

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE A.S.S.A. COUNCIL
HELD ON 7 APR 1997 at the S.A.A.O.

1 PRESENT:

Dr R S Stobie (in the Chair), Ms P Booth, Mrs A Joubert, Messrs C Gray, R Hurly,
J Spencer-Jones, C D Allen, C Turk, P van Blommestein, M G Soltynski and B Skinner.

2 APOLOGIES:

Dr D Smits, Messrs A Gray, T Hilton, C Rijdsdijk, H Krumm, D Overbeek and T Cooper.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING held on 17 Feb 1996 accepted and signed.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 4.1 The Publications sub-committee could not meet because Sky & Telescope had not supplied pertinent information. Meeting date set for 14 April 1997.
- 4.2 MNASSA: No Centre has shown any interest in owning the bound volumes donated by WC Bently.
- 4.3 Grahamstown Science Fair: C Rijdsdijk Will attend.
- 4.4 Historical Section: Mr C De Coning is to be asked to take over as Director as from 1998.

5 FINANCE:

- 5.1 Report tabled.
- 5.2 It was proposed: (1) That the standard ASSA subscriptions would no longer include a Sky & Telescope subscription, (2) that the Publications sub-committee be given the discretion to set the subscription for 1997/8 and (3) that ASSA will act as the agent for members' subscriptions to Sky & Telescope and fix the subscription rates in consultation with the distributors.
Proposed: R Hurly Seconded P van Blommestein

6 NEW MEMBERS: No new member applications.

7 CORRESPONDENCE:

CONSTITUTION: All the return slips received supported the changes to the Constitution. Adopted.
Proposed C Turk and seconded by CD Allen.

8 GENERAL:

- 8.1 SYMPOSIUM: The Natal Centre may not be able to host the 1997 Symposium. A Gray is to contact the Natal Centre urgently for a programme of events. Should they not be able to host the Symposium, Council will meet to consider alternative arrangements.
 - 8.2 MNASSA: The Editor has established a presence for MNASSA on the Internet.
 - 8.3 LONG SERVICE AWARD: Nominations are invited.
 - 8.4 HONORARY MEMBERS: Nominations are invited.
- 9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 17 June 1997.

Peter L. van Blommestein

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 17 FEB 1997
at the S.A.A.O.

- 1 PRESENT: Dr R S Stobie (in the Chair), Ms P Booth,
Mrs A Joubert, Messrs C Gray, R Hurly, J Bondiotti
J Spencer-Jones, C D Allen, C Turk, C Rijdsdijk,
P van Blommestein, D Overbeek, M G Soltynski and
B Skinner.
- 2 APOLOGIES: Dr D Smits, Messrs A Gray, T Hilton and T
Cooper.
- 3 MINUTES OF MEETING held on 5 Nov 1996: Taken as read.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
 - 4.1 C.N.A. has expressed an interest in stocking the
Handbook. A barcode has been arranged for the
Handbook and MNASSA. In Progress.
 - 4.2 ASSET has responded favourably to assisting with
finance should the need arise later in the year.
 - 4.3 Grahamstown Science Fair: C Rijdsdijk produced a
programme of astronomical activities planned; and
will co-ordinate amateur activities at the Fair.
The Cape Centre astro-photographs will be
entrusted to him to put on display at the Fair.
 - 4.4 Donors to the ASSA will be acknowledged by having
their names published in MNASSA. (A Joubert to
liase with B Skinner to email names to MNASSA Ed)
- 5 FINANCE:
 - 5.1 Report tabled.
 - 5.2 Mr Bondiotti asked whether there is an
alternative to the current Sky & Telescope
Subscription setup. A Publications Sub-Committee
was proposed by C Turk and seconded by M
Soltynski. This will be convened by Mr C Turk
and will comprise: Mrs A Joubert and Messrs C
Gray, Spencer-Jones and Skinner. They will
investigate an alternative to the current
quarterly subscriptions to Sky & Telescope, size
and format of MNASSA and Handbook.
- 6 NEW MEMBERS: Eight new members accepted.
- 7 CORRESPONDENCE:
 - 7.1 Letter of resignation from R R Arco read and
accepted.
 - 7.2 EMail correspondence with Sky & Telescope read.
There are serious flaws in the list of subscribers
and a new list will be sent to them immediately.

Mr D Overbeek read the letter re: the Grahamstown Science Fair which had been sent to all who serve on Council. (The matter has been resolved see 4.3 above).

8 GENERAL:

- 8.1 SYMPOSIUM: The Natal Centre may not be able to host the 1997 Symposium. [BS to contact Natal.]
- 8.2 MNASSA Content: The SAAO has offered to provide selected excerpts of their Annual Report for publication in MNASSA. Dr Stobie has offered to encourage other astronomical institutions country wide to submit extracts of their work for publication in MNASSA.
- 8.3 GILL MEDAL: A nomination has been received.
- 8.4 The I.A.U. local Committee requires an ASSA representative: Mr M G Soltynski was proposed by *R Stobie* ~~C Turk~~. Agreed.
- 8.5 On Mr D Overbeek's recommendation, Mr M G Soltynski was proposed as a candidate for IAU membership by R Stobie. The proposal would be submitted to the South African IAU National Committee. Agreed.
- 8.6 Bound volumes of MNASSA belonging to Mr WC Bentley have been donated to the Society. Pat Booth, The Librarian will find a home for them.
* * * (Does one of the Centres want them?)
- 8.7 Comet & Meteor Section Director, Tim Cooper has agreed to Mr C Rijdsdijk being his Alternate on Council. Accepted.
- 8.8 HISTORICAL SECTION: The Director, Mr J Spencer-Jones, has given notice of his resignation from this position as from December 1997.
* * MNASSA is to publish a call for a new Director * *

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7 April 1997. (Provisional)

* NOTE: Council Members who wish to comment on 5.2 above are asked to contact Cliff Turk at (021) 531-5250.

Robert S. Stobie

7/4/97