

# ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1984 June 25 at 20h00 at SAAO  
Cape Town

## 1. Present

Mr. J. Bondiotti (Vice President) in the Chair, Professor M.W. Feast, Drs. A.W.J. Cousins and 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 for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Professor Brian Warner, Messrs J. Simenhoff and M. Soltynski.

## 3. Minutes

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1984 April 2 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. 5(i) Recognition of Long Service to the Society

Mr. Joseph Churms of the SAAO had been proposed as a worthy recipient of the award for the valuable service he had rendered to the Society in many spheres for over 20 years. In particular would he be remembered as Editor of MNASSA, an office which he held during very difficult times and from which he was about to retire. After Professor Feast had heartily seconded the proposal, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Churms should become the first member of the Society to receive the award.

As Mr. Danie Overbeek was one of the proposers, it was decided to ask him to travel from Johannesburg to the Cape and present Mr. Churms with the award at the 1984 Annual General Meeting and that he be requested to compose a suitable citation.

Professor Feast kindly agreed to select a suitable book.

It should be noted that honorary members of the Society are not eligible for the award.

### (ii) Minute No. 5(iii) M.N.A.S.S.A.

Professor M. Feast reported on behalf of his sub-committee that three members of the staff of the SAAO had indicated their willingness to edit MNASSA, namely:

Editor : Dr. I.S. Glass

Assistant Editor: Mr. J. Spencer Jones (present editor of  
Centerpiece and advertising manager)

Assistant Editor: Mr. L. Combrink

Professor Feast drew attention to the question of the Editorial Board. Council was sympathetic towards having it reconvened but decided to postpone further discussion to its next meeting. Dr. Glass would be invited to attend this meeting.

Professor Feast and his committee were thanked for bringing their deliberations to such a successful conclusion.

The following matters were dealt with during the ensuing discussion:

- (a) A request from Dr. Glass to spend an amount of R30 to cover the cost of articles required by him in the execution of his editorial duties. Granted.
- (b) Time interval between publication dates of MNASSA at a forthcoming meeting of Council.

/(c)

(c) Agreed to attach a Publication Calendar submitted by Mr. Spencer Jones covering publication dates etc to these minutes.

(iii) Minute No.8(ig) Stamps with an Astronomical Theme

Mr. Spencer Jones reported that he had written to the Postmaster General, his letter taking the form of a preliminary enquiry. He had received a reply to the effect that the idea would come up for consideration in 1986.

5. The Gill Medal

Candidates were discussed and a name was selected.

6. Finance

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. N. G. Orpen, presented the financial statement which was adopted. A copy is attached to these minutes. Agreed to grant the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer the usual honorarium of R50 each. This is an annual procedure.

7. ASSET

The secretary, Mr. C. R. G. Turk, gave a brief account of the financial position of the Trust. A full report will be presented at the 1984 Annual General Meeting and thereafter published in MNASSA

8. New Members

The following were elected to the Society in terms of Art.5(1) of the Constitution:-

MR. S. G. APPLETON:	P.O. Box 238, FOURMAYS. 2055
MR. J. L. BISHOP:	1 Courtleigh, Duchess Avenue, Windsor Park, RANDBURG 2195
MR. L. BRENNON:	P.O. Box 82268, SOUTHDAL 2135
MR. D. P. DE VILLIERS:	P.O. Box 15173, IMPALA PARK 1472
MNR. N. J. DE PREEZ:	Huis Visser, STELLENBOSCH 7600
MR. L. GRANT:	Military Academy, Saldanha, Private Bag X.2, MILNAVAIR 7396
MR. R. J. HUTCHEON:	Gallery Court 606, 304 Johann Street, Arcadia, PRETORIA 0083
MR. P. M. KATZ:	17 Wyndover Road, CLAREMONT, Cape 7700
MR. M. S. LOUW:	12 Saunders Road, Southridge, KIMBERLEY 8301
MR. T. J. NAPIER-MUNN:	Diamond Research Laboratory, P.O. Box 916, JOHANNESBURG 2000
MR. C. PRETORIUS:	11 Pegma Building, P.O. Box 338. SPRINGBOK 8240
DR. J. A. SMIT:	1183 Dickenson Avenue, Waverley, PRETORIA 0186
MR. F. M. THEUNISSEN:	9 Van Riet Avenue, WELGEMOED 7530
MR. R. K. VAN DER SPUY:	No. 2, Jacques Street, PAARL 7646
DR. A. VILJOEN:	Louis Pasteur 1007, Schoeman Street, PRETORIA 0001
MR. P. A. WEBLEY:	702 Valhaven, 80 Cromwell Road, Glenwood, DURBAN 4001

The above names will be published in MNASSA in due course.

9. Correspondence

Letter from Mr. M. Soltynski dated 9 June 1984 : SKY AND TELESCOPE

Mr. Soltynski confirmed Council's suspicions that the delay in delivery times of SKY AND TELESCOPE had reached exponential proportions. Council was placed in an uncomfortable position and had to admit that regretfully nothing could be done about it.

10. M. N. A. S. S. A. - Increase in Price

Mr. J. C. Bentley, Business Manager, proposed that the local price of MNASSA be increased from R7 to R9 per six copies or more as from January 1985. Agreed.

11. New Council:1984/1985

As only sufficient nominations had been received to fill the positions on the new Council, it was agreed that the following nominations should be submitted to the 1984 Annual General Meeting for election:-

President: Mr.J.Bondietti  
Vice Presidents: Professor A.F.Fairall  
Dr.A.G.Nicolson  
Mr.C.R.G.Turk

Members of Council: Professor M.W.Feast  
Mr.M.A.Gray  
Mr.J.Hers  
Mr.J.Spencer Jones

Hon.Secretary: Mr.H.E.Krumm  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr.F.N.G.Orpen  
Business Manager: Mr.W.C.Bentley

12. Election of Auditors

Mrs Pat Kramer and Mr.L.Combrink were to be approached to fill the vacancies created by Messrs G.H.Larmuth and H.B.Molyneux who had indicated their intention to resign as auditors to the Society. Should Mrs Kramer and Mr. Combrink accept nomination, their names would go forward to the 1984 Annual General Meeting for election.

13. Date of Annual General Meeting - 1984

The date of the AGM was fixed for Wednesday 25 July 1984 at 20h00 and would held at the SAAO.

14. By the Chair

The Chairman, Mr. J. Bondietti, tendered his apologies for absence from the Annual General Meeting as he would shortly be leaving for the USA on business mainly connected with the planetarium and would not be returning until mid-August.

15. Date of next Council Meeting

No definite date was fixed for the next Council Meeting.

16. Closing

There being no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 22h13.

Date.....24.9.84.....

Chairman.....[Signature].....

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 25th JUNE 1984

<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	<u>R. c.</u>	<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	<u>R. c.</u>
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", and freight charges thereon, July 1983 to May 1984	6452-72	Balance Brought Forward 1/7/1983	624-50
Cost of production of MNASSA, November 1982 to August 1983	2179-09	<u>Subscriptions.</u>	
Cost of production Handbook for 1984	1611-20	Arrears. 72-50	
Addressing and despatch of publications, July 1983 to April 1984	272-27	Current 11053-42	
Postages on A.G.M. Notices and on publications, July 1983 to April 1984	1169-95	Advance <del>1153-20</del> 569-50	11695-42
Stationery and printing	53-81	Entrance Fees	327-50
Postage, other than above	42-75	Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	837-36
Phonograms re arrangements for Annual General Meeting	10-22	Sales of MNASSA Summary Volume	122-66
General Sales Tax on "Sky & Tele- scope", July 1983 to <del>May</del> 1984	421-72	Postage and packaging paid for Summary Volumes	5-00
Import surcharge on "Sky & Tele- scope", July to October 1983	91-30	Sales of Handbooks for 1983	514-20
Variable Star Charts	62-00	Sales of Handbooks for 1984	323-75
Fire Insurance on property	20-20	Sales of spare back numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	24-35
Insurance of Society's Telescopes.	49-47	Sales of Society booklets	1-25
McIntyre Award Presentation Party.	76-51	Interest on Building Society shares, Forbes Bequest	26-59
Supply of stock of Gill Medals	515-00	Interest of 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	59-30	Airmail postage paid (MNASSA)	14-42
Credit Balance at 25/6/1984	372-17	Interest on currant account	31-36
	<u>R.20459-68</u>	Withdrawn from "Plusplan" A/c., December 1983 to May 1984	5500-00
		Commission paid and exchange gains	266-32
			<u>R.20459-68</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 R4289-20; but interest amounting to R439-20 must be transferred to Current A/c., and a further amount of approximately R600 must be transferred to meet commitments before 30th June 1984.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R2866-80, of which R77-50 has been wrongly credited to that Account by the U.B.S. and will be transferred to Society's current A/c. Of the resulting figure of R2789-30, is on Fixed Deposit with the U.B.S.

*Garrett O'Farrell*  
HON. TREASURER.