

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1987 November 30 at 20h00 at S A A O  
Cape Town

1. PRESENT

The President, Mr J H Spencer Jones, in the Chair.  
Professor Brian Warner, Professor A P Fairall, Miss P Both, Mrs A Joubert, Mrs E Olsen (Hon. Treasurer), Messrs P Briton, A D B Cameron, J Churms, W L Combrink (Business Manager), R Hurly, F N G Orpen (Membership Secretary), C R G Turk and the Hon. Secretary H E Krumm.

Mr P Briton was inadvertently omitted from the list of members present at the previous meeting of Council. The Hon. Secretary apologises to Mr Briton for this unforgivable mistake.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Dr I S Glass, Dr T H Lloyd Evans and Mr J Bondiotti.

3. PRINCIPALS AND ALTERNATES ON COUNCIL

Principal

Mr P Cramb (Vice-President)  
Mr Jose' A da Silva Campos  
Mr M D Overbeek  
Mr J van Ellinokhuizen  
Mr H P van der Walt (Bloemfontein Centre)  
Mrs A Joubert (Cape Centre)  
Mr R Fleet (Harare Centre)  
Mr J W Watson (Natal Midlands Centre)  
Mr N Young (Pretoria Centre)  
Mr A Hilton (Transvaal Centre)

Alternate

Mr Peter Briton  
Mr J Bondiotti  
Professor Brian Warner  
Miss B Booth  
To be appointed  
None. She attends Meetings  
Professor A P Fairall  
Mr J Churms  
Mr A D B Cameron  
Mr R Hurly

Mr H P van der Walt and Mr A Hilton were elected by their Centres in terms of Minute No.4(v) of Council Meeting held on 1987 September 14.

The Natal Centre had elected Mrs P A Ross. Unfortunately Mrs Ross was not a full member of the Society and therefore not eligible to represent her Centre on Council. Mr Peter Cramb to be informed accordingly.

Mr A D B Cameron kindly agreed to elicit Cape members of the Society for alternates for the Bloemfontein and Natal Representatives on Council.

4. MINUTES

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1987 September 14, copies of which had had been circulated, were taken as read. After the unfortunate omission of Mr Peter Briton's name (see above) had been noted and commented upon, it was proposed by Mr A D B Cameron and seconded by Professor A P Fairall that the Minutes were, otherwise, an acceptable record of the proceedings of the Meeting. All in favour, confirmed and signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) BRICKETT LEGACY: SUBSIDISATION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS (Minute No.6, (i) )

There was nothing further to report on Messrs Lake and Lowe, notwithstanding persistent efforts on the part of Messrs J Churms and M D Overbeek to obtain the information required.

(ii) CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION (Minute No.6, (ii))

Nothing further to report.

5.(iii) FORBES REQUEST: COMPETITION 1988 Minute No.6(iii)

Publicity was the key-word. A comprehensive article in English and Afrikaans giving details of the Forbes Prize - 1988 appeared in the 1987 December issue of MNASSA. Agreed to send a copy of this article to ARCHIMEDES as many schools receive this publication. Publicity would also be given by the South African Museum Club. The question of the cost of a scroll, which would be presented to the winner of the Competition, would be investigated by Miss Pat Booth who would liaise with Mrs Joubert and Mr Briton.

(iv) NATIONAL ASTRONOMY WEEK Minute No.6(iv)

The Chairman Paid tribute to those members of the Society whose efforts were largely responsible for making National Astronomical Week such a success. In particular would he like to thank Professor Brian Warner, Professor M W Feast, Professor A P Fairall and Mr R Hurly for their having delivered lectures of such a high standard, and to the members of the Cape Centre for their outstanding arrangements. The Chairman was not in possession of the names of those other members of the Society who had delivered lectures at the other Centres. He extended a warm vote of thanks to them all and to the Centres for making the event such a success. (Applause)

It would be appreciated if Centre Representatives on Council would inform the Hon. Secretary of the names of those whom they would like to be recorded at a future meeting of Council.

Special mention must be made of the Curator of the East London Museum, Miss Nancy Tietz, who, although not a member of the Society, arranged a most laudable exhibition of objects of astronomical and navigational interest, considering the limited resources at her disposal. The exhibition attracted much attention especially from the pupils of the local schools.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Mayor of Cape Town for agreeing to open the Cape Centre's Exhibition at Shell House in Cape Town.

Council proposed that Astronomy Week should become an annual event. Centres would not be restricted to any particular week and could make their own individual arrangements as they thought fit.

(v) SOLAR OBSERVING SECTION Minute No.6(v)

In a letter dated 1987 October 29 the Director of the Section, Mr J Knight gave an impressive account of the activities of the Section. Among other items of interest he mentioned the close cooperation they are receiving from Radio Amateurs and his twice weekly broadcasts on the 80m wave band on solar activities. He made reference to the dismally poor and unreliable time signal from ZUO.

6. CLAIMS:DIRECTORS OF OBSERVING SECTIONS FOR OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES

Arising out of a query from Mr Knight it was agreed to inform the Directors of Sections that they may spend an amount of up to R50 without applying to Council. Amounts in excess of this sum would require the sanction of Council. It would be appreciated if Directors would advise Council of their anticipated expenses in advance for budgetary purposes. The Society's Financial Year runs from July 1 to June 30.

7. FINANCE

The Hon. Treasurer, Mrs E Olsen, presented her Financial Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period ending 1987 November, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. It was proposed by Mr W L Combrinck and seconded by Mr C R G Turk that the statement be adopted. All in favour.

Mrs Olsen also laid before the meeting a projection for the second half-year ending 1988 June 30. It reflected a shortfall in income over expenditure of R1823 by the end of the present Financial Year. After giving due attention to this state of affairs it was proposed that the subscription be raised by R10 from R50 to R60 per annum as from 1988 July 1 in order to offset the projected shortfall and to ensure, hopefully, that the 1988/89 Financial Year ends on a more favourable note.

It was agreed to send out-of-town Members of Council and Representatives of Centres on Council a copy of the Hon. Treasurer's projection, at the same time informing them of Council's proposal to raise the annual subscription by R10. They were to be asked to inform the Hon. Secretary of their reaction to this proposal before the end of January 1988.

General

- (1) The name of the General Purposes Fund to be changed to The Special Purposes Fund.
- (2) Agreed to capitalize 20% of the above Fund.
- (3) The following signatories are authorised to function with respect to the United Building Society:-  
Mrs E Olsen  
Mr R Hurly  
Dr T H H Lloyd Evans
- (4) Mr R Hurly reported that the Handbook would be selling at R4.00 per copy.

8. MACLEAR'S CANNON

Mr R Hurly would enquire of the City Engineer of the City of Cape Town whether any progress had been made with the erection of the cannon which marked the terminal of Maclear's base line on the Grand Parade. Its original location now lies within the Golden Acre complex.

9. Mr J C BENNETT: RETURN OF TELESCOPE

Mr C R G Turk reported that the telescope had now arrived and that it had been handed over to the Cape Centre.

10. NEW MEMBERS

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

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| MR R.M. BERNSTEIN | P.O.Box 1448, PORT ELIZABETH 6000                          |
| MISS G. BISCHOF   | 2 Ellerton Mansions, Glengariff Rd.3 Anchor Bay, C.T. 8001 |
| MR F. de JAGER    | Flora Tuine 3, Flora Gardens, VANDERBIJLPARK 1911          |
| MR B. JONES       | Waterford Kumhlaba, UWC, PO Box 52 MBABANE, Swaziland      |
| MR K. MOTOAI      | L.I.T.E.S.P., PO Box 7271, MASERU, LOSOYHO                 |
| MR B. PORTUGALL   | P.O.Box 10394. JOHANNESBURG 2000                           |
| MR D.M.v.d.SPUY   | P.O.Box 4524, CAPE TOWN 8000                               |

11. CLOSING

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

DATE..... 15. 1. 88 .....

CHAIRMAN..... 

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE : NOVEMBER 1987  
Astronomical Society of Southern Africa

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

|  |              |           |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| Subscriptions: 86/87                   | 125.00       |           |
| 87/88                                  | 16 750.00    |           |
| 88/89                                  | 150.00       |           |
| Redeposit 86/87                        | <u>50.00</u> |           |
|  | 17 075.00    |           |
| less refund                            | <u>85.00</u> | 16 990.00 |
| Donations to ASSA Trust                |              | 871.00    |
| Entrance Fees                          |              | 190.00    |
| Sales of Mnassa                        |              | 66.26     |
| Sales of Handbook                      |              | 105.00    |
| Interest Rec'd Current A/c             | 58.53        | 58.53     |
| UBS 328/0320                           | 73.75        |           |
| " 3410/4573                            | 132.50       | 206.25    |
| Sales Back Nos. Sky & Telescope, paper |              | 10.40     |
| Advertisements: S R Noyes              | 288.00       |           |
| " ALB Geschäftsstelle                  | 51.51        | 339.51    |
| Subsidy, Dept Education                |              | 350.00    |

|  |         |       |          |
|--|---------|-------|----------|
| ASSA Trust Fund, trfr  |         |       | 682.89   |
| Award to Frances Bryan: Forbes   | R50.00  |       |          |
| Norton's   | 71.90   |       | 121.90   |
| Bank Charges R93.25, R14.50,<br>on Mnassa R15.00, on<br>R51.51 = R5.00 |         | ...   | 127.25   |
| Afric Mail Adv: Address Plates   |         | ...   | 37.80    |
| " " Dist. June   | 153.73  |       |          |
| July   | 337.65  |       |          |
| Aug  | 288.00  |       |          |
| Sept   | 168.88  |       | 948.26   |
| " " Dist Mnassa  |         | 32.04 |          |
| Aug  | 37.31   |       | 69.35    |
| Postage  | ...     | ...   | 18.90    |
| Photocopies  | ...     | ...   | 25.00    |
| Sky & Telescope July/Aug   | 1705.22 |       |          |
| Sept/Oct   | 1662.23 | ...   | 3 367.45 |
| Space Clearing Jun/July  | 858.23  |       |          |
| Aug  | 447.23  |       |          |
| Sept   | 426.96  |       | 1 732.42 |
| Subscriptions AS&TS  | ...     | ...   | 10.50    |
| UCT: Mnassa July/Aug   | 600.00  |       |          |
| May/June   | 754.00  |       |          |
| Sep/Oct  | 956.00  | ...   | 2 310.00 |

9 452.22

Balance carried forward:

9 734.73

R19 186.96

R19 186.96