



#### **d. Treasurer**

General Account Balance: \$6306.74

Gaming Account Balance: \$251.92

A detailed financial report is filed with the minutes.

Motion: To accept the treasurer's report.

Moved: Gil

Seconded: Blair

Carried

#### **4. Reports of Members at Large**

##### **a. Wayne Sanders**

A 35 minute Power Pioneers Presentation held at Esther's Inn on 2010/10/09 was attended by a group of retired BCHydro personnel and their spouses. Numbers totaled 36. One of the attendees will be donating a telescope to the observatory in the near future. The Power Pioneers indicated they may be booking a tour in the New Year. Although this presentation was provided at no cost, I suggest that future presentations be charged a rate to be determined by the executive.

#### **5. Reports of Committees, including any motions from the Committees.**

##### **a. Gil Self - Grants & Funding Committee Report**

Re: Gaming Grant Application 2010.

I have gathered all the necessary forms, checked the enclosure checklist and sent out an e-mail a couple of weeks ago. I'm pretty sure I now have all the documents that are required. I expect to bring the completed app to the exec meeting (Nov. 10) for signatures and we should be good to go. There is a narrative section in the app that can be banged off with just a quick explanation, but this is the section that I pay the most attention to. Almost every time I have felt that section was good we have received extra funding so I like to get this part just right. Presently, that is the section that I haven't done. So if my prose generator fails me I will bang off a quick explanation of our programs and be done with it. Gil, Brian, and Ken will meet to sort out the financial information required for the grant application.

##### **b. Bob Nelson - Telescope Maintenance Committee Report**

On Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>, Gil and I installed the tertiary (diagonal) mirror -- it looks pristine - - and adjusted the collimation of the upper port in the 4-shooter and secondary. Everything should work well, but we will want to check actual star images. Maybe I'll take my ST-9 camera out there (complete with focal reducer) to take some images using the lower port. That should settle -- one way or the other -- the image quality question.

There is a (2.5" x 5.5") spare tertiary mirror -- specially packed and labelled -- in the metal cabinet in the warm room. The old one is there too, along with the unused 9.5" x 12" piece of front-surface mirror. (The latter is well packed in a box underneath an aluminum case.)

Note: In a follow-up discussion, Doug and Blair stated that faint images are far more distinct, the sky background is now black instead of grey, and there is a very obvious reduction in refraction spikes associated with bright objects. "Views through the 24" telescope are now as good as they were five years ago".

##### **c. Glen Harris - AllSky Camera/Meteor Monitor Report**

Following the 2010/09/30 trip to resolve problems with the Tatla Lake AllSky camera system, there have been no subsequent equipment failures. Captures continue to be accumulated and are being used to refine the site profile generated by the Analyzer program.

School District 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin) has not yet given the OK to install the AllSky camera at Mile 108 Elementary School. Once the school mechanical upgrades are completed at the end of

November, permission is expected. In the meantime, testing of the AllSky camera and computer continues. Weather conditions will dictate when the installation gets done.

There has been no progress in negotiations with School District 91 (Lakes District) to install a camera at the Burns Lake Secondary School. Correspondence sent has not been answered. Alternate locations in Burns Lake will be investigated during a future field trip. The CNC campus in Burns Lake is being considered.

Data from several non impact common captures is being used to calibrate cameras of the BC Meteor Network. A significant event was captured on 2010/10/07 by cameras in Courtney, Tatla Lake, Prince George, and Kelowna. Further analysis pointed to misinterpretation of the data and inconsistencies with site profiles. These issues are being resolved.

The original observatory AllSky camera and enclosure has been replaced with one that is compatible with other camera assemblies in the Prince George and Cariboo regions. Standardization will make maintenance and replacement of any of the four existing and two future systems much easier and more cost effective.

Integration of the Sentinel and UFOCapture systems is progressing slowly. Software utilized by the Sentinel system is cumbersome compared to UFOCapture. Wayne and I are exploring the idea of providing and circulating, on a loan basis, a computer loaded with UFOCapture and Analysis programs, and a video splitter among current Sentinel users, enabling them to do a comparison between the two systems. The ultimate aim of this endeavour is to get more UFOCapture sites into operation. This dual method of capture analysis was implemented at the observatory recently.

The British Columbia Meteor Network website has been online for several months and continues to improve as more meteor related content is added.

## **6. Establish Committee Chairs**

- Grants and Funding: Gil, Bob
- Observing and Small Scope Maintenance: Blair, Doug
- Building Maintenance: Rusty, Doug
- Tours and Public Outreach: Wayne
- 24" Telescope Maintenance: Gil, Bob
- Media Relations: Maurice
- Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance: Glen
- RASC National Representative: Primary - Bob  
Alternate - Brian

## **7. Old Business**

- The \$100 to pay the neighbour for snowplowing the observatory lot approved at the PGC106 (Oct 6) meeting has not been carried out yet. Ken will purchase a \$100 gift certificate.
- The \$100 donation to the Clear Sky Clock approved at the PGC106 (Oct 6) meeting has been carried out.
- The four-shooter (tertiary/diagonal) mirror replacement as discussed by the Telescope Committee at the PGC106 (Oct 6) meeting has been carried out. See Telescope Maintenance Committee report.
- A proposal/motion with cost and schedule to re-coat the secondary mirror as discussed by the Telescope Committee at the PGC106 (Oct 6) meeting has not yet been brought forward.
- A notice was sent to Shelley R. Lawlor's office informing her that we will not be using her services this year.

## 8. New Business

- Ken and Brian visited the Royal Bank and picked up the necessary forms for updating the bank records regarding signing authority and officers / directors list. Ken will bring to the meeting (Nov 10) for completion. It is believed a bank appointment will need to be made to officially update the records. After that, each member with signing authority will need to visit the bank and sign the signature card.

- Maurice brought out several hundred feet of donated used rubber base and placed it in the basement. It can be used when renovations are done (Galley, flooring install etc) to protect the walls.

- In an effort to engage club members in activities at the observatory, promote a more personal approach to members in general, and provide mentoring for those interested, each executive member present at this meeting will be assigned a group of club members to contact by telephone. Going forward, each new member will be paired up with an experienced Prince George Centre member, thus providing the new member with access to information related to observing, assistance in the operation of observatory equipment, and astronomy in general.

- Motion: That the club run a NOVA course to further our mandate of bringing astronomy to our community with the following dates and presenters.

Dates: Jan 15 / Jan 29 / Feb 12 / Feb 26 / March 12 / March 26 / April 9 / April 30 / May 14

Start time: 7:30 pm

Location: PGOA

Cost: \$108 (note: \$107.81 is our actual cost)

Presenters: Brian / Brian / Wayne / Blair / Blair / Blair / Maurice / Bob / Brian

Moved: Blair

Seconded: Gil

Carried

- Motion: That the club purchase 17 BOG's and 8 NOVA binders to have 20 of each on hand for use in the 2011 NOVA course. Cost: \$289.17 BOG's + \$134.40 binders = \$423.57 (prices include HST and S&H)

Moved: Blair

Seconded: Gil

Carried

- Motion: That an Open House be scheduled for Dec. 13, 2010 for members and the public to watch the Gemini Meteor Shower. Location: PGOA. Start Time: 7:30pm with an End time: 12:00am. To be held only if weather permits. Blair S. to host.

Moved: Blair

Seconded: Gil

Carried

- Motion: That an Open House be scheduled for Dec. 20, 2010 for members and the public to watch the Lunar Eclipse. Location: PGOA. Start Time: 6:30pm with an End time: 12:00am. To be held only if weather permits. Blair S. to host.

Moved: Blair

Seconded: Jim Van Doren

Carried

- Motion: That Open Houses occur each Friday evening during the months of Nov 2010, Feb, March and April 2011. Start time no earlier than 7:30 pm. To be held only if weather permits. Blair and Brian will ensure a host is available for all dates.

Moved: Blair

Seconded: Wayne

Carried

- Motion: That a work-bee to clean the observatory be held on Saturday Nov. 13 at 1:00 pm. All members will be invited via email. Brian to host.

Moved: Blair                      Seconded: Jim Van Doren      Carried

- Motion: That Robert (Bob) Nelson and Rusty Hoff be officially appointed as Prince George Astronomical Society Members At Large. Neither individual was present at the AGM held on 2010/10/20 and their intentions were unknown at that time. Bob and Rusty's presence on the executive will fill vacant positions. There will be a \$15 filing fee.

Moved: Glen                      Seconded: Blair                      Carried

- Motion: That Ken Lovin be issued mailbox, gate, and observatory building keys so he can carry out his duties as treasurer. The alarm system is already programmed with his access code.

Moved: Glen                      Seconded: Rusty                      Carried

**9. Date, Time, and Location of next Board of Directors Meeting**

- Motion: That the next Board of Directors meeting, PGC108, be held on Jan.12, 2011 7:30 pm at Speedee Your Office Experts. Please submit all agenda items to Brian by Jan 5.

Moved: Gil                      Seconded: Glen                      Carried

**10: Adjournment**

Board of Directors meeting PGC107 was adjourned at 9:28 pm

