

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 1997 at the S.A.A.O.

1 PRESENT:

Mr P van Blommestein (in the Chair), Ms P Booth, Mrs A Joubert, Messrs C Gray, C Turk, D Duprez and B Skinner.

2 APOLOGIES:

Drs D Smits and R Stobie, Messrs MA Gray, D Overbeek, MG Soltynski, H Krumm, R Hurly, J Spencer-Jones, J Hers and CD Allen.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING held on 17 June 1997:

These were accepted and signed.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

4.1 MNASSA and Handbook format change: The sub-committee met and discussed the well presented information about the likely cost implications of the proposed changes prepared by the MNASSA Editor, Mr A Slotegraaf. After thorough discussion it was decided **not to change the format.**

The Sub-Committee was convened by Mr C Turk, who regrets not having invited Mr J Bondiotti to assist on this sub-committee. (*The minutes of the meeting of 17 June reflecting Mr Bondiotti's willingness to assist had not been sent out yet.*)

4.2 Gill Medal: This was awarded to Dr George Nicolson by the 1996/7 President at the AGM.

4.3 Donors to the ASSA will be acknowledged by having their names published in MNASSA. **(A Joubert is to send the names to the MNASSA Editor)**

4.4 Symposium: The Johannesburg Centre has made enquiries about hosting the next event. This should take place in April or May 1998. The Proceedings will be published in MNASSA, and the Centre can claim costs up to R1000 from Council. Confirmation of the Johannesburg Centre's acceptance should be received by Council before 15 October 1997.

4.5 Council Members and Alternates:

President	: Dr RS Stobie	
Vice President	: Mr A Hilton	Alt: Mr R Hurly
Vice President	: Mr D Overbeek	Alt: Mr D Duprez
Vice President	: Dr D Smits	Alt: Mr MG Soltynski
Member	: Mr T Cooper	Alt: Mr C Rijdsdijk
Member	: Mr T Budge	Alt: <i>Mr J Bondiotti</i>
Member	: Mr D Kilkenny	
Member	: Mr P van Blommestein	
Centre Rep	: Mr P Cramb (Natal)	Alt: Mr MA Gray
Centre Rep	: Miss K Hampson (Natal Midlands)	Alt:
Centre Rep	: Mr C Volschenck (Johannesburg)	Alt: Mr J Spencer-Jones
Centre Rep	: Mr M Poll (Pretoria)	Alt: Mr CD Allen
Centre Rep	: Mr C de Coning (Bloemfontein)	
Centre Rep	: Miss P Booth (Cape)	
Centre Rep	: Mr M Begbie (Harare)	Alt: Mrs A Joubert

5 FINANCE:

accounts for the year ended 30 June 97 were
The final audited ~~report was~~ tabled by the Hon Treasurer. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon Treasurer and Hon Auditor Mr R Glass. This was adopted unanimously.

5.1 EXPENSES CLAIM - VARIABLE STAR OBSERVING SECTION:

Mr J Hers applied for reimbursement of costs incurred by his Section for four years. His claim was discussed and an amount agreed upon.
Proposed: C Turk Seconded: P van Blommestein

5.2 MNASSA & HANDBOOK RATES:

The following new rates were proposed by Mr C Turk and seconded by Mr C Gray.

MNASSA Subscription:

Overseas (Airmail) : US\$50.00 per volume
Overseas (Surface) : US\$30.00 per volume
South Africa only : SAR75.00 per volume
Back copies on request : US\$10.00 per copy
Advertising : Inside R160.00 per page or pro rata

HANDBOOK:

Overseas (Airmail) : US\$15.00 per issue
Overseas (Surface) : US\$ 8.00 per issue
South Africa only : SAR20.00 per issue
Bulk orders : 20% discount for 10 or more
: 33.3% discount for 50 or more
Advertising : Rear cover: R200.00 per page
: Inside R160.00 per page or pro rata

6 NEW MEMBERS:

Eight new members were proposed by Mrs A Joubert and seconded by Mr C Gray.

7 CORRESPONDENCE:

- 7.1 Proceedings of Centre AGMs were received from Pretoria, Natal and Natal Midlands. Other Centres have not sent their minutes to Council yet.
- 7.2 Oom Jan Jooste has written to reapply for membership after a hiatus of 33 years and has asked that his entry fee be waived, as was agreed by Council at the time of his earlier resignation. This was agreed to.
- 7.3 The IEE in England have caused the Business Manager three times more expense than their subscription is worth. He asked for permission not to renew their subscription again. After deliberation this was agreed to unanimously.
Proposed: C Turk Seconded: D Duprez.
- 7.4 In correspondence between the Business Manager and Messrs Frank R Thorold, Subscription Agents, caused by a mistaken address, it transpired that the administrative staff at the SAOO regard the ASSA as a "local amateur organisation".
- 7.5 It was noted that Dr Peter Martinez has allowed his subscriptions to lapse. He is to either pay his membership dues or be requested to pay the accepted page charge of R20.00 per page for papers he wants published in MNASSA.

8 GENERAL:

8.1 HONORARY MEMBER:

It was proposed that Mr Jan Hers become an Honorary member of the Society in recognition of his dedicated work over many years. He will receive all Society publications and a Sky & Telescope subscription.
Proposed: C Turk Seconded: P van Blommestein.

8.2 OBSERVING SECTION EXPENSES:

It was proposed that expenses incurred by Sections will only be paid for the current and the preceding book year. Older claims will not be considered.
Proposed: D Duprez Seconded: A Joubert.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 4 November 1997.

with proposed amendments

Robert S. Sibbe

4/11/97