

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

**PGC120 Business Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2012**

Date: April 11, 2012
Location: 3323 Hart Highway

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Glen, Gil, Blair, Wayne, Jim Van Doren
Members Present: Maurice

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC119

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC119 (March 14, 2012) as presented.
Moved: Gil Seconded: Jim Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Space on Connaught Hill has been reserved for the Venus transit on Tuesday June 5. First contact of Venus is at 22:06 UTC (3:06 pm local time)
- To expedite meeting business, a more direct approach to curtailing side discussions will be implemented.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

Absent. No report available.

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was distributed as required.
- Framed certificate for Kaelan Lobelle in recognition of his success at the 2012 Science Fair has been made. Once signed by the president, it will be mailed to Kaelan

d. Treasurer

No financial information was presented

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

Website Report - Wayne

- The web site is up to date.

Tours & Public Outreach Report - Wayne

- One booked tour on April 21 remains to be done.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- All computer software is up to date.
- Evaluation testing of Mike's MallinCam Xtreme camera proved that night sky images sent from the 6" piggybacked refractor telescope and projected onto the classroom wall were acceptable.
- The Weathercam computer died. Blair donated a replacement and will be installed as time permits.

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance - Blair

- All small telescopes on hand are collimated and in good working order. Two telescopes are out on loan.
- Only two members attended the lunar marathons on March 30 and 31. Friday viewing wasn't too bad, members of the public showed up over the course of the evening, but Saturday's sky condition was a challenge.

Media Relations Report – Maurice

- April 'Our Night Sky' features have been written, recorded, and edited.

24" Telescope Maintenance Committee Report – Glen

- Repaired the dome rotation/slot door hand controller.
- Installed the MallinCam camera on the 6" piggybacked refractor. Testing is ongoing.

Grants & Funding Committee Report - Gil

- The final installment of \$5000 from the gaming commission has been deposited into the gaming account.

Building Report - Glen

- The spare donation box key could not be located. Successful duplication of the remaining key was not possible, so a new lock with reproducible keys was purchased and installed.
- Thanks to Mike M., a source of free additional 7m lengths of 2" DB2 conduit for the new observatory building was found. Once delivered, the conduit will be stored in the crawl space.
- Jim Van Doren removed, repaired, reinstalled the dome motor drive wheel, and reinforced the motor base with an additional support bracket. Realigning the drive wheel to maximize contact with the dome flange now allows dome rotation through the northwest quadrant.
- Replaced the loose BNC connector on the projector cable.

Grounds Report – Glen

- The drainage channel established when the driveway entrance was widened is doing a good job of diverting runoff water into the road ditch.
- Dug a narrow channel to drain standing water away from viewing deck.

5. Old Business

- With the acquisition of gaming funds, purchases of the ST-10 filters, Mallincam camera, 8 port KVM switch, and Hotech collimator have been made. Purchase of the 12" dob has been deferred because Bob's 10" dob will be returned to service for use on the viewing deck.
- The City Dark blu-ray disk purchase will be made once shipping costs have been determined.
- Maurice will be meeting with a contractor at the observatory on Friday, April 13th to get an estimate to professionally replace the loose dome room tiles, as well as cover the stairwell, landing, and control room floor surfaces with an industrial grade vinyl product.
- Discussion involving the type of blu-ray player occurred. Compatibility of the classroom computer needs to be established before the purchase can take place.
- Director's insurance discussion resulted in the decision to ensure all outstanding due diligence items are resolved.
- Measure the dome room access door prior to replacing it with a solid core type.
Update – the door measures 36" x 80".

6. New Business

- Motion: Approve the donation of \$100 to Clear Sky Charts.
Moved: Wayne Seconded: Gil Carried
- The wind up barbeque will be held on Saturday, June 9. Doors open at 5 pm, dinner to follow at 6 pm. Barbeques will be needed.
- The water tanks need to be recalibrated. Wayne expressed an interest in helping.
- Maurice will design and investigate the cost to install a north exit door ramp that meets current building code requirements. Details will be available at the May business meeting.
- Prepaying the utilities was tabled to the May business meeting pending firm numbers.

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

- The next Board of Directors meeting, PGC121, will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 7:30 pm at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Hwy. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday May 5, 2012.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.