

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

**PGC116 Business Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2011**

Date: November 9, 2011
Location: 3323 Hart Highway

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Glen, Gil, Blair, Jim Van Doren, Wayne
Members Present: Rod
Guests: Brian Potts

Meeting Called to Order at 7:36 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Guest Brian Potts was introduced to all present.

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC115

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC115 (Oct 15, 2011) as presented.
Moved: Wayne Seconded: Gil Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

b. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was distributed as required.
- 2011 Charity Tax return forms were given to the treasurer.
- Society Annual Report Form 11 was completed and sent off to BC Registry Services.
- 43 RASC calendars were ordered for members. Cost worked out to \$11.70 each.
- Sent out donation receipts as required.
- Submitted my volunteer hours to Telus for reimbursement as a Telus donation to the Centre.

c. Treasurer

- Regular Account balance: \$5214.71 Gaming Account balance: \$3827.28
- Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.
Moved: Wayne Seconded: Rod Carried
- A detailed financial report is filed with these minutes.
- The RASC National insurance policy cost of \$1548 will be paid immediately.

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

Website Report - Wayne

- The web site is up to date and will be completely revamped (pro bono) by a third party in 2012.

Tours & Public Outreach Report - Wayne

- Two extra tours were booked and staffed. Dates are Nov 10 for an offsite presentation, and Dec 5 for a tour at the observatory. A third tour couldn't be worked out so the people will come to the Nov 25 open house instead. Additional volunteers will be required on Nov 25.

Newsletter - Gil

The deadline for the next PeGASus newsletter is January 20, 2012.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- Classroom UPS unit failed to initialize after a power failure and needed to be turned on manually.
- One of the Dell GX280 small desktop computers failed due to a 'CPU temperature out of range' fault and was replaced with a spare.

Building Maintenance Report - Glen

- Building alarm trouble indication was traced to a sub panel breaker in the off position. Power was restored.

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance - Blair

- Two used telescopes have been donated to the observatory, a 2" refractor, and a 4" Newtonian. Brian donated the Newtonian; the refractor was dropped off anonymously at SpeeDee Printers.
 - The Fort Saint James 2012 Star Party will be held on August 18, 2012.
 - The Nov 5 lunar marathon was attended by four members until the clouds moved in at 8:15 pm. At least one out of town member participated as well.
 - Weather permitting, the Lunar Eclipse will be viewed at the observatory on Saturday, Dec 10.
- From Blair: The eclipse's total phase lasts for 51 minutes. The penumbral eclipse ("P1") begins at 11:33:36 Universal Time (UT) and the partial eclipse ("U1") begins at 12:45:43 UT. The total eclipse ("U2") begins at 14:06:16 UT and the point of the greatest eclipse occurs at 14:31:49 UT. The umbral eclipse magnitude will reach 1.11 at the instant of greatest eclipse. The total eclipse ("U3") ends at 14:57:24 UT, followed by the end of the partial eclipse ("U4") at 16:17:58 UT. The penumbral eclipse ("P4") ends at 17:29:57 UT

I have converted the UT to Local Time:

P1	3:33 am
U1	4:45 am
U2	6:06 am
UT	6:31 am
U3	6:57 am
U4	8:17 am
P4	9:29 am

- The Geminid Meteor shower occurs during the evening of Wednesday, Dec 14 and morning of Thursday, Dec 15. Weather permitting, the observatory will be open for the event.
- Open Cluster Binocular Marathon will be held on Saturday, Nov 26, weather permitting.
- The Christmas potluck will be held at the observatory on Saturday, Dec 3. Doors open at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6 pm.

Grants & Funding Committee Report - Gil

- Gil will have the 2012 gaming application completed and sent in before the Nov 30, 2011 deadline.

24" Telescope Maintenance Committee Report - Gil

- The mirrors are still with the vendor, and will be tested as a pair on Nov 15. Depending on the results, a decision will be made and depending on the cost, the additional work will be performed or the mirrors will be shipped back as is.

5. Old Business

- A building appraisal for insurance purposes has been deemed unnecessary by the executive. (PGC113)

- Blair will contact Frank of Snow-B-Gone to perform observatory snow removal. (PGC115)

- Filter purchase for the new ST-10XME camera is on hold until mirror costs are finalized. (PGC113)

6. New Business

- Wayne will post the January-April volunteer schedule to the website based on the data he was given.

- The RASC insurance policy was reviewed and found to be missing Her Majesty the Queen as co-insured. (The property the observatory sits on is a Crown Lease). Gil is in contact with the insurance agent to get the issue sorted out.

- A CGA has been contacted to prepare this year's Charity tax return and GST/HST rebates from previous years.

- CRA changes to 'not-for-profit' organizations will have a minimal or no impact on the Prince George Centre.

- 30 NOVA posters have been prepared and await distribution. Course cost is \$115.

- Discussion about increasing the 'recommended donation' amount to \$50 for onsite tours involving groups that aren't 'not-for-profit', and all offsite and non scheduled tours regardless of 'not-for-profit' status. Agreement was reached but there was no official motion so the topic will be re-tabled at the January business meeting.

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

- The next Board of Directors meeting, PGC117, will be held on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 7:30 pm at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Hwy. Please submit all agenda items to Blair by Sunday, January 8, 2012.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.