

96-2 Minutes of the meeting of the Council of the Meteoritical Society

held at the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin at 2.00 p.m. on Sunday 21st July, 1996.

- Present:** H. McSween (President), D. Stöffler (Vice-President), M. M. Grady (Secretary), C. Chapman, G. Herzog, J. Goswami, G. MacPherson, D. Papanastassiou.
- Apologies:** M. Dence, J. Goldstein, H. Nagahara, D. Sears, H. Wänke.
- Guests:** A. Davis, M. Drake, P. Jakeš, L. Schultz, P. Warren, B. Zanda (Council Members-elect); O. Eugster (item 6), M. Lipschutz (item 3) F. Podosek (item 5), I. Sanders (item 4).

1. President's Report

1.1. The President thanked Council for attending, and welcomed the Council Members-elect, present as observers.

1.2. The President proposed an addition to the bylaws (attached at Annex I) to govern the formation and operation of a committee to invest endowment funds for the Society. The by-law had been circulated to Council prior to the meeting. In addition to its duties as specified in Article 14, Council further charged the Investments Committee to make recommendations on the disposition of future royalties from Elsevier.

Motion: Council moves to accept the proposed Article 14 as an addition to the By-laws (Chapman, seconded MacPherson, carried unanimously).

Action: The President will appoint members of the Investments Committee.

1.3. The President circulated a draft copy of the brochure intended to inform the Society's membership about the Endowment Fund, and to solicit contributions to the Fund.

1.4. The President reported that the election of K. Turekian of Yale as Executive Editor (EE) of *GCA* had been approved by Council by 9 votes to nil. This vote mirrored that of the Geochemical Society, thus Turekian would take office as EE in January 1997.

2. Secretary's Report

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved (accepted by acclamation).

Matters arising: There were no matters arising from the Minutes

3. Treasurer's Report

3.1. **Finances:** The Associate Treasurer (Herzog) circulated a report from the Treasurer indicating that the finances of the MS were in good order (Annex II).

3.2. **MAPS funding:** MAPS funding is always on the edge of a \pm \$2000 profit or loss. The individual subscription rate must be raised for 1997. This will also cover the cost of dues payments by credit card, a facility requested by many Society members, especially those outside the U.S.

Motion: Council moves to raise the full subscription rate to \$70, whilst maintaining the student rate at \$35 (Herzog, seconded MacPherson; carried unanimously).

4. Society Meetings

4.1. **1996: Berlin** (Stöffler): There are 318 participants pre-registered from 17 countries. Approximately 200 oral presentations and 100 posters were scheduled. More sponsorship than anticipated had been forthcoming, allowing the support of several colleagues from Eastern Europe. The post-meeting field excursion to Scandinavian impact crater sites has been cancelled, due to lack of participants. The Museum für Naturkunde is running a special exhibit on Chladni.

4.2. **1997: Hawaii** (McSween): The first circular will be sent out shortly. Information on the meeting is available on both the Society's and the LPI's websites. The abstract deadline will be 2nd May 1997.

4.3. **1998: Dublin** (Sanders): Arrangements for the meeting are well in hand (report attached at Annex III). Council will advance Sanders up to \$4000, to help with forward costs, such as room-bookings, *etc.*

4.4. Future meetings: The 1999 meeting will be in Johannesburg. Two invitations were received for the 2000 meeting, from Tucson and Chicago (attached at Annex IV). After some debate, a straw poll indicated that a meeting in Chicago in September was preferred.

Motion: Council moves to accept the joint invitation from the Field Museum of Natural History and the University of Chicago to host the Annual Meeting of the Society in Chicago in September 2000 (MacPherson, seconded Herzog; carried unanimously).

Action: Davis will check that the suggested dates (11 - 15th September) do not clash with any religious or civil holidays, and will propose firm dates for the meeting at the next Council meeting in March.

Action: McSween will confer with the proposers of the Tucson meeting, regarding re-submission of the invitation for a September date, possibly in 2001 or 2002.

5. Publications Committee

Podosek reported on the recent activities of the Publications Committee (report attached at Annex V).

GCA: As reported by the President, Turekian will succeed Faure as EE of *GCA* from 1st January 1997. A formal contract is currently being drafted. The Editorial Office will move to New Haven, but the Production Office will remain in Columbus. An Editorial Advisory Board has been established. The issue of splitting the subscription rate has been postponed, so the full rate will rise to \$115 in 1997.

Noted: Council thanked Frank for his work on the Publications Committee.

6. Leonard Medal

6.1. **Leonard Medal:** The Chair of the Leonard Medal Committee (LMC), Eugster, had submitted his report, which had been circulated to Council

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Leonard Medal Committee, that the 1997 medal be awarded to Ernst Zinner (Goswami, seconded Stöffler; carried unanimously).

6.2. **Nier Prize:** The Chair of the LMC had submitted his report, which had been circulated to Council

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Leonard Medal Committee, that the 1997 Nier Prize be awarded to Tim McCoy (Grady, seconded Papanastassiou; carried unanimously).

6.3. **Fellows:** The Chair of the LMC had submitted his report, which had been circulated to Council

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Leonard Medal Committee, that the following ten members of the Society be elected Fellows: John Annexstad, Sherwood Chang, Andrew Davis, Odette James, Rhian Jones, Gary Lofgren, David Mittlefehldt, Minoru Ozima, Marc Thiemens and Rainer Wieler (Grady, seconded MacPherson; carried unanimously).

7. Barringer Medal

The Chair of the Barringer Medal Committee, Dence, had submitted his report, which had been circulated to Council. After debate, it was agreed that the work of the first-choice candidate, Ralph Baldwin, had already been recognised by the award of the Leonard Medal in 1986, and that the alternative nominee was a much better candidate. The information on Hartung will be forwarded to the LMC, for consideration when Fellowships are considered in the future.

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Barringer Medal Committee, that the 1997 medal be awarded to Thomas J. Ahrens (Chapman, seconded Stöffler; carried unanimously).

8. Any Other Business

8.1. Joel Schiff of *Meteorites!* has offered \$500 per annum for student travel to the Annual Meeting, to be given in recognition of the work of Brian Mason. The award will be administered by the Programme Committee of each meeting. The recipient will be requested to write an article for *Meteorites!*

Motion: Council moves to accept the generous donation from *Meteorite!* to establish the *Meteorite!*-Brian Mason student travel award (accepted by acclamation).

8.2. The President drew Council's attention to the Society's page on the WWW, and asked for comments and suggestions to be relayed to Derek Sears. The possibility of adding the Membership Directory to the page was discussed; the Treasurer will liaise with Sears about this issue.

Action: The Secretary will liaise with Sears about the content of the Society's Homepage.

8.3. The Secretary had received a request for financial assistance (attached at Annex VI) towards the cost of restoration of the monument to the fall of the Wold Cottage meteorite. The sum would be matched by donations from the meteoritical community in Britain.

Motion: Council moves to allow \$500 towards the restoration of the Wold Cottage monument (Chapman, seconded Stöffler; carried unanimously).

Action: The Treasurer will send the Secretary \$500 for the restoration.

8.4. The President thanked the members of Council who were standing down at the end of the year, for their assistance and support.

No further business. Meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.

Monica M. Grady, 31st July 1996