

**ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
HELD ON 22 June 1998 at the S.A.A.O.

**1 PRESENT:**

Drs R Stobie (in the Chair), Ms P Booth, Mrs A Joubert, Messrs R Hurly, C Turk, B Skinner, MA Gray, C Gray, C Rijdsdijk, C De Coning, T Cooper, P van Blommestein.

**2 APOLOGIES:**

Dr D Smits and D Kilkenny, Messrs D Overbeek, T Budge, A Hilton, MG Soltynski, J Hers, CD Allen, J Spencer-Jones and J Bondietti

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING held on 16 March 1998:**

These were amended and will be retyped and sent to Council members before being signed at the next meeting.

**4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**4.1 Symposium:**

The Symposium is to be held on a date in 1999 still to be confirmed and will be convened by C de Coning and B Skinner, with Drs I Glass and T Lloyd-Evans responsible for the scientific aspects.

**4.2 Council Alternates:**

C Turk will contact the Harare Centre to arrange for them to appoint a different representative to Council.

**4.3 Award Certificates:**

Messrs C Rijdsdijk and B Skinner will review award criteria and design appropriate certificates.

**4.4 Garden Route Centre:**

*Mr*

Dr P Smits has been selected to represent the Centre on Council. His alternate will be nominated by the 1998/9 Council once elected.

**4.5 S.A.L.T.:**

Dr R Stobie reported that the SALT has been approved by Parliament. R100 million, of which half is to be funded by foreign partners, is to be spent on the project over five years. Council congratulated Dr Stobie on having achieved the goal of a Large Telescope for Southern Africa.

**4.6 Membership:**

The nomenclature sub-committee has not met. (See item 8.2 of 16 Mar 1998)

*P. b. Brommester*  
C.

**5 FINANCE:**

The Hon Treasurer tabled the quarterly interim report. A small surplus is predicted. A vote of thanks to Mr Gray was unanimously adopted.

**6 NEW MEMBERS:**

Twelve new applications for membership were accepted. Proposed by Mrs A Joubert and seconded by Mr MA Gray.

**7 CORRESPONDENCE:**

7.1 Nominations of members to serve on Council were received from Mr C Turk and seconded by Mr MA Gray. These will be tabled at the A.G.M..

7.2 Email received from Mr D Overbeek proposing that the observations made by non-members still appear in Section reports. On the reports an identifying mark such as an asterisk is to be used to identify observations by non-members. Approved unanimously. *(Read with item 8.2 in Jan 19 1998 minutes)*

**8 GENERAL:**

8.1 A proposal was made by Mr D Overbeek motivating that Mr Brian Fraser be appointed as Director, Occultations Section. This was approved unanimously. Mr Overbeek will confirm the hand-over date from when Mr Fraser takes over as director.

**9 A.G.M.:**

The AGM is to be held on July 22 in Cape Town.

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 21 September 1998.**

*P. b. Brommester*

*21.9.1998*

*Harare please follow up 18 Sept. Anton May*

From: "Brian Skinner" <basbs@BREMNER.UCT.AC.ZA>  
To: Maciej Soltynski <mgs@maties.sun.ac.za>,  
Date sent: Wed, 15 Jul 1998 12:07:09 SAST-2  
Subject: ASSA Council minutes 16 Mar 98  
Priority: normal

Here is the final amended minutes for the ASSA Council meeting of 16 March 1998. These supercede any previous copy you may have. These will be signed at the next Council meeting on 21 Sept 1998.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL  
HELD ON 16 March 1998 at the S.A.A.O.

1 PRESENT:

Drs R Stobie (in the Chair) and D Kilkenny, Ms P Booth, Messrs R Hurly, C Turk, B Skinner, MA Gray, C Rijsdijk, C De Coning, J Spencer-Jones, P van Blommestein, D Duprez and J Bondiotti.

2 APOLOGIES:

Dr D Smits and Messrs, D Overbeek, T Budge, A Hilton, T Cooper, C Gray, MG Soltynski, J Hers, and CD Allen,

3 MINUTES OF MEETING held on 19 January 1998:

These were accepted as a true record and signed.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

4.1 Symposium: There was much discussion after which it was moved that the Symposium be held over until 1999 to allow the organisers more time to prepare for the event. A volunteer convenor is to be sought.

4.2 Council Alternates:

The Harare Centre Representative proves not to have renewed his membership. C Turk will contact the Centre to arrange for them to appoint an alternative representative to Council.

4.3 Award Certificates:

All Section Directors are to be asked to send their Section's award earning criteria to Council for ratification. The Comet & Meteor and

DeepSky Sections have already submitted their criteria. The other Directors are requested to respond before the next Council meeting. Once all criteria has been submitted and agreed upon, the design of the certificates can be finalised and arrangements made for printing.

#### 5 FINANCE:

No report tabled by the Hon Treasurer; since accounts are presented quarterly.

#### 6 NEW MEMBERS:

All new membership applications received since the last Council meeting were accepted as members.

Proposed by Mr R Hurly and seconded by Mr MA Gray.

#### 7 CORRESPONDENCE:

7.1 Mr Jan Hers reports that a new Garden Route Centre has been established in the Knysna / Sedgefield area. C Turk attended the inaugural meeting on behalf of Council and reported that there were 28 founder members including two former ASSA Presidents, namely Mr P Smits and Mr J Hers. The names of the committee were provided but the Centre is yet to appoint a Council Representative.

7.2 The Natal Midlands Centre has requested that their AGM be brought forward to June in an effort to avoid the holiday season which causes a poor turn-out at meetings held in July. Approved unanimously.

7.3 The Director of the Solar Observation Section has agreed to resume paying his own subscriptions.

#### 8 GENERAL:

8.1 Historical Section: The Director has expressed his intention to create a database of all South African astronomical sites, persons and artefacts. C Rijsdijk provided him with a letter from Trevor Gould which will start his collection of facts.

8.2 After some discussion it was decided to review membership criteria and the nomenclature used to differentiate between Centre members and other members of the Society. Messrs C Turk and J Bondietti will submit proposals to the next meeting. The feasibility of having a central register of all ASSA and Centre members will be

examined.

8.3 It was reported by C Rijsdijk that a new Centre could soon be established in the Northern Province.

8.4 S.A.L.T.: Dr R Stobie reported that the concept of SALT has been approved in principle by a Committee of Ministers; but has still to achieve Cabinet approval before it can become reality. Poland has shown a willingness to become a partner in the project.

9 A.G.M.:

The AGM is to be held on July 22 in Cape Town. \*\* Note the change \*\*

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 22 June 1998.

*P. van Blommestein*

**ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD ENDED**

**30 JUNE 1998**

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD ENDED  
30 JUNE 1998

**APPROVAL BY COUNCIL:**

It is our responsibility to ensure that the Annual Financial Statements fairly present the state of affairs and the results of the operation of the Society.

The Annual Financial Statements as set out on pages three to five have been approved by the Council and are signed on its behalf by:

*Peter van Bloemhstein*  
..... HONORARY PRESIDENT  
for DR R S STOBIE

*C D Gray*  
..... HONORARY TREASURER  
C D GRAY

9 November 1998

**REPORT OF THE HONORARY INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO  
THE MEMBERS OF  
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

We have audited the Annual Financial Statements set out on pages three to five for the year ended 30 June 1998. These Financial Statements are the responsibility of the members. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these Financial Statements based on our audit.

**Scope**

We conducted our audit in accordance with statements of South African Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the Financial Statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes:

- examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements,
- assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and,
- evaluating the overall Financial Statement presentation.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**Qualification**

In common with similar organisations, it is not feasible for the Society to institute accounting controls over cash collections from donations, subscriptions and other income prior to the initial entry of the collections in the accounting records. Accordingly, it was not possible for us to extend our examination beyond the receipts actually recorded.

**Qualified audit opinion**

In our opinion, except for the effect on the Financial Statements of the matters referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Financial Statements fairly present, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society at 30 June 1998, and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

  
..... PARTNER  
HORATIO ZELLER KARRO  
REGISTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

9 November 1998



ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 1998

	1998	1997
<b>ACCUMULATED FUND:</b>		
Surplus at the beginning of the year	5 794	4 651
Net income for the year	17 345	998
	<u>23 139</u>	<u>5 649</u>
Funds transferred from The McIntyre Award	147	145
Surplus at the end of the year	<u>R 23 286</u>	<u>R 5 794</u>
 <b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Prepayments	-	25 406
Cash resources -		
Standard Bank of South Africa Limited -		
32 Days Notice account	33 067	11 228
Plusplan account	9 159	10 560
	<u>42 226</u>	<u>47 194</u>
 <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accruals	350	840
Subscriptions received in advance	10 400	40 560
MNASSA payments in advance	8 190	-
	<u>18 940</u>	<u>41 400</u>
 <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	 <u><u>R 23 286</u></u>	 <u><u>R 5 794</u></u>

## ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

## INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1998

	SCHEDULE	1998	1997
<b>INCOME</b>			
Subscriptions		84 638	64 500
Interest received	1	2 681	3 996
Entrance fees		560	560
Handbook sales		12 621	4 859
MNASSA sales		8 189	15 116
Advertising in MNASSA and Handbook		1 195	330
Donations		3 414	2 600
		<u>113 298</u>	<u>91 961</u>
<b>Less:</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
"Sky and Telescope" expenses		64 596	58 587
Production of MNASSA		11 879	14 418
Production of Handbook		6 737	5 702
Postage of MNASSA		5 738	5 067
Postage of Handbook		570	667
Printing and stationery		844	602
Bank charges		2 000	1 573
Postal costs		661	2 846
Honoraria		1 500	1 500
Section expenses		1 428	-
		<u>95 953</u>	<u>90 963</u>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR, transferred to</b>			
Funds Surplus		<u>R 17 345</u>	<u>R 998</u>

## SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME STATEMENT

## 1. INTEREST RECEIVED:

32 Days Notice account	1 839	2 823
Plusplan	842	1 173
	<u>R 2 681</u>	<u>R 3 996</u>

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
THE MCINTYRE AWARD

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1998

	1998	1997
INCOME		
Syfrets -		
Interest on participation bond	R 147	R 145
(See note below)	<u>147</u>	<u>145</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 1998

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Income for the year, as above	147	145
Less: Amounts transferred to ASSA	147	145
	<u>R NIL</u>	<u>R NIL</u>

**NOTE:**

Income from Syfrets participation bond is an investment from which one half of the income accrues to The McIntyre Award.

The capital sum invested is not an asset of The McIntyre Award.

20 Nerine Ave  
Pinelands  
7405, South Africa

Tel: (021) 531-5250

27th April 1998

The Secretary  
ASSA  
12 Redgum Avenue  
THORNTON  
7460

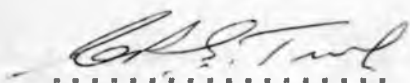
Dear Mr. Skinner

We wish to nominate the following persons for election to  
the offices as shown for the year 1996/97:-

President	Mr. M.D. Overbeek
Vice Presidents	Dr. R.S. Stobie Dr. D. Smits Mr. P. Von Blommestein
Members of Council	Dr. D.M. Kilkenny Mr. T.W.E. Budge Mr. T.P. Cooper Mr. C. Rijsdijk
Hon. Secretary	B. Skinner
Hon Treasurer	C.D. Gray

All the above have indicated their willingness to stand.

Yours faithfully

  
.....  
C.R.G. Turk.

  
.....