Secretary's Report of Meeting April 15, 1971

Place: Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C.

Time: 6:00 PM

Attendees: Wood, Presiding
          Anders
          Marvin
          Halliday
          O'Keefe
          Walter
          Reed (until 8:30 PM)

Absent: Axon, Brett, Bunch, Moore, Millman, Keil, Buchwald, Gault, El Goresy, Wasson

I. The meeting opened with the reading of the Unofficial Skeleton of the Minutes of the Council Meeting of October 29th at Skyland, Virginia; prepared by Bunch, read by Marvin.

II. No formal treasurer's report was presented, but Marvin displayed a graph (attached) illustrating the variations in Society income and expenditures over the past 6 years.

III. The Council voted to set annual dues for student members at $4.00.

IV. The President inquired whether another council meeting should be held before the Tübingen meeting: at the Gordon Conference, for example. The idea was voted down.

V. Anders reported that Krinov cannot attend the Tübingen meeting to receive the Leonard Medal.

The question was raised whether or not past nominations for the medal remain in effect indefinitely. A motion was passed to ask Chairman Kohman for advice, to be developed in his committee, on a policy of weeding out old nominees.

VI. Walter reported on the status of group flights to Stuttgart. Of the 4 flight plans offered by World-Wide Travel, only 1, plan C, Aug. 15 - 29, had enough subscribers to fill a quota. Of some 297 American and Canadian members, the following numbers had responded:

          Group A Aug. 16 - 25 = 0
          "     B 20 - 30 = 5
          "     C 15 - 29 = 32
          "     D 13 - Sept. 3 = 11

Another circular was contemplated by World-Wide Travel, advertising Flights C
and D. The new deadline for deposit: June 1; 3/4ths until 10 days before the flight. A full refund is available only on a doctor's certificate.

The Council congratulated Walter for his handling of the group flight problem.

VII. Reed reported on the most recent AAAS meeting and opened debate on whether the Society should maintain affiliation with the AAAS and designate an official representative for liaison purposes.

It was decided that the matter should be explored further with the Society president acting as the representative to the AAAS. Anders suggested that if we stay with the AAAS, we work through S. Fred Singer, (who was not then, but is now a member of the Meteoritical Society).

VIII. The main order of business was reform of the constitution. John O'Keefe, Chairman of the Revisions Committee, presented Articles. Each item was discussed in detail until the members present and voting passed an approved version to be submitted to the membership along with a ballot for their acceptance or rejection of each item.

A plan for new electoral procedures, the most important item of all, could not be decided upon at the meeting. Two alternate plans were submitted and discussed. The result was a tie vote. It was therefore decided that the two plans would be presented to the membership and we should await their choice.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ursula B. Marvin
Acting Secretary