

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on 21 November 2000 at the S.A.A.O.

(note that these minutes are preliminary and will be tabled at the next meeting)

1 PRESENT:

Mr C Turk (in the Chair) Dr A Mahomed, Ms P Booth, Messrs B Skinner, C Gray, M A Gray

2 APOLOGIES:

Messrs C de Coning and A Jones, M Christianson, G Bosch and all up country members.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING:

The Minutes were accepted and used as the basis of the business of the meeting. These will be signed at the next meeting.

3.1 Award Certificates:

Observer's Certificates: These were to be produced by C Rijdsijk. No progress.

3.3 Web presence for A.S.S.A.

The ASSA web site is being redesigned by Messrs G Bosch and M Soltynski and when complete the SAAO will be asked to host it on their server.

3.4 Imaging Section Competition

The Director of the Imaging section, Mr D. Duprez, is to report back on his intentions for the astrophotographic competition as advertised in MNASSA, as not much interest has been shown by the membership.

3.5 Comet & Meteor Monogram

The Director of the Comet & Meteor Section, Mr Tim Cooper has had computer troubles and will report back on progress with his project at a later date.

3.6 Dark Sky Section

It was proposed that Mr R Hurly be invited to lead this new Section. Proposed: MA Gray and seconded by C Turk.

3.7 Banners

The Cape and Natal Midlands Sections requested banners. It was proposed that R500 be made available to each of these Centres for banners to suit their needs. Proposed: B Skinner and seconded by C Turk

3.8 Lapel Badges

Badges are to be sent to members with the December issue of MNASSA.

3.9 Solar Section

There exists a vacancy for Director of this Observing Section.

3.10 Scholarships

It was proposed that the following persons serve on the Scholarship Sub Committee: Mr MG Soltynski (Chairman), Prof D Smits, Dr A Mahomed and Mr MA Gray. Proposed by C Turk and seconded by P Booth.

3.11 Time Signal

Council believes that there is no urgent need for more accurate signals than that which is available on commercially available GPS receivers.

4 FINANCE

The Hon Treasurer tabled the Income Statement for the first quarter.

5 NEW MEMBERS

A list of four new members was tabled by the Membership Secretary, Dr A Mahomed. These persons have been accepted subject to their names being published in MNASSA. Proposed by A Gray and seconded by C Turk.


6 CORRESPONDENCE:

- 6.1 Mr MD Overbeek wrote to express his concern that no representative of the amateur astronomical fraternity was invited to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new S.A.L.T. which was held at Sutherland recently. Upon enquiry by C Turk, it transpired that the invitations were handled by the politicians, hence the oversight.
- 6.2 Mr MD Overbeek has been rewarded for his many observations by having a minor planet named for him. Council extend heartfelt congratulations to Danie for having this honour bestowed upon him.

7 GENERAL:

- 7.1 Alternates are still required for Dr CAJ Smit, Mr P Smits, Mr S Walsh and the Harare Centre.
- 7.2 Honorary Auditor: As the appointment of this post was omitted at the AGM, Mr R Glass was nominated for this position by M.A. Gray and seconded by C Turk.
- 7.3 Handbook: A print run of 1500 will be ordered with the request that plates be retained until July in case more copies are required
- 7.4 Constitution: A draft copy of the amended constitution is to be printed by B Skinner once C Turk sends him the data.
- 7.5 Symposium 2001: This will be held in Harare on 18 – 21 June 2001.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13 February 2001.


13 Feb 2001

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Honorary Treasurer's Report for the 6 months July - December 2000.


As is normal in the second quarter of the financial year, income has been minimal at R3000, while expenditure incurred was almost R14000.

This has resulted in a net deficit of almost R11000 for the quarter, while our surplus has been slashed to R7000 for the first six months as anticipated.

Total worth at the end of December was R68000, including R40000 in a Market Linked account to cover the proposed Scholarship scheme. This money market gives the highest interest when over R20000, presently at 8.2%, compared with 7.75% on the 32 day notice deposit.

The wretched Rand continues to take a battering, so that the latest subscription to Sky & Telescope now stands at R390, for one year i.e. R32.50 per copy. The dollar price has not increased for two years, so beware!

Colin Gray



Bergvliet

October 2001

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 2000

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	31 Dec 2000	30 June 2000
Surplus at 1 July	60945	42436
Surplus for 6 months	<u>7280</u>	<u>14849</u>
	68225	57285
Funds from ASSA Symposium	<u>-</u>	<u>3660</u>
	<u>68225</u>	<u>60945</u>

REPRESENTED BY CURRENT ASSETS

ASSA Symposium account	3844	3730
Market Linked Account	23265	-
32 day notice account	34304	86985
Plusplan account	6479	7086
Payment in advance	<u>8129</u>	<u>-</u>
	76021	97801

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Owing to Asset	835	1740
Subs received in advance	-	7320
Mnassa receipts in advance	6576	7336
S&T receipts in advance	<u>385</u>	<u>20460</u>
	<u>7796</u>	<u>36856</u>

NET CURRENT ASSETS

	<u>R68225</u>	<u>R60945</u>
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ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

INCOME STATEMENT

for the quarter ended 31 December 2000

INCOME

	This quarter	Year to date
Subscriptions	880	14200
S&T receipts	1070	33322
Interest	1047	2770
Entrance fees	40	60
Mnassa Sales	-	11265
Handbook Sales	54	274
Advertising	10	210
Donations	-	1150
Star Walks	-	-
	<u>3101</u>	<u>63251</u>

EXPENDITURE

Sky & Telescope payments	2659	31322	
Mnassa production	7575	12283	
Handbook production	-	-	
Postage on Mnassa	2903	3679	
Postage on Handbook	496	497	
Printing & Stationery	27	443	
Bank charges	66	697	
General postages	124	124	
Honoraria	-	1500	
Section expenses	-	-	
Star Walks	-	-	
Badges	-	<u>5426</u>	
	<u>13850</u>		55971
NET SURPLUS	Deficit	<u>10749</u>	<u>7280</u>

CASH RECONCILIATION

at 31 December 2000

Cash at 1 July			
32 day notice account	86985		
Plusplan account	7086		
ASSA Symposium account	3730		
		97801	
Add			
Surplus for 6 months	7280		
Owing to asset	835		
Mnassa receipts in advance	6576		
S&T receipts in advance	<u>385</u>		
		<u>15076</u>	
		112877	
Less			
Paid to Asset	1740		
Mnassa payments in advance	7336		
Subs received in advance	7320		
S&T payments in advance	20460		
Handbook payment in advance	<u>8129</u>		
		<u>44985</u>	
		<u>67892</u>	
Cash at 31 December			
ASSA Symposium account	3844		
Market Linked account	23265		
32 day notice account	34304		
Plusplan account	<u>6479</u>		
		<u>67892</u>	