

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Minutes of Council Meeting Held on 20 November 1995

1. PRESENT :
P van Blommestein (in the chair), M G Soltynski, C Gray, W Bremer,
J Spencer-Jones, B Skinner, Ms P Booth, C Turk, H Krumm,
Mrs A Joubert, C D Allen, J Bondiotti, M A Gray and R Hurly.

2. APOLOGIES : Prof B C Raubenheimer, Dr Bob Stobie and D Duprez

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING : Accepted subject to corrections.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES :
 - 4.1 Handbook and MNASSA Fact sheet and new Invoice forms tabled.
 - 4.2 New membership application form tabled. Members are now categorised as either (F) Full - receiving all publications, or (L) Limited - not receiving Sky & Telescope.
* Copies are to be sent to Centre Secretaries. att Centre Reps
 - 4.3 MNASSA Sub Committee Report-back: After some five meetings the backlog that had built up has been attended to and most outstanding orders have been filled. Due to difficulties experienced in keeping track of the membership, it was decided that a computerised system to administer membership records is desirable. Mr J E Skinner was asked to attend two of the sub committee meeting to discuss our needs. He then wrote a program that will be used to administer the Society's membership list. This program will, with certain modifications also be used to administer the MNASSA Subscribers' database.

* Mr Hurly proposed a vote of thanks to the Sub Committee for its efforts.
 - 4.4 Change of address: Letter from Dr Stobie (Director, SAAO) read.
The ASSA address has been changed on all stationery. The MNASSA title page will be corrected as from the next issue. att MNASSA Editor
 - 4.5 Symposium: Positive reports were submitted by both Messrs Soltynski (on behalf of Dr D Smits) and Hurly, who attended. Council recorded a vote of thanks to Ms Schoch and the Bloemfontein Centre for hosting the Symposium. The Proceedings will be published in the next volume of MNASSA in such a way as to offset the costs of publication. The Bloemfontein Centre are to be asked to contribute towards the cost of publishing the Proceedings and if extra costs are unavoidable it was moved that Council approach the Endowment Trust for financial assistance to facilitate the publication of the Proceedings in MNASSA.
Proposed: R Hurly Seconded: C Turk

5 FINANCE:
Financial Report tabled. It was proposed that Sky & Telescope be allowed to distribute the magazine directly to members. The Hon Treasurer has done a cost analysis and believes that this will be in the members' best interests.
Messrs Soltynski, Gray, Turk and Skinner are preparing the membership list which is to be sent to Sky & Telescope.
Proposed: MA Gray Seconded: W Bremer

6 NEW MEMBERS: Mrs A Joubert provided a list of 5 applicants who were duly proposed and accepted as members.

7 CORRESPONDENCE:
A letter from Mr T Cooper (Director, Comet & Meteor Section) was read to the meeting. He asked for guidelines as to where the Annual Section Reports are meant to be sent. Council noted that, although the reports are for calendar years, they are only read at the A.G.M. and published thereafter in MNASSA. It was proposed that the reports be sent to the Hon Secretary before the end of April each year. The Hon Secretary would be responsible for assuring that the reports are read at the A.G.M. each year and are submitted to the MNASSA Editor for publication.
Proposed: C Turk Seconded: P van Blommestein
Other letters attended to were either read to the meeting or read by the meeting (by being passed around the table).

8 A.G.M.: AS&TS have sent an account for the cost of renting the venue for the AGM. As the Johannesburg Centre is liable for any costs pertaining to the A.G.M., the meeting agreed to write to the Johannesburg Centre and offer to pay half these costs.
Proposed: R Hurly Seconded: W Bremer

9 GENERAL:
9.1 SAAO is celebrating its 175th anniversary in December.
9.2 Honoraria Sub-committee comprising Messrs Soltynski and Hurly is to reconvene to review honoraria.
Proposed: C Turk Seconded C Gray
9.3 Handbook advertisement artwork fee of R40.00 approved.
Proposed: R Hurly Seconded: P van Blommestein
9.4 MNASSA and Handbook Advertising rates are to be discussed at next Council meeting.
9.5 Business Manager: Mr C Turk has agreed to fill the vacancy that existed for this post.
Proposed: B Skinner Seconded: P van Blommestein.
9.6 The Society Constitution is to be examined with reference to the new categories of membership and distribution of publications. Att. C Turk.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 19 FEBRUARY 1996.

The meeting closed at 22h05.

Accepted:..... for President

Proposer:..... Seconder:.....

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