representative of the Transvaal Centre.

11. MNASSA

Dr.Peter Mack raised the matter of the irregular and protracted publication of issues of MNASSA. Professor Feast felt that this journal should be published once every two months. It was stated that the delay in the appearance of the present issue was due to the late arrival of the annual reports of two Centres of the Society. Council was deeply appreciative of the work being done by Messrs Churms and Spencer Jones but it was obvious that they would require additional help if MNASSA were to appear more often and at regular intervals. It was agreed to ask Mr.Churms to attend the next meeting of Council for discussions.

12. Next Meeting of Council: April 2, 1984 at SAAO at 20h00

13. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 21h25.

Date. 1984... 4... 2...

Chairman... *[Signature]*

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 30th Jan. 1984

<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	R. c.	<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	R. c.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", including freight charges thereon, July to December 1983	3677-66	Balance Brought Fwd. 1/7/1983	624-50
Cost of production of MNASSA, November 1982 to April 1983	1209-34	<u>Subscriptions.</u>	
Cost of production of Handbook for 1984	1611-20	Arrears 27-50	
Addressing and despatch of publications, July to December 1983	158-71	Current 10575-92	
Postage on A.G.M. Notices and on publications, July to Dec., 1983	617-38	Advance 52-50	10655-92
Stationery and Printing	28-00	Entrance Fees	157-50
Postage, other than above	16-30	Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	269-20
Phonograms re arrangements for Annual General Meeting	10-22	Sales of MNASSA Summary Volume	122-66
General Sales Tax on "Sky & Telescope", July to December 1983	195-64	Postage and packaging on Summary Volume	5-00
Import Duty on "Sky & Telescope", July to October 1983	91-30	Sales of Handbooks 1983	514-20
Fire Insurance on Society's Property	20-20	Sales of Handbooks 1984	107-00
Insurance of Society's Telescopes	49-47	Sales of spare Back Numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	17-15
Variable Star Charts	62-00	Interest on Building Society Shares, Forbes Bequest	12-92
McIntyre Award Presentation Party	76-51	Interest on Fixed Deposit	120-00
Transferred to "Plusplan" A/c, July to November 1983	7000-00	Advertisement in M.N.A.S.S.A.	25-00
Bank Charges	36-52	Airmail postage paid (MNASSA)	6-92
Credit Balance at 30th Jan. 1984	447-59	Bank interest on Current A/c.	22-61
		Commission paid and exchange gains	147-46
		Withdrawn from "Plusplan" A/c., December 1983	2500-00
	<u>R.15308-04</u>		<u>R.15308-04</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 is R6850-00

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R2580-90, of which R2000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society (R1000-00 at 12% and R1000-00 at 15%)

Garrett Crisp
HON. TREASURER.