

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

**PGC117 Business Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2012**

Date: January 11, 2012
Location: 3323 Hart Highway

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

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC116

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC116 (Nov 9, 2011) as presented.
Moved: Gil Seconded: Wayne Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- 1000 planispheres were ordered and delivered.
- There are 12 people interested in attending NOVA so far.
- 10 Beginner Observers Guides have been ordered.
- Year End report and HST rebate have not yet been done.
- Relaunch of the website is anticipated to be by September 2012
- CKPG did an interview regarding NOVA.

b. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was distributed as required.
- Crown Lease / License of Occupation was renewed for 30 years. Administrative cost was \$224
- Lost gaming account cheques were found by a member of the public.

c. Treasurer

- Regular Account balance: \$5420.54 Gaming Account balance: \$671.10
- Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.
Moved: Maurice Seconded: Bob Carried
A detailed financial report is filed with these minutes.
- Motion: Prepay \$200 to each of the accounts of Telus, Fortis, BC Hydro from the gaming account.
Moved: Gil Seconded: Jim Carried

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

Website Report - Wayne

- The web site is up to date.
- Request that a copy of the mirror testing be placed in the archive section of the web site.

Tours & Public Outreach Report - Wayne

- Always looking for tour and open house hosts and assistants.
- 2012 tour bookings are being filled.
- A visit by 20-30 long distance learning students and instructors from School District 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin) is anticipated near the end of March. This is a direct result of public outreach done by Wayne last October.
- Several December tour requests outside the posted available tour dates were not fulfilled due to a lack of available manpower.

Newsletter - Gil

- Due to the chronic lack of articles, publication of the newsletter will be held until a sufficient number of articles make publication worthwhile.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- Replaced 'Meteor' computer with a donated server 'Alcyone'. This computer controls the main telescope. 'Meteor' will remain on site as the backup.

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance - Blair

- Collimation of the black 8" Celestron remains to be done.
- Fort St. James star party is scheduled for August 18th and may include solar viewing. PGC116
- Binocular Open Cluster viewing will be on Feb 18th. PGC116
- Messier Marathon will be held on March 17th. PGC116
- Lunar Marathon dates are March 2, 3, 30, 31.

Grants & Funding Committee Report - Gil

- Gil to check the status of the gaming request.

24" Telescope Maintenance Committee Report - Gil

- The mirrors have been returned and reinstalled. Collimation awaits clear skies.
- The finder scopes were realigned.
- Planetarium telescope control problems remain to be resolved.

Media Relations Report - Maurice

- NOVA posters distributed.
- NOVA promotion via CBC (text and audio), and The Pulse website.
- 'Our Night Sky' radio spot features up to the end of January have been made.

5. Old Business

- Filter purchase for the new ST-10XME camera is on hold until funds are available. (PGC113). Bob will look into the status of the reformulated red filter.
 - Motion: Approve in principle the construction of a spectrograph for the 24" telescope. The initial cost of \$448.08 will be paid and development continued, pending funds availability, if the spectrograph results are deemed acceptable. PGC114
- Moved: Gil Seconded: Jim Carried

6. New Business

- Motion: approve the purchase of a 4 port VGA splitter for \$12.28 pending available funds.
- Moved: Gil Seconded: Blair Carried
- Motion: approve the purchase of an 8 port KVM switch for \$261.99 pending available funds.
- Moved: Gil Seconded: Blair Carried
- Motion: approve the purchase of a 12" Orion Dobsonian telescope for \$1399.95 pending available funds.
- Moved: Gil Seconded: Jim Carried
- Motion: approve the purchase of a dual monitor PCIe graphics card for \$99.66.
- Moved: Gil Seconded: Blair Carried
- Motion: Restructure the fee schedule. Bob will rework the wording of the original text. PGC116
- Moved: Bob Seconded: Jim Carried
- Motion: Donate to Clear Sky Clock web site. Item tabled to the March business meeting.
 - Bob will spearhead a dome exhaust fan project.

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

- The next Board of Directors meeting, PGC118, will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 7:30 pm at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Hwy. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday, February 4, 2012.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.