

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1985 June 17 at 20h00 at SAAO
Cape Town

1. Present

The President, Mr. J. Bondiotti, in the Chair, Professor A. P. Fairall, Dr. Peter Mack, Miss P. Booth, Messrs J. Churms, R. Hurly, P. J. Janse van Rensburg, W. Neilson, F. N. G. Orpen (Hon. Treas.), J. Spencer Jones and the Hon. Secretary H. E. Krumm.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Professor H. W. Feast, Professor Brian Warner, Messrs W. C. Bentley, M. Soltynski and C. R. G. Turk.

3. Minutes

Minutes of previous Meeting of Council held on 1985 April 15 at 20h00, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read. Their adoption was proposed by Mr. J. Churms, seconded by Miss P. Booth and confirmed as being a true record of the proceedings and signed.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

(i) Appointment of Alternate for Natal Centre

Dr. T. H. H. Lloyd-Evans had agreed to serve in this capacity.

(ii) Grant-in-Aid - M.N.A.S.S.A. and Handbook - Department of Education

Mr. R. Hurly reported that the application had been sent off as arranged.

(iii) Replies to "IMPORTANT NOTICE RE FINANCE AND CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT"

Replies received to date indicated that 236 members were in favour of the higher subscription, 14 were against and 45 had resigned. 227 members had paid their subscriptions for 1985/1986.

(iv) Cost of Envelopes

Mr. F. N. G. Orpen reported that he had contacted Messrs Budd and Thompson but that he had received an unsatisfactory reply. Mr. R. Hurly would discuss the matter further with this firm. It was agreed, however, to settle the account in the meantime.

(v) Halley's Comet - Brochure

Mr. P. J. Janse van Rensburg presented the Society with 200 copies of the revamped brochure. After thanking him for his generosity the brochures were handed to Mr. R. Hurly who would discuss their distribution with the Cape Department of Education.

Dr. Peter Mack went on to report that a book on the comet had been produced by the Cedarberg Observatory. He offered to make copies available to members of the Society at a discount price and, further, that the authors were prepared to give the royalties accruing from these sales to the Society. After thanking Dr. Mack for this generous gesture, it was decided that a suitable order form be inserted in the September 1985 issue of M.N.A.S.S.A.

(vi) Computing Section

Mr. M. Soltynski, who was unable to be present, informed Council in writing that he had received a private communication from Mr. Danie Cverbeek but had heard nothing further from the Centres. He suggested that the proposal to form such a Section be shelved for the time being. Council decided, however, to proceed with its formation forthwith and agreed to ask Mr. Jose Campos to give effect to this decision and to become its Director.

(vii) Solar Observing Section

Mr.R.Anderson had replied with enthusiasm to Council's favourable reaction to the formation of a Solar Section within the framework of the Society. He was preparing an introductory article for publication in M.N.A.S.S.A. and would submit an annual report at the end of the year. He hoped that members of all Centres would join in the very useful work being presently done by a group of observers attached to the Transvaal Centre. It was agreed to authorise Mr.Anderson to claim for any reasonable expenses incurred.

5. Finance

The Hon. Treasurer presented his financial statement a copy of which is attached to these minutes. It will be seen that the advance payments of subscriptions have given the finances a welcome boost.

In thanking Mr.Orpen for his statement, members of Council assured him that they were very much aware of the extra load he has had to carry during recent months and of the efficient manner in which he has executed his onerous duties.

(i) Mr. Danie Overbeek had submitted a statement of his expenses as Director of the Grazing and Planetary Occultation Sections for the period July 1983 to February 1985. It was agreed that he be reimbursed in full.

(ii) Council authorised the payment of the annual honoraria to the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary of R50 each.

6. New Members

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

MASTER G.P.CROMHOUT	13 Doordrift Gardens, Doordrift Road, PLUMSTEAD 7800
MR.B.R.ISSEROW	P.O.Box 17146, Hillbrow, JOHANNESBURG 2038
MISS C.A.STAHL	P.O.Box 10783, JOHANNESBURG 2000
MISS C.A.WILMOT	25 St.Andrews Avenue, Senderwood, BEDFORDVIEW 2008

7. Correspondence

"THE OBSERVATORY" Magazine

In a letter dated 24 May 1985, the Business Manager, Mr.David Stickland, of "The Observatory" magazine had submitted a proposal whereby members of the Society would be offered the magazine at an annual subscription less than the rate for individuals (which was in turn much less than the library or institution subscription) and that the Society retain a portion of the subscription as an agent's fee. For 1986, the Editors proposed that the charge to members be £6, of which £1 would be retained as a fee, with £5 being remitted to the magazine.

Council decided that no purpose would be served in implementing this proposal as those wishing to receive "The Observatory" already did so through their membership of The Royal Astronomical Society. The Hon. Secretary to reply accordingly.

8. New Council 1985/1986

As only sufficient nominations for the new council had been received it was agreed to submit the following names to the Annual General Meeting for election:-

New Council 1985/1986 (contd.)

- President: Dr. G. D. Nicolson
- Vice-Presidents: Mr. J. Bondietti
Mr. C. R. G. Turk
Mr. J. Spencer Jones
- Members of Council: Professor M. W. Feast
Mr. P. Cramb
Mr. J. Hers
Mr. J. van Ellinckhuizen
- Hon. Secretary: Mr. E. E. Krumm
- Hon. Treasurer: Mr. F. N. G. Orpen
- Business Manager: Mr. W. C. Bentley

9. Honorary Membership of the Society : Mr. W. C. Bentley

It was proposed by Mr. F. N. G. Orpen and seconded by Professor A. F. Fairall that Mr. W. C. Bentley be elected an Honorary Member of the Society in recognition of his services as Business Manager for over 25 years and for the efficient manner in which he applied himself with conspicuous success to the handling of the many overseas subscriptions. It is a time consuming task. Unanimous agreement. It should be noted that Mr. Bentley was not present at the meeting. Council's decision would be announced at the 1985 Annual General Meeting.

10. Date of 1985 Annual General Meeting

It was agreed to hold the AGM on Wednesday 24 July 1985 at 20h00 at the SAAO, Cape Town.

11. Date of Next Council Meeting

The next meeting of Council would be held on Monday 16 September 1985.

12. Apologies for absence

Dr. Peter Mack tendered his apologies for absence from the AGM on 24 July 1985 and from the next Council meeting on 16 September 1985.

13. Closing

There being no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 22h00.

Date 1985 Sept 16.....

Chairman [Signature].....

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION AT COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 17th JUNE 1985.

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

	R. c.		R. c.
Balance brought forward 1/7/1984:	3215-73	Subscriptions to "Sky & Telescope", including freight charges, July 1984 to April 1985.	10514-98
<u>Subscriptions:</u>		Cost of production of MNASSA, October 1983 to April 1985	4577-65
Current	11286-25	Cost of production of Handbook for 1985	2005-10
"Levies" on Current subs.	2585-00	Addressing and despatch of publications to April 1985	465-42
Advance	<u>10392-50</u>	Postage on publications	1729-87
Entrance fees	310-00	Stationery and printing	195-57
Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	1522-77	Postage, other than above	70-45
Sales of Handbooks (1984)	460-20	General Sales Tax on "Sky & Telescope"	1237-42
Sales of Handbooks (1985)	1301-00	Fire Insurance Premium	50-50
Sales of back numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	2-10	Variable Star Charts	42-07
Donations	1393-72	Long Service Award, Mrs. Churam	43-95
Interest on Fixed Deposit	142-50	Engraving Gill Medal	2-50
Interest on Building Society Shares (Forbes Bequest)	30-33	Bank charges	201-56
Interest on Current Bank A/c.	35-48	Credit Balance at 17/6/1985	12694-46
Airmail postage paid by M.N.A.S.S.A. subscribers	15-50		
Commission paid by MNASSA subscribers and exchange gains	<u>1138-42</u>		
	<u>R.33831-50</u>		<u>R.33831-50</u>

The balance of ~~R12694~~ R12694-46 consists of R2244-46 in the Current Account and R10450-00 in the "Plusplan" savings A/c. R1000 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R3488-28 of which R3000 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

Garrett O'Neil
HON. TREASURER.

(The dispute over the amount of the account for R1428990 for envelopes supplied, mentioned in the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 15/4/1985, has still not been settled, and it appears that the full amount will have to be paid before the close of the Society's Financial Year, i.e. 30/6/1985.)