

## ASTROMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1986 April 21 at 20h00 at SAAO  
Cape Town

### 1. PRESENT

Mr C R G Turk, Vice-President, in the Chair, Professor A P Fairall, Professor M W Feast, Dr T Lloyd-Evans, Miss P Booth, Messrs W C Bentley, J Bondietti, A D B Cameron, J Churms, R Hurly, F N G Orpen (Hon Treasurer), J Spencer Jones and the Hon. Secretary H E Krumm.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Professor Brian Warner who would be absent on sabbatical leave for a year, Dr I S Glass, Dr Peter Mack and Mr W Neilson.

### 3. MINUTES

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1986 February 3 at 20h00 at SAAO, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### (i) SOCIETY'S FINANCES

In a letter dated 1986 February 25, Mr J Hers apologised for not having reacted sooner to a request by Council for comments by its members on the report of the discussion by Council on steps which may be taken to alleviate the strain on the Society's finances. He gave as his excuse that he had not been contacted by his Alternate. (See Minute No.4(iii)(3b) of Council Meeting 1985 November 18).

In thanking Mr Hers for his letter, Council wished to inform him that his comments were in line with their thinking. He made the point that it might not be wise to take very dramatic steps to solve a problem which could be of a temporary nature.

#### (ii) COMPUTING SECTION

Council had agreed at their meeting of 1985 November 18 (Min.No4(iv)) to put a suggestion by Mr J Campos to the Transvaal Centre that they be asked to consider the formation of a Computing Section.

Mr M D Overbeek, in his reply dated 1986 January 28, stated that the Transvaal Centre Committee had discussed the matter with the leader of the computing group and had come to the conclusion that nobody was prepared to form such a Section and/or to become its Director. There was no-one who had the necessary knowledge, time, enthusiasm and drive that could be expected of a Section Director. He went on to suggest that the formation of the Section be left in abeyance until a suitably endowed person could be found. Council accepted Mr Overbeek's suggestion.

#### (iii) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATION: GRANT-IN-AID

Mr R Hurly reported that the annual grant for 1986/1987, for which he applied on 1985 April 19 had been approved. The amount was as yet an unknown quantity.

/5.Financial Statement

## 5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Hon Treasurer presented his Financial Statement a copy of which is attached to these minutes. It was proposed by Professor A P Fairall and seconded by Mr R Hurly that the statement be adopted. All in favour.

The Hon. Treas. stated that:-

- (i) 51 new members had joined the Society during the present financial year.
- (ii) Council's decision to raise the subscription to R50 per annum as from 1986 July 1 would have a stabilising effect on the Society's financial position - but only just.

## 6. NEW MEMBERS

The following persons were elected Members of the Society in terms of Article 5(1) of the Constitution:-

MR L G CHRICH	Private Bag 5A, TONGAAT 4400 (67 Acacia Cres. WESTBROOK)
DR P R CHRISTENSEN	Banfees Project, P.O.Box 933 MASURU 100, Lesotho
MR L E COLLINS	21 Hofmeyr Drive, Emmarentia Extension, JOHANNESBURG 2195
MR P CONRADIE	P.O.Box 47, SANLAMHOF, (Bellville) 7532
MR C A BUTCHER	P.O.Box 1098, SWAKOPMUND 9000
MR P de WEERDT	22 Malumie Avenue, WELTEVREDEN PARK 1710
MR T GARDE	Kamativi Tin Mines Ltd., P.O. KAMATIVI, ZIMBABWE
MS J J JOHNSON	P.O.Box 130115, BRYANSTON 2021
MR J MARTHEZE	15 Lea Road, MUIZENBERG 7945
PROF G STANDER	Omega Straat, STELLENBOSCH 7600 ( Universiteit Stellenbosch)
PROF L C J van RENSBURG	Dept. of Surgery, University of Stellenbosch, P.O.Box 63, TYGERBERG 7505
DS A B van der MERWE	Posbus 161(Kerkstraat 10) EMPANGENI 3880
MRS L C van der MERWE	P O Box 488, BETHLEHEM 9700
MR V H VAUGHAN	Provincial Hospital, Private Bag 9928, LADYSMITH 3370
MR G S WENDLER	P.O.Box 584, ISANDO 1600
MR N P YOUNG	201 Kritzinger Street, Meyerspark, PRETORIA 0184
MR G BAKKER	P.O.Box BW324, Borrowdale, HARARE, ZIMBABWE
MR P E ERLANK	P.O.Box 448, JOHANNESBURG 2000
MR D E JAMES	30 Waveren Avenue, Helderberg Estate, SOMERSET WEST 7130
MR H L N SCOBLE	1 Lanyon Road, RONDEBOSCH 7700

## 7. GENERAL

### (i) DISTRIBUTION OF MNASSA

It was agreed that MNASSA would continue to be distributed with SKY AND TELESCOPE UNLESS the Editor of MNASSA advises that for some special reason it should be sent out earlier.

### (ii) PROSPECTUS

As it would seem to be a demand for this pamphlet drawn up for prospective members, it was decided to duplicate a further 100 copies.

### (iii) SOCIETY LETTER-HEADS

MR C R G Turk's offer to investigate the printing of a further supply of writing paper was accepted with thanks.

### (iv) ENVELOPES FOR THE DESPATCH OF MNASSA AND SKY AND TELESCOPE

As the stock of envelopes was running low it was agreed to go out to tender for a further supply. As an alternative to the use of conventional envelopes it was decided to consider using plastic covers as earlier suggested by Mr J P G Cramb of the Natal Centre. Mr R Hurly would discuss the viability of this form of packaging with the distributors of MNASSA and S&T.

/ (v) Annual General Meeting

(v) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 1986

(a) VENUE

Seeing that the Transvaal was the likely venue for the 1986 AGM, that Centre would be asked to confirm that it would be held on the fourth Wednesday of July.

(b) NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The secretaries of all Centres were to be reminded that any nominations for members of Council must reach the Hon. Secretary by 1986 June 15.

(vi) ANNUAL HANDBOOK

It was noted that the Johannesburg Planetarium was issuing a publication along similar lines to the Society's Handbook.

The Editor of the Society's Handbook, Mr R Hurly, intimated that he was investigating ways and means of improving this publication.

(vii) COMET HALLEY

From the Chair, Mr Turk thanked all those members who had helped with the arrangements made to view the Comet by the public. The arrangements included publicity, lectures, attendance at supermarkets where telescopes had been installed, accompanying the flights arranged by S A Airways etc. Special mention must be made of the heroes of the piece, namely Miss Pat Booth, Mr Rupert Hurly and Mr Cliff Turk himself whose trials and experiences as guides and mentors on the trains to Matjiesfontein and Piketberg read like a romantic tale of adventure and heroism.

8. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to hold the next Council meeting on 1986 June 16

9. CLOSING

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

DATE.....*1986 June 23*.....

CHAIRMAN.....*Cliff Turk*.....

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 21st APRIL 1986

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

	R. c.		R. c.
Balance Brought Forward 1/7/1985	4436-48	"Sky & Telescope", including freight charges thereon, July 1985 to February 1986	9048-84
<u>Subscriptions.</u>		Cost of production of MNASSA, July 1985 to February 1986	2176-35
Arrears	25-00	Cost of production of Handbook for 1986	2576-00
Current	7065-00	Despatch of publications, July 1985 to February 1986	292-56
Advance	285-00	Postage on publications, July 1985 to February 1986	1478-52
Levies on 1984/85 subscriptions	630-00	Stationery and printing	66-59
Entrance Fees	505-00	Postage, other than above	72-62
Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	1839-90	Import surcharge on "Sky & Telescope", October 1985 to Febr. 1986.	592-70
Sales of Handbooks for previous years	15-00	G.S.T. on "Sky & Telescope", July 1985 to February 1986	1406-04
Sale of Handbooks 1986	791-15	Fire Insurance premium	50-50
Sale of back nos. and extra copies of "Sky & Telescope"	42-20	Bank charges	168-44
Sale of "Comets in the Old Cape Records"	1-50	Credit Balance at 21/4/1986	1985-46
Advertisements in M.N.A.S.S.A.	140-50		
Donations	408-00		
Interest on Fixed Deposits	181-66		
Interest on Current Account	68-01		
Interest from 32 days' notice A/c.	179-72		
Transferred from 32 days' notice account	4000-00		
Commission	0-50		
	<u>R19914-62</u>		<u>R19914-62</u>

The credit balance shown consists of R1525-75 in the current account at the Standard Bank, Kenilworth and R459-71 in the "Plusplan" A/c. The amount in the 32 days notice A/c. is now R3416-81, a further R2000-00 having been withdrawn in January. There is also an amount of R1,000-00 on fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R4166-59 of which R4000-00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

*Garrett Orpen*  
HON. TREASURER.