

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1986 September 15 at 20h00 at S A A O
Cape Town

1. PRESENT

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

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Professor A.P.Fairall, Professor Brian Warner, Dr.I.S.Glass, Dr.T.H.H.Lloyd Evans and Dr.Peter Mack

3. APPOINTMENTS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Names of nominees which appeared in the minutes of the June meeting of Council were submitted to the 1986 Annual General Meeting and were duly elected Members of Council

ALTERNATES

The following were appointed subject to the approval of the Principals concerned:-

Principals

Dr.G.D.Nicolson (Vice-President)
Mr.J.P.G.Cramb (Vice-President) (Natal Centre)
Mr.J.A.Da Silva Campos
Mr.R.W.Fleet (Harare Centre)
Mr.J.J.van Ellinckhuizen (Bloemfontein)
Mr.C.S.Lake (Natal Midlands)
Mr.M.D.Overbeek (Transvaal)
Mr.N.Young (Pretoria)

Alternates

Mr.R.Hurly
Mr.Peter Briton
Mr.J.Bondietti
Prof.A.P.Fairall
Miss P.Booth
Mr.J.Churms
Prof.Brian Warner
Mr.A.D.B.Cameron

Representative on Council for Cape Centre: Dr.Peter Mack

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mr.W.C.Bentley informed Council in a letter dated 1986 June 23 that he would have to resign as Business Manager for reasons of ill health. A letter of appreciation would be sent to Mr.Bentley for his many years of valuable service to the Society.

Mr.J.Churms agreed to ascertain whether Mr.W.L.Combrinck would be prepared to undertake the duties of Business Manager.

EDITORIAL BOARD

It was agreed that the following members of the Editorial Board be retained:-

Dr.I.S.Glass (Editor)
Mr.J.H.Spencer Jones (Assistant Editor)
Mr.W.L.Combrinck (Assistant Editor)
Professor M.W.Feast
Professor Brian Warner
Mr.M.D.Overbeek

MEMBER OF EDITORIAL BOARD ON COUNCIL

Dr.I.S.Glass was unanimously re-elected

AUDITORS

It has been found advantageous to appoint two Auditors, although it is permissible to operate with only one in terms of Article 13 of the Constitution.

Auditors/

Council accordingly submitted its two nominees to the 1986 AGM for election, there being no other nominees. Due to a misunderstanding, so we believe, only one of the two, namely Mr.W.L.Combrinck, was proposed and elected. The meeting went on to decide that the appointment of an "assistant" be left to Mr.Combrinck and the Hon.Secretary. However, notwithstanding this directive it was left to Mr.R.Hurly to approach Mr.R.G.Glass with a view to his becoming Mr.Combrinck's "assistant". It was noted that should Mr.Combrinck decide to accept the office of Business Manager he would automatically cease to exist as an Auditor of the Society, in which case a replacement would have to be found.

4. MINUTES

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1986 June 23 at 20h00 at S A A O, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) PACKAGING FOR M.N.A.S.S.A. AND SKY AND TELESCOPE

Two quotations had been obtained for plastic envelopes, namely R70 per 1000(plain) and R93-50 per 1000(printed). Mr. Hurly would discuss the relative costs of handling plastic covers as against ordinary envelopes with AMA, the firm responsible for the despatch of M.N.A.S.S.A. and Sky and Telescope.

(ii) IMPORT SURCHARGE

The Import Surcharge had been lifted on books but not on magazines. It was decided to write to the Department of Customs stating the Society's position with regard to Sky and Telescope and explaining that this periodical was received in bulk and distributed to all members of the Society.

(iii) LIST OF HONORARY MEMBERS

An attempt was to be made to establish the year of election of the various Honorary Members of the Society by consulting old copies of the Handbook. The existence of certain members was uncertain. This information was essential in order that the list might be brought up-to-date.

(iv) INSURANCE : SOCIETY'S TELESCOPES

The President informed the meeting that the Society's telescopes were not insured due to the fact that companies were only prepared to insure them at ridiculously high rates. After a long discussion, which was noteworthy for its duration, Mr.Turk kindly agreed to compile a list of telescopes on loan and their whereabouts for the information of Council. It was decided that borrowers be requested to insure telescopes in their possession.

6. FINANCE

(a) FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Hon. Treasurer presented his Financial Statement, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. Its adoption was proposed by Mr.R.Hurly and seconded by Professor M.W.Feast. All in favour.

(b) LEGACY : LATE.MR. I.R.H. BRICKETT

The Society was notified that the late Mr.Brickett had willed an amount of R2000 to the Society. It was agreed to invest it on fixed deposit until such time as Council had decided how it should be administered.

New Members/

7. NEW MEMBERS

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

MR.A.A.da S.BAPRISTA	P.O.Box 72, NIGEL 1490
MR.J.F.BOTHA	P.O.Box 70141, Die Wilgers, PRETORIA 0041
MR.G.P.duPLESSIS	828 Thomas Ave., Arcadia, PRETORIA 0083
MNR.J.J.ESTERHUIJZEN	Glenmoreweg 76, Lynnwood Glen, PRETORIA 0008
DR.C.FELDMAN	P.O.Box 39919, Bramley, JOHANNESBURG 2018
MR.W.J.HOLLENBACH	27 Tulbagh Avenue, Kenridge, DURBANVILLE 7550
MR.S.MONNIK	P.O.Box 142, IZINGOLWENI 4260
MR.J.RAMATLHAPE	96B Moretelwa Street, ZONE 3 MEADOWLANDS 1852
MR.D.J.SOMMERVILLE	P.O.Box 68302, Bryanston, JOHANNESBURG 2021
MASTER J.STEIN (12)	25 Second Road, Kew, JOHANNESBURG 2192
MR.W.J.D.SUTHERLAND	10A Fyfe Ave., Westville North, P.O.Box 1142, WANDSBECK
MR.J.van den BERG	17 Connaught Avenue, QUEENSTOWN 5320 (3631)
MR.N.van der MEY	3 Leda Street, Riebeeckstad, WELKOM 9469
MR.J.H.van der SPUI	15 Waveren Avenue, SOMERSET WEST 7130
MR.D.L.&MRS.D.L.WOODS	13 Keertde Koe, RONDEBOSCH 7700
MR.S.WOOD	P.O.Box 177, Norton, ZIMBABWE

8. CORRESPONDENCE

COMPUTING SECTION

In his letter dated 1986 July 31, Mr.A.S.Hilton, a newcomer to the Transvaal offered to form a Computing Section and become its Director.

Mr.Hilton was a founder member of the Harare Centre. He moved to Natal in 1981, becoming Chairman of that Centre in 1985. He moved to the Transvaal in 1986 and joined the Transvaal Centre. He has his own Personal Computer, IBM Compatible, and has been connected with the Computer Industry for 20 years. At the moment he is involved commercially in selling and marketing computer systems.

Mr.Danie Overbeek was asked to arrange a meeting with Mr.Hilton as he had requested to be informed of the duties and responsibilities involved and what was expected of him before formally accepting the post.

Council decided that if Mr. Hilton had not changed his mind after the interview with Mr. Overbeek, the Hon. Secretary would inform him that Council was happy to accept his offer.

9. MR. J. BONDIETTI AND THE PLANETARIUM

Mr. Bondiotti expressed his dissatisfaction with the contents of an article that appeared in MNASSA Vol.45 Nos 7 and 8, August 1986 p 72, Planetarium Projector Installed.

Mr. Bondiotti, who played a major role in the selection and erection of the Planetarium at the S.A.Museum, maintained that the errors and omissions created a false impression of the state of affairs; moreover it was a misrepresentation of the actual situation. During the course of the ensuing discussion it came to light that the article was in fact a press release prepared by the Museum and published by the Editors of MNASSA in all good faith. Mr. Bondiotti would prepare an article for submission to the Editors for publication in MNASSA telling the true story.

10. M.N.A.S.S.A. AND HANDBOOK - SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Council approved a request from the Editors that the overseas rate remain unaltered at 10 dollars and that the local be raised to R12. Mr. Hurly's proposal that the price of the Handbook remain at R3 was accepted.

11. NEXT MEETING

Agreed to hold next Council Meeting on 1986 November 10

12. CLOSING

There being no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 22h30

DATE.....10.11.86.....

CHAIRMAN.....*[Signature]*.....

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MONDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER 1986

<u>RECEIPTS.</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
	R. c.		R. c.
<u>Subscriptions.</u>		Debit balance B/Fwd. 1/7/1986	214-92
Arrears	45-00	Subscription to "Sky & Telescope",	
Current	10783-50	July and August 1986	4326-85
Advance	<u>2-50</u>	Cost of production of MNASSA	
	10831-00	nos. 7 & 8, August 1986	531-86
Entrance fees	85-00	Despatch of publications, July	
Sales of M.N.A.S.S.A.	0-00	and August 1986	64-73
Sales of Handbooks	179-35	Postage on publications, as above	480-03
Sales of Back and Extra		Stationery and printing	14-11
Numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	43-00	Postage, other than above	15-50 6-50
Interest on Current Account.	18-27	Import surcharge on "Sky &	
Interest on Fixed Deposits	14-17	Telescope", July 1986	152-20
Postage and Airmail postage paid	18-80	General Sales Tax on "Sky &	
Commission paid on cheques and drafts.	2-80	Telescope, July 1986	219-12
		Fire Insurance premium	75-75
		Transferred to "32 Days Notice A/c,	4000-00
		Balance now Brought Forward	1112-32
	<u>R. 1192-39</u>		<u>R. 1192-39</u>

The balance shown consists of R888-96 in the Current A/C. and R223-35 in the Plusplan A/C. The balance in the "32 days notice A/c. R11757 plus interest added since 1st. July 1986"

The balance in the McIntyre Award A/c. is now R4516-36, of which R4000 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

The Society also has an amount of R1000 on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

HON. TREASURER.