

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1984 November 19 at 20h00 at SAAO
Cape Town

1. Present

The President, Mr.J.Bondiotti, in the Chair, Professor W.M.Feast, Professor Brian Warner, Dr.A.W.J.Cousins, Dr.I.S.Glass(Editor:MNASSA), Miss P.Booth, Messrs W.C.Bentley, J.Churms, R.Hurly, F.N.G.Orpen(Hon.Treas.), M.Soltynski, J.Spencer Jones and the Hon.Secretary H.F.Krumm.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Dr.Peter Mack and Mr.W.Neilson.

3. Minutes

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1984 September 24 at 20h00 at SAAO, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read. Apart from Minute No.13: Advertising Rates, the meeting was prepared to accept the Minutes as a true record of the proceedings and agreed that they be duly signed.
The circumstances surrounding the figures quoted in the Minute in question are dealt with below.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

(i) Minute No.4: Appointment of Alternates

Agreed to ask Dr.T.H.H.Lloyd Evans to serve as an alternate for the Natal Centre.

No objections had been received from principals regarding the alternates appointed to serve as their representatives on Council.

(ii) Minute No.6(i):MNASSA (a) Editorial Board

Professor Brian Warner and Mr.Danie Overbeek had reacted favourably to Council's invitation to serve on the Editorial Board.

(iii) Minute No.7: FINANCE (3)

The replies to the questionnaire and the reactions from the Centres gave Council good reason to conclude that the members of the Society were prepared to pay the higher subscription in order to retain SKY AND TELESCOPE. Council, therefore, decided to increase the subscription to R45 per year, as stated in the questionnaire, with effect as from 1 January 1985. It was also agreed to increase the entrance fee to R10 as from the above date. New members joining the Society after 31 December 1984 would pay R22,50 for the remaining six months of the 1984/1985 financial year. As far as existing members were concerned, the new rate would take effect as from 1 July 1985. Members would be informed of these changes in due course. At the same time, they would be told that the subscription would be adjusted if and when a significant improvement takes place in the current exchange rate.

(iv) Minute No.10: Society's Telescopes - Insurance

There was nothing to report as Mr.C.Turk was unable to attend the meeting.

(v) Minute No.12: Computing Section

A letter was tabled from Mr.Jose Campos, Chairman of the Natal Centre, suggesting the formation of a Computing Section within the framework of the Society. Council was tentatively in favour of the proposal, especially as it was likely to be great assistance to Mr.R.Hurly, the Editor of the Handbook, in the preparation of several of his tables.

Before any action could be taken to form such a Section certain fundamental issues would have to be resolved. It was agreed to write to Dr. Peter Mack,

Mr. Jose Compos and Mr. Danie Overbeek in this regard for their comments and suggestions. Mr. M. Soltynski kindly offered to write the necessary letters. The points to be raised by him and the replies to his letters will be considered at the next meeting of Council. Dr. Peter Mack reported that he would prepare a suitable article for publication in MNASSA.

(vi) Minute No.13: Advertising Rates

Council regarded the increase in the advertising rates as being too severe and had not been fully discussed at the meeting. The proposals had been put forward during the dying moments of the meeting when the proceedings were in somewhat of a disarray and were, therefore, not fully discussed in the ensuing confusion. The Hon. Secretary had made the unforgivable mistake of concluding that agreement had been reached whereas, in fact, nothing of the kind had happened. Council now proceeded to discuss the matter in a more tranquil atmosphere and it was agreed to accept a suggestion by Dr. I. S. Glass to the effect (effect= to result in what was intended) that the revised advertising rates read as follows and with immediate effect:-

MNASSA

Full page	R40
Half page	R20
Quarter page	R11
Private Adverts	10 cents per word

HANDBOOK

Full Back page	R60
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5. Finance

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Financial Statement, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. The statement was adopted with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Orpen. He reported that 40 members who were in arrears with their subscriptions had been suspended.

6. New Members

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

Mr. P. S. A. EDMUNDS	62 Sir Arthur Road, Morningside, DURBAN 4001
Revd. Mr. D. HOWELL	29 Ysterberg Street, Noordheuwel, KRUGERSDORP 1740
Mr. J. E. D. KNIGHT	P.O. Box 674, BELLVILLE 7530
Miss K. MITCHELL	31 Linksfield Road, Dunvegan, EDENVALE 1610
Mr. C. VERBURGH	P.O. Box 11399, Brooklyn, PRETORIA 0011
Mr. T. H. WOODING-TUTTON	14 Mariners Row, SWARTKOPS, P.E. 6210
Mr. E. F. VON MALTITZ	51 Eighth Street, Linden, JOHANNESBURG 2195 (previously a member, now rejoined)

7. Correspondence

Letter from Dr. Benedito Siqueira Medeiros, Professor of Physics, Brasil.
In his letter, which was written in Portuguese, Professor Medeiros stated that he was a great admirer of astronomy, particularly of astrophysics, and that he wished to deepen his knowledge and wished to receive informative matter and other technical material from us. He concluded his letter by sending us his protestations of high esteem and consideration. He enclosed a set of eight slides on astronomy. It was decided to send him a copy of MNASSA vol.43, Nos 9-10, October 1984 and to inform him of the price to overseas subscribers, should he wish to subscribe.

8. SKY AND TELESCOPE: Sale of Back Numbers

Agreed to sell back numbers at 20c out of hand and 50c by post per copy.

9. Closing: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 21h25, there being no further business.

Date.....

Chairman. *A. de V.*

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL: 19th NOVEMBER 1984.

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

	R. c.		R. c.
Balance brought forward 1/7/1984	3215-73	Subscription to "Sky & Telescope", including freight charges, July to Oct., 1984	3730-00
<u>Subscriptions.</u>		Cost of production of MNASSA, October 1983 to August 1984	2047-21
Current	10210-75	Addressing and despatch of publications	292-01
Advance	<u>70-00</u>	Postage on publications	902-41
	10280-75	Stationery and printing	124-27
Entrance Fees	90-00	Postage, other than above	50-16
Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	279-23	General sales tax on "Sky & Telescope"	365-70
Sales of Handbooks, 1984	15-00	Fire Insurance premium	50-50
Interest on Fixed Deposit	60-00	Long Service Award, Mr. Churms	43-95
Interest on Buildings Society Shares (Forbes Bequest)	14-33	Engraving Gill Medal	2-50
Donation	2-00	Variable Star Charts	19-00
Airmail postage paid by M.N.A.S.S.A. Subscribers	4-50	Bank charges	51-24
Interest on Current Account	5-81	Credit Balance at 19/11/1984.	6579-61
Commission paid by MNASSA Subscribers and exchange gains	291-51		
	<u> </u>		
	<u>R.14258-86</u>		<u>R.14258-86</u>

The balance of R6579-61 consists of R529-61 in the Current Account and R6050-00 in the "Plusplan" A/c.

R1000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R3023 of which R3000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society

Garrett Cooper
HON. TREASURER