

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Pretoria Centre of ASSA held at 8.30 pm on July 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Christian Brothers College

### 1 Welcome

The Chairman, Johan Smit opened the meeting, and welcomed all present and on line. There were 13 attendees in person and 14 on line via video link : total 27. The meeting opened at 8.30pm.

### 2 Apologies

There was an apology from Percy Jacobs.

### 3 Agenda

3.1 The Chairman presented the Agenda, which was accepted without change.

### 4 Acceptance of Minutes of 2022 AGM

4.1 The minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted:

Proposed: Danie Barnardo. Seconded Bosman Olivier.

4.2 There were no matters arising.

### 5 Chairman's Report.

Johan Smit presented the Annual Report.

The Chairman summarized the content:

5.1. The attendance figures at meetings and the topics presented were given.

5.2 Thanks were extended to the presenters of the Main Topic and What's Up, and to the persons who Chaired the meetings.

5.3 There was a summary of the Observing Evenings which had re-started in October 2022.

5.4 A list of the outreach activities was presented.

5.5 Section Reports were outlined

5.5.1 Website

5.5.2 Library

5.5.3 Newsletter

5.5.4 Telescope Making Class

5.5.5 Observations

5.5.6 Curator of Instruments

5.6 Sky Guide distribution procedure.

5.7 The liaison with CBC in order to restart live meetings

5.8 The report was accepted. Proposed Johan Jordaan. Seconded Michelle Ferreira

**5.10 The full Chairman's report will be available on the Centre Website.**

### 6 Treasurer's Report :

**Michelle Ferriera presented the Treasurer's report, summarised as follows:**

6.1 The paid up membership for 2022 -2023 was 39. (Last year: 47)

6.2 Income was R8 166.00 (2022: R11 734.00)

6.3 Expenditure was R4 504.00 (2022: R5 435.00)

6.4 Net Assets R47 397.00 (2022 : 55 947.00)

6.5 The report was accepted : Proposed Bosman Olivier; Seconded Pierre Lourens

### 7 Committee

7.1 The following were willing to stand for re-election to the Committee for 2023 – 2024

Bosman Olivier; Danie Barnardo; Michelle Ferreira; Pierre Lourens; Michael Poll; Johan Smit, Johan Jordaan and Neville Young,

7.2 It was proposed that these nominees be elected *en bloc* :

Proposed: Thys Maree. Seconded Danie Barnardo.

All of the above were duly elected to the Committee.

**8 2024 Sky Guide Distribution**

The Sky Guides were made available from various collection points as in previous years.

**9 State of the Society**

- The Chairman highlighted the marked falling off of Membership Numbers – from 121 in 2000-2001 to 39 in 2022-2023, and reduction in attendance figures and discussed possible reasons.
- He also mentioned the problem of finding speakers for our meetings, and how the burden fell on Committee Members to make presentations. Beginner's Corner has been cut out to try and alleviate the problem.
- We may have to re-consider the format of the meetings.

**10 Closure**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm