

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

**PGC121 Business Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2012**

Date: May 9, 2012

Location: 3323 Hart Highway

Chairperson: Blair Stunder

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Executives Present: Glen, Gil, Blair, Wayne

Members Present: Maurice, Brian D.

Guest: Kevin Gedling

Meeting Called to Order at 7:34 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kevin Gedling was welcomed and introduced to the group. Kevin is the Product Development Officer for the Fort St. James Historic Site and provided details related to the upcoming Starfest Aug 18 weekend. 15 public camping spots will be made available for a \$15 fee that will also include breakfast. Pre-booking the sites is required. Five fire pits will be shared. Two Park Interpreters will circulate throughout the park with information about the Historic Site.

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC120

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC120 (April 11, 2012) as presented.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Brian D. 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)
- Perseid Meteor Shower Aug 11-12, 2012
- Fort St. James Star Party August 18, 2012

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- Progress is being made on the spectrograph grating mount.

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 sent.
- The most commonly used procedures for telescope operation and imaging are laminated and located in the dome.

- Received several donated items from Gerhard, including a 10" Dobsonian telescope, laser collimator, books for the library, mirror grinding platform and materials, mirror evaluation tool, mylar sheets, binocular stand and surface mirrors.

d. Treasurer

Club Account balance: \$5880.28

Gaming Account Balance: \$6184.71

Approximately \$700 in HST rebates does not show up on the report yet.

Motion: To accept the treasurer's report as presented.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Brian D. Carried

A detailed financial summary is filed with the minutes.

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

- Lecture at UNBC for about 90 Girl Guides and leaders occurs at 7pm on Saturday, June 2nd. Volunteers are needed.
- Northwood Wellness Day occurs on Thursday June 21st from 10am until 2pm. Volunteers are required to man the display table. Lunch is provided.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- All computer software is up to date.
- Replaced defective 'Weathercam' computer with 'Merope', a computer donated by Blair.
- Capacitor replacement kits have been ordered to repair the defective Dell GX270's and 280's.
- Installed an 8 port KVM switch in the control room. 5 computers are presently connected to the KVM.

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance - Blair

- All small telescopes on hand are collimated and in good working order. Two telescopes are out on loan.
- Gerhard's donated 10" Dobsonian will be cleaned up and collimated.

Media Relations Report – Maurice

- May 'Our Night Sky' features have been written, recorded, and edited.
- The City Dark DVD has been ordered and should arrive shortly. There is no limit to the number of times it can be screened.
- Information regarding the Venus transit will be aired and/ or printed in the local media.

24" Telescope Maintenance Committee Report – Glen

- Aligned the 6" refractor to the 24" scope, got the MallinCam working properly, and took some deep sky images.
- Established a new TPoint model.
- The ST-10 Scientific filters were installed and the filter wheel checked for proper operation.

- Camera drivers and firmware were updated.

Building Report - Glen

- Pulled in S-Video cables from the Mallincam camera to the projector and control computer.
- Rewired the DB9 connectors in the axis panel, basement patch panel, and control computer cable to accommodate the Mallincam control circuitry.
- Purchased two long 5/32" Allen keys for the dome friction wheel. One is located on the top of the dome motor control box, and the other is in the 'Small Tools' container in the basement.
- Repositioned the dome drive friction wheel and retightened the 4 locking Allen screws.

5. Old Business

- Purchased the ST-10 filters, Mallincam camera, 8 port KVM switch, and Hotech collimator.
- The City Dark blu-ray disk purchase has been made.

6. New Business

- Motion: Authorize the cost of \$300 for materials to build an exit ramp at the north classroom door. Moved: Wayne Seconded: Glen Carried
- Extend the southwest ditch to prevent unauthorized 4x4 access. This work will be coordinated with the construction of the north classroom door ramp. Work be slated for July 9th. Volunteers required.
- Motion: Authorize the cost of \$613 + HST to replace the dome room door with a solid door and frame c/w door closer, and a door closer on the west access door. Labour cost is included. Moved: Wayne Seconded: Blair Carried
This work will be done in the week of May 14.
- Motion: Authorize the cost of \$3315 + HST to replace the existing tiles on the dome room floor, stairs, and landing with 2.0mm thick sheet vinyl, and install the vinyl on the control room floor. This item is tabled until the next business meeting.
- Motion: Replace the 6" piggybacked refractor with the underutilized 8" orange Celestron SCT. Cost items include 2" Crayford motorized focuser, focal reducer, spacer, 2"-1.25" adapter. Total Cost: \$879+ shipping + HST
Moved: Wayne Seconded: Brian D. Carried
- Add a clause to the Due Diligence document stating that any member involved with Guide and Scout tours and presentations requires a Criminal Record Check. Open House hosts and assistants are exempt.
- Motion: Rescind the PGC117 motion to purchase a 12" Orion Dobsonian. With the acquisition of Gerhard's 10" Dob, and Bob's 10" Dob, this telescope is no longer required.
Moved: Blair Seconded: Gil Carried
- Motion: Purchase Director's insurance for ~ \$500
Moved: Blair No seconder Motion fails.

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

- The next Board of Directors meeting, PGC122, will be held on Wednesday, Aug 8, 2012 7:30 pm at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Hwy. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday Aug 4, 2012.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.