

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA ON WEDNESDAY,
22 MAY, 1974

The meeting began at 1400 with the President, Professor G R A. Ellis, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES:

J.H.Carver, K.B.Fenton, S.C.B.Gascoine, B.J.Harris, J.J.Monaghan

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Seventh Annual General Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

3. REPORT OF THE COUNCIL:

The report of the Seventh Council, as distributed before the meeting, was presented. The President explained the circumstances leading to the nomination of the A.S.A. representative to the Australian programming committee of the A.A.T. The report was adopted.

4. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR AND THE TREASURER:

These reports were distributed before the meeting. The Treasurer spoke to the reports. He pointed out that the apparently healthy state of current finances has been largely due to the Society having had only one issue of the proceedings in each of the last two years. The current cash balance was \$5541 with a considerable number of full and corporate membership fees still outstanding. Adoption of a new printing process had saved approximately \$500 on Volume 2, No. 4 of the Proceedings compared to the previous issue. This occurred in spite of the larger number of pages in the issue and the effect of inflation in the interim. The Treasurer concluded that the production of two issues of the Proceedings in a year, allowing for future inflation, meant that the fee rise this year was not unduly premature. The meeting advocated that a further drive be held to secure outside subscribers for the Proceedings. This would help ensure the continued financial viability of the journal.

The Treasurer's report was adopted.

5. EDITOR'S REPORT:

In the absence of the Editor, Waterworth presented the report submitted by the Editor, which had been circulated to members before the meeting. The long delay in the publication of Volume 2, No. 4, was due both to delays in the submission of manuscripts and to delays in the printing process. An assurance had been given by the printer that the delays in the printing would not recur. Discussion ensued on the late submission of manuscripts. Difficulties were pointed out in enforcing a rule of 'submission of manuscripts by the end of the meeting'. It was resolved (Melrose, Smerd) that at least a draft paper be submitted by the end of the meeting and that the Editor, in consultation with the Council if necessary, be able to set his own deadline for the submission of the final form of the manuscripts.

The Editor's suggestion for changing the format of references in the Proceedings was accepted. A suggestion was discussed for publishing abstracts of papers given at the A.S.A. meetings but not published in the Proceedings. It was moved (Smerd, Bessell), and carried, that no abstracts be published in the Proceedings.

6. ELECTION OF AUDITOR:

Mr J.L.Clark, Chartered Accountant, was nominated as Auditor to the Society (Little, Waterworth) and was elected in the absence of any further nominations. It was moved (Little, Smerd), and carried, that the honoraum to be paid to the Auditor be raised to \$35.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS:

(a) 1974 Membership Fees. The consensus was that the fee increase of 1974 was justifiable even though there had been some objections from individuals during the year. Smerd pointed out that the Council might consider using some money from the currently healthy balance to support vacation schools in astronomy.

(b) Meeting Arrangements.

An invitation had been extended to hold a December meeting of the Society at Parkes. Details of time and possible theme would be supplied by the organizing committee. Enquiries had been made into the possibility of holding the 1975 May Annual General Meeting in Brisbane. Professor Mugglestone would be able to confirm this in July.

8. ELECTION DECLARATION:

Six nominations had been obtained for the five positions of Ordinary Councillors. A ballot had been held prior to the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Constitution. Gardner and Van Der Borcht acted as scrutineers. As a result of the ballot, the following were declared elected to the Eighth Council:-

President - G.R.A.Ellis
 Vice-President - K.C.Westfold
 Secretaries, - M.D.Waterworth, R.D.
 Watson
 Treasurer , A.G.Little

Councillors - J.H.Carver
 B.J.Harris
 A.A.Page
 A.W.Rodgers
 J.A.Thomas

The Immediate Past President, O.J.Eggen, and the Editor, R X McGee, are *ex officio* members of the Council.

The Meeting concluded at 14.55.



R.D.WATSON
 SECRETARY