

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

**PGC128 Business Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2013**

Date: April 10, 2013

Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Executives Present: Blair, Glen, Bob, Jim

Members Present: Rod, Maurice

Meeting Called to Order at 7:31 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC127

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC127 (March 13, 2013)

Moved: Bob Seconded: Maurice Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Glenn Hawley visited last month and went over proposed RASC bylaw changes. The dome needs to be repaired.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- Work on repairing Bob's 10" dob is ongoing. His 6" refractor is available for use at the observatory. 24" telescope tracking test will be done on the next clear evening. Tom Field has yet to be contacted regarding his webinar.

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was picked up regularly.

- A package of outreach material was sent to Steve in Williams Lake.

- Pending approval at the AGM of National bylaw changes, Centre bylaws regarding membership types will need to be changed to comply with RASC National bylaw changes. Associate members will be notified of the change to family memberships by the end of July.

d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)

Bank balances as of 2013/03/31

- Club Account Balance \$4803.25

- Gaming Account Balance \$9122.35

Motion: To accept the financial report as presented.

Moved: Rod Seconded: Maurice Carried

A detailed financial statement is filed with the minutes.

- All purchases approved at the last business meeting with the exception of the spectrograph items have been made.
- Sage Simply Accounting has been updated to reflect the change from HST to PST and GST tax reporting.
- The HST rebate application for the period of 2012/10/01 to 2013/03/31 was submitted on 2013/04/05. Rebate amount will be \$220.57 to the Club Account, and \$390.37 to the Gaming Account.

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

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance Report – Blair

- The Telrad intensity control on Gerhard's 10" dob needs to be cleaned, as does the Red Dot finder control on the Starblaster #3 dob. Operation of both these devices is intermittent.

Media Relations Report - Maurice

- 'Our Night Sky', heard on Mondays at 10:30 am on radio station CFIS 93.1, is complete for April.

Tour Report - Mike

- On April 3 a tour was held for the Blackpine Cub Group. 9 children and 9 adults attended, as well as 3 neighbours. In all, there were 7 members present.
- 25 guests and 4 members were present for a tour on April 9th.
- One booked tour remains to be conducted on April 24th starting at 9 pm.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- The new classroom computer is being configured and will be operational soon.

Building Report – Glen

- Lower shutter door counterweight is on site but not yet installed.
- The soft start dome rotation controller and DC motor have been installed and are operational.
- Wayne is working on a control to synchronize dome rotation with telescope movement.

5. Old Business

- Maurice showed dome room flooring samples. One was selected that will cost about \$300 less than originally thought. Quality will be the same as the original selection.
- Bob to contact Tom Field regarding conducting a webinar about astronomical spectroscopy.
- North door ramp to be built once the pile of gravel thaws out and the frost is out of the ground.
- Blair was reimbursed \$ 54.68 for Glenn Hawley's dinner.

6. New Business

- The 50+ year old dome has developed several significant leaks due to seam corrosion. All dome seam fasteners will be inspected, tightened, replaced, and missing fasteners installed prior to sealing the inner seams and working on the dome exterior. Scaffolding will be used for this work. Work is planned for a warm day in May and is to be completed before the dome floor is installed. Slot door bearings will also be inspected at this time and lubricated if necessary. Club volunteers will perform all repairs on the dome.

- Blair will obtain costs for materials to cover the exterior dome seams with reinforced seam tape and the material to cover the dome exterior with a rubberized skin. A rented manlift will be used to assist in the repair of the outer dome surface.
- The club expects to be involved in Canada Day celebrations.
- The new Fort Saint James Star Party person will be contacted regarding this year's plan to hold the event again this Fall.
- The Prince George Naturalist Club has expressed interest in a presentation on Aurora Borealis in September. 50 – 60 people would attend.

7. Date, Time, and Location of next Business Meeting

- Due to scheduling conflicts, the next business meeting, PGC129, will be held a week later in the month than normal on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Highway. Start time is 7:30 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday May 11, 2013.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

