

97-2 Minutes of the meeting of the Council of the Meteoritical Society

held at the Maui Prince Hotel, Maui at 1.00 p.m. on Sunday 20th July, 1997.

Present: D. Stöffler (President), M. Drake (Vice-President), H. McSween (Past President), M. M. Grady (Secretary), J. Goldstein (Treasurer), A. Davis, G. Herzog, H. Nagahara, L. Schultz, P. Warren, B. Zanda

Apologies:

Guests: K. Keil, U. Reimold, I. Sanders (item 5); F. Podosek, D. Sears, H. Sears (item 6); O. Eugster (item 7); B. Glass (item 8).

1. Minutes and approval of Agenda

1.1. The President thanked Council for attending.

1.2. The Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated, and were taken as read. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

1.3. Item 9, approval of the membership of the Nominating Committee, was added to the Agenda.

1.4. The President reported with sorrow the recent death of Paul Pellas and Gene Shoemaker.

2. President's Report

1.1. The President reported that the finances of the Society were in good order.

1.2. The President reported that the Society journals continued to be successful. The new subscription rate for *GCA* had been set at \$122 for regular members and \$61 for students. The Editor of *MAPS* had requested that his report be taken at the summer Council meeting, and not in March. This request was agreed, and the Chair of the Publications Committee was asked to ascertain at which meeting the Editor of *GCA* would prefer to present his annual report.

1.3. The President reported that he had received a letter from the President of the IAGC (Gunter Faure), offering to sponsor a Symposium at forthcoming Meteoritical Society (MS) meetings, with a budget of \$2000, with the topic of the Symposium to be selected by the IAGC Working Group on Extraterrestrial Geochemistry. Discussion on the topic generally concerned the issue of the IAGC selecting the topic for the Symposium. It was thought that this might constrain the Programme Committee to too great an extent. However, if the IAGC were to co-sponsor the entire meeting, they would gain credit for the meeting, but would not be responsible for selecting session topics.

Motion: Council moves to invite the IAGC to co-sponsor the Annual Meeting in return for an annual donation of \$2000 (Drake, seconded Davis, carried unanimously).

Action: The President will write to Faure, conveying this decision.

1.4. The President reported that he had sent letters of sympathy to Drew and Dorothea Barringer after the death of Paul Barringer, and to the Musee d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris following the recent death of Paul Pellas. The President intended to write to Carolyn Shoemaker.

1.5. The President reported that two people had recently been accused of meteorite theft from the Museum in Rio de Janeiro. One of the accused, Mr [xxxxxx], is a member of the Society. Any request to expel [xxxxxx] from the Society requires a vote of at least three-fourths of the Council (Article 1.3 of the Bylaws). No action will be taken on this matter unless [xxxxxx] is actually convicted of the crime.

1.6. The President reported that the Barringer medal had not been received in time for its presentation to this year's awardee.

Action: the Secretary will correspond with Carleton Moore, at ASU, and assume responsibility for the medal in future years.

3. Secretary's Report

The Secretary had nothing to report.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer circulated a report indicating that the finances of the MS were in good order (Annex I). There was no report from the Investment Committee, which will meet later during the course of the conference.

5. Society Meetings

5.1. 1997: Hawaii (Keil): Keil welcomed Council to Maui, and reported that the organisation of the meeting was going well. So far, there were 398 pre-registered, including 96 guests and 46 students. The Organising Committee had been successful in raising sponsorship, so the \$8000 subsidy could probably be returned to the Society. The President thanked Keil for his report and his successful organisation.

5.2. 1998: Dublin (Sanders): Arrangements for the meeting are well in hand (report attached at Annex II). The level of the registration fee has not yet been set, but should be around \$200 - \$250. Sanders requested clarification on the \$35 abstract fee levied on attendees. The Editor of *MAPS* would be happy to see the fee eliminated, but the Treasurer felt that the \$15000 it represented was a necessary part of the journals income. The matter was tabled for further discussion at the Houston Council meeting.

Schultz reported that a two day Workshop to discuss Desert Meteorites might be convened in England prior to the Dublin meeting, and asked Sanders whether this would interfere with his arrangements. Sanders did not think it would be a problem.

5.3. 1999: Johannesburg (Reimold): The date of the 1999 meeting will be 11 - 16th July, as agreed at the last Council meeting. The venue has been confirmed at Witwatersrand university, and the organisation was coming along well. The Programme Committee will include European members, and might be convened in the US, to keep the abstract volume preparation time on schedule. Reimold requested Council to approve a subsidy for overseas students. He was asked to make a more concrete funding request, with more details, at the Houston council meeting.

5.4. Future meetings: 2000: Chicago, between 11 - 15th September.
2001: An expression of interest has been received from the Vatican, to hold the meeting either at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, or at the University of Rome. The year 2001 marks the 200th anniversary of the discovery of Ceres.

2002: South California

6. Publications Committee

6.1. Podosek reported on the recent activities of the Publications Committee (PC; report attached at Annex III). The first item concerned a possible honorarium (*ca.* \$3500) for Sears, as Editor of *MAPS*, rather than paying a summer salary for him.

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Publications Committee, that the Editor of *MAPS* be awarded an honorarium in fiscal year 1998 of \$3500 (McSween, seconded Drake; carried with one abstention).

6.2. The PC was approached with a proposal to make *MAPS* available on the WWW, at no cost to the journal or the Society. This was felt to be a good move to make.

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Publications Committee, that arrangements are made through the ADS Abstract Service, to make *MAPS* available on the WWW (Drake, seconded McSween; carried unanimously).

6.3. MAPS: The Editor of *MAPS* produced a report (attached at Annex IV), which was circulated. There was much discussion on Sears' proposal to increase *MAPS* to 12 issue per year.

Action: Sears will submit a costed document to the Treasurer and to the Publications Committee, with a view to the Chair of the PC reporting on the matter at the Houston meeting.

7. Leonard Medal

7.1. 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 S. Ross Taylor (Grady, seconded Drake; carried with one abstention).

7.2. 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 Gopalan Srinivasan (Grady, seconded Drake; carried with one abstention).

8. Barringer Medal

The Chair of the Barringer Medal Committee, Glass, had submitted his report, which had been circulated to Council.

Motion: Council moves to accept the recommendation of the Barringer Medal Committee, that the 1997 medal be awarded to Boris Ivanov (McSween, seconded Drake; carried unanimously).

Action: The Secretary will produce certificates for all previous Barringer awardees.

9. Membership of Nominating Committee

The President proposed that the following should form the Nominating Committee, to prepare a slate of Officers and Councillors for the new Council to take office in January 1999:

G. MacPherson (Chair)
T. Dickinson
G. Huss
C. Koeberl
S. Ross Taylor

The suggested committee members were approved unanimously.

10. Any Other Business

There was no further business. Meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

Monica M. Grady, 7th August 1997