

**PRINCE GEORGE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
PRINCE GEORGE CENTRE
7365 Tedford Road
Prince George, BC
V2N 6S2**

**PGC110 Business Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2011**

Date: March 9, 2011

Location: 490 Brunswick St.

Chairperson: Brian Battersby

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Executives Present: Brian, Blair, Glen, Ken, Wayne, Rusty, Bob, Gil

Members Present: Rod

Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC109

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC109 (Feb 9, 2011) as presented.

Moved: Blair Seconded: Rusty Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Brian Battersby)

Mike M was awarded his signed and framed Explore the Universe Certificate by Brian on February 16th. Formal recognition will occur at the annual June BBQ.

Glen H has been providing me with lists of membership lists which make it easy for me to mail only to people wishing a printed copy of the PeGASus.

b. Vice-President (Blair Stunder)

- Members whose membership have or are about to expire were emailed reminders to renew.

- Blair created a Facebook page for the PG Centre.

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_145119105551219

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was distributed as required. ♦

- Property Assessment was given to Ken L.

- The \$500 TELUS donation associated with my volunteer hours was received and given to the treasurer. Attempts to get an address for donor Steve Shannon were unsuccessful and have been discontinued.

- The lunar marathons scheduled for Feb 11/12 were cancelled due to poor weather.

d. Treasurer (Ken Lovin)

Regular Account balance: \$7545.55 Gaming Account balance: \$36.92

A detailed financial statement is filed with these minutes.

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Wayne Carried

4. Reports of Members-at-Large

Nothing to report

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

Observing & Small Scope Maintenance Report - Blair Stunder

By Blair Stunder, Doug Wayland

Blair S.: I installed some lead under the Red-Dot finder base to balance the black 8" dob. A quick inventory of the Planispheres shows that we have 7 x 100 packages.

Doug W.: Blair, Maurice and I were out in hopes of sky clearing, but it did not happen. Our score remains at about zero for planned events. I did get the observing area cleared of snow and we enjoyed Blair's pot of chili.

Website Report - Wayne Sanders

Web page is up to date and I have back up disks of all current material.

Media Relations Report - Maurice Sluka

Maurice S created and distributed a "Spring Session" poster to advertise the spring open house season.

Building Maintenance Report

- Doug filled the observatory tanks on Feb 22, 2011.
- Snow was removed from the dome and flat roof on March 8, 2011.
- The brake lining material attached to the dome friction wheel came off. The lining material was reattached with more robust fittings.
- Both the slot and dome motor refused to operate when the temperature reached -30C at a recent open house. Testing at a warmer temperature was successful.

Tours & Public Outreach - Wayne Sanders

- Tour of Thursday March 3 was cancelled due to weather. Cancellation call made previous day and weather forecast indicated it was to continue to be stormy. Both groups will rebook at a later date.
- A tour for Ecole Heather Park Elementary School has been booked for March 16, 2011. 45 to 55 people, including students aged 7 to 9 will attend.
- UNBC Science Fair Presentation March 12, 2011. We will have a presence at this event. First off there is to be a small display in the Bentley Room at the UNBC booth and will be manned initially by members who will do the set up in the afternoon of March 11. Display will be basically pictures, banner, and hand outs. Next morning the booth will be manned by 2 Leadership students from DP Todd that will be happy to assist and man the booth for part of the day. Two members with a possible third will be judges involved with the fair directly. The normal time table has been to judge until noon then go to the display area until the closing time. Display items were picked up on Tuesday morning from the Observatory, taking what was available and making a list as to what is needed to be printed.

Newsletter - Gil Self

The deadline for the next newsletter is March 25, 2011.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen Harris

Moving the weather camera to the computer donated by Blair was unsuccessful. The 'on loan' computer was reinstated. A 22" LCD monitor was purchased from SpeeDee Printers and installed in the control room.

RASC National Representative Report

- Bob read some excerpts from the latest RASC National communication regarding green laser pointers, and the legal implications of the improper use of the device.
- Bob requested that the RASC policy regarding the use of laser pointers be posted to the Centre web site, as well as at the observatory.
- The Centre's use of the laser pointer is on file with Transport Canada.

Grants & Funding Committee Report

- Gaming fund approval is still undetermined.

24" Telescope Maintenance Committee Report - Glen Harris

- One of the four screws retaining the circuit board to the top plate of the telescope hand pad controller had fallen out, allowing the board to flex when the ESC button was pressed, preventing contact from being made. I removed the three remaining retaining screws, drilled through the four posts they screwed into, and installed 6-32 bolts, washers and nuts. You'll notice four Robertson head bolts in the top plate now, but this remedy will prevent a reoccurrence of the problem.
- I checked the operation of the dome and slot motors. They are operating properly again, no doubt due to the warmer temperature. The 15 amp slo blo motor controller fuse was replaced with a 10 amp slo blo fuse.

7. Old Business

- Rusty sourced red incandescent bulbs in Alberta, and will be bringing them back on his next road trip.
- Updating the signing authority at the Royal Bank has been completed.
- A vendor to recoat the secondary mirror has not yet been selected.

8. New Business

- Motion: Restrict use of the dome during open houses and tours to temperatures above -20C. Any individual using the telescope and dome below -20C for their own personal use will be responsible for the repair and associated costs for any damage incurred.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Rusty Carried

- Due to issues regarding organizations requiring Criminal Record Checks of people interacting with members of their group, the following motion was presented. Simply stated, groups with CRC requirements will not be scheduled with groups not requiring CRC compliance.

Motion: Except for youth groups requiring compliance with their CRC regulations, groups asking for tour exclusivity will pay a premium rate.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rusty Carried

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

Motion: That the next Board of Directors meeting, PGC111, be held on April 13, 2011.
7:30 pm at Speedee Your Office Experts. Please submit all agenda items to Brian by April 6.
Moved: Blair Seconded: Glen Carried

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

