

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1990 November 26 at 20h00 at S.A.A.O.  
Cape Town

1. PRESENT

Dr T.H. Lloyd Evans, Vice-President, in the Chair.  
Miss P.Booth, Mrs A.Joubert, Mrs A.Strauss, Mrs E.Willis, Messrs  
J.Bondiatti, P.Briton, A.D.B.Cameron, J.Churms, R.Hurly, M.G.Soltynski  
and the Hon. Secretary H.E.Krumm.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Dr I.Glass and Mr C.R.G.Turk.

Mr R.Hurly explained that he had been prevented from attending the previous meeting of Council as he had been involved in a physical mishap which necessitated his having to be conveyed from the scene of the accident on a stretcher. Council appreciated the effort which Mr Hurly had to make to attend the meeting as it was obvious that he had not yet recovered from the effects of his experience

3. WELCOME TO MRS ELMARA WILLIS OF THE PLANETARIUM

Council extended a warm welcome to Mrs Willis who was attending her first meeting of Council. As the Planetarium at the South African Museum was a full member of the Society it was proposed by Mr R.Hurly and seconded by Mr J.Churms that she be appointed to represent it at Council Meetings and further that she be deemed eligible to act as an alternate on Council. All in favour.

4. PRINCIPALS AND ALTERNATES ON COUNCIL - 1990/1991

PRINCIPAL

Mr Jose da Silva Campos (President)  
Mr Brian Fraser  
Mr A.Hilton  
Mr M.D.Overbeek  
Professor W. Wargau  
Bloemfontein Centre - Mr H.Terblanche  
Cape Centre - Mrs A.Joubert  
Harare Centre - Mr J.R.Begbie  
Natal Centre - Mr K.Wade Lehman  
Natal Midlands Centre - Mr J.W.Watson  
Pretoria Centre - Mr M.Poll  
Transvaal Centre - Mr A.McCrae

ALTERNATE

Mrs E.Willis  
Mr R.Hurly  
Mr J.Churms  
Professor Brian Warner  
Mr M.G.Soltynski  
Miss P.Booth  
Attends Meetings  
Mr C.R.G.Turk  
Mr P.Briton  
Mrs A.Strauss  
Mr A.D.B.Cameron  
Mr J.Bondiatti

5. MINUTES

Minutes of previous Council Meeting held on 1990 September 24, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read. It was proposed by Mr M.G.Soltynski and seconded by Mr P.Briton that they be accepted as a true record of the proceedings. Confirmed and signed.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) BUSINESS MANAGER: Minute No.7(i)

Mrs A.Joubert kindly agreed to carry on as acting Business Manager ably assisted by her Mother until a replacement could be found. Council asked Mrs Joubert to convey their heart-felt thanks to her Mother.

Matters Arising From The Minutes (contd)

(ii) MACLEAR'S BOTTLE - PLAQUES: Minute No.7(iv)

Agreed to ask the National Historical Monuments Commission to design commemorative plaques to mark the sites of Maclear's and de la Caille's north terminals as fitting memorials to their efforts. Liaison with the Commission by a committee consisting of Messrs A.D.B. Cameron (convenor), P.Briton and R.Hurly. The Royal Society and the Society of Surveyors would probably subscribe to the cost of the plaques and should it be necessary ASSA would be prepared to make its contribution.

Mr R.Hurly was strongly of the opinion that a suitable article should appear in the South African Survey Journal for the record. He would contact the editor in this regard. The possibility of an article appearing in Astronomy Now was mentioned.

(iii) NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ASTRONOMY

The discussion that followed was long and involved. It was, therefore, not always possible to identify the bright objects in obscuring clouds of gas and dust. This observation does not necessarily detract from the eloquence and depth of thought that characterized the proceedings in general.

(1) Finance

It was obvious from the start that the costs involved would not be inconsiderable. The project would have to be subsidised as the income from membership fees would be inadequate. Mr C.R.G. Turk, always ready to help his fellowmen, was prepared to make a contribution from the Endowment Fund (ASSET), if necessary. Mrs E.Willis mentioned that the lecture hall at the S.A. Museum would be available at no charge.

(2) Speakers

Agreed that Professor A.P.Fairall, Professor W.Wargau and Professor Brian Warner be approached to address the Symposium. Mr M.G. Soltynski would contact Professor Wargau. It would be necessary for the President of the Society to issue the official invitations.

(3) Organising Committee

The committee consisted essentially of Dr.I.Glass and Dr.T.H. Lloyd Evans. Mrs E.Willis and Mrs A.Strauss volunteered to assist the committee when necessary. A report is awaited from the Chairman of the Cape Centre, Mr John Davison, regarding that Centre's reaction to the Symposium.

(4) General

- (a) Mr R. Hurly proposed that the Mayor of Cape Town be respectfully asked to host a reception party on a certain night.
- (b) It was suggested that the Proceedings should be published.

(iv) JACK BENNETT AWARD: Minute No.12

Mr C.R.G.Turk reported that he was keeping in touch with the Bennett family and that Professor W.Wargau of UNISA had installed Jack's awards in a suitable place at the University.

7. FINANCE

(i) FINANCIAL STATEMENT

No financial statement was available owing to the absence of the Hon. Treasurer.

(ii) OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Membership Secretary, Mrs A.Joubert, reported that the number of outstanding subscriptions had been reduced to 34. They would be reminded of their obligations in writing.

(iii) HONORARIA : Minute No.8(iii)

The Committee appointed would be meeting in the near future

(iv) SKY AND TELESCOPE - SURPLUS STOCKS

Owing to resignations and suspensions due to over-due subscriptions the stock of back numbers of S&T had reached fairly large proportions. The Council decided to sell them off in 2-volume lots per year giving a total of 12 issues for the year at R36 per lot.

8. NEW MEMBERS

It was proposed and seconded that the following applicants be elected members of the Society in terms of Article 5(1) of the Constitution:-

DR J-C BORTOLI	129 Cheverny Flats, 30 Hoan Street, La Montagne 0184
MR D.F.A.BRYSSINCK	P.O.Box 1418, Sasolburg 9570
THE EDUCATION CENTRE	31 Deale Road, Bloemfontein 9301
MR J.B.KORRUBEL	Oryx, Welbeloond Road, Constantia 7800
MR T.C.deK.KUUN	4 Rose Place, Glenvista 2091
MR N.A.LOVEMORE	P.O.Box CH 139, Chisipite, Harare, Zimbabwe
MR W.VOOGT	381 Isaac Stegman Street, Silverton 0184

9. MRS ELMARA WILLIS AND THE ARGUS

Mrs Willis was congratulated on the success of her efforts in obtaining a column on astronomy in The Argus newspaper, originally known as The Cape Argus,

10. NEXT MEETING

Agreed to hold the next meeting of Council on 1991 February 4.

11. CLOSING

There being no further competent business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 22h04.

DATE: .4.:.2.:.1991..

CHAIRMAN....I.:S.ghos.....