

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

**PGC130 Business Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2013**

Date: August 14, 2013
Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Blair, Glen, Bob
Members Present: Rod, Maurice, Brian D.

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC129

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC129 (May 15, 2013)
Moved: Bob Seconded: Maurice Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Many major projects were completed over the summer: Dome repair, dome room flooring, north ramp.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- A fiber optic cable for the spectrograph should only cost about \$600.

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was picked up regularly.
- Reserved booth 25 at the Pine Centre Living Market scheduled for September 7 and 8. Volunteers required.
- Members spent 70 hours in June and 300 hours in July participating in work bees and special projects at the observatory.
- 9 volunteers participated in a work bee on August 10th. All 15 listed tasks were completed.
- Mailed a thank you to All Points Fire Protection Ltd for inspecting and recharging our fire extinguishers free of charge.

d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)

Bank balances as of 2013/08/08

- Club Account Balance \$4290.22
- Gaming Account Balance \$4767.08

Motion: To accept the financial report as presented.

Moved: Bob Seconded: Maurice Carried
A detailed financial statement is filed with the minutes.

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

Observing and Small Telescopes Maintenance Report – Blair

- A Red Dot Finder has been purchased to replace a defective finder on one of the 4.5” Dobsonian telescopes.
- More friction in the Right Ascension axis is required for Bob’s 10” dob to work properly.
- Solar filters have been purchased for one of the 4.5” dobs, the 6” dob, and the 8” dob. The 8” filter should also fit the 8” Celestron.

Media Relations Report - Maurice

- 'Our Night Sky', heard on Mondays at 10:30 am on radio station CFIS 93.1, is complete for August.
- PG Naturalists would like a talk on Aurora this fall. Bob will prepare a 45 minute talk.
- Fort Saint James Star Party posters have been put up. Maurice will contact CBC regarding radio promotion of the event.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- The new classroom computer is operational.
- Replaced the motherboard capacitors in two of the meteor monitoring computers.
- Updated all the computers on a regular basis.

Building Report – Glen

- North ramp has been backfilled and compacted. Awaiting railing fabrication and installation.
- Placed 6 spare patio blocks on the north ramp landing.
- Dome has been pressure washed, taped, sealed, and painted.
- Dome shutters have been painted.
- New flooring was installed in the dome room, stairwell, dome hallway, and control room.
- Trimmed ¼” off the bottom of the green door to clear the new threshold and adjusted the door to make it easier to close.
- Replaced nails with screws in the bottom broom closet door hinge.
- Replaced the furnace filter.
- Reattached the edging laminate to several classroom tables.
- Weatherstripped the north classroom door.
- Cleaned and restocked the bathroom.
- Repaired one section of the west soffit.
- Scraped and painted the south gable end, soffit, and fascia board.
- Reinstalled missing flashing on the large dome shutter.
- Moved excess classroom material to the basement.
- Swept, vacuumed, and washed the classroom and hallway floors.
- Eliminated a wasp nest.

Grants and Funding Report - Bob

- Submit spending suggestions ASAP to Bob for inclusion in the gaming grant request.

Grounds Report – Glen

- Weeded the viewing deck.
- Applied a weed killer to the remaining viewing deck weeds.
- Moved the east gate post with wedges to allow for easier removal/restoration of the gate lock.
- Filled several driveway potholes with donated road crush.

Other Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- Installed a monitor and an IP9258 internet controlled power bar at the Tatla Lake School.
- Performed annual maintenance on the AllSky cameras at Tatla Lake and Mile 108 schools.

24” Telescope Maintenance Report - Glen

- Wireless handpad has been installed and tested.
- Autotracking wiring from the ST10X CCD camera to handpad control box has been installed and terminated.

Webmaster Report – Glen

- The website is being kept current with advisories on Open House status and upcoming events.
- Uploaded updated observatory operating procedures.
- Observatory maintenance reports have been posted.
- Added a new item ‘Observatory Maintenance List’ itemizing outstanding maintenance issues. Located under Members/Members Area.

5. Old Business

- Bob to contact Tom Field regarding conducting a webinar about astronomical spectroscopy.
- Deck resurfacing proposal deferred due to budget restraints.
- Further spectrograph development deferred due to budget restraints.

6. New Business

- Description of membership types are required to comply with RASC/CCRA. This may involve changes to the bylaws. Blair will check with RASC President Glenn Hawley regarding what needs to be done at our end.
- Open House Volunteers and Tour dates/volunteers need to be established and posted on the website. Email the webmaster g_harris@telus.net with your availability.
- Volunteer schedule for the Sept 7, 8 Active Living Market needs to be populated with volunteers. Email the webmaster g_harris@telus.net with your availability.
- Fall Messier Marathon, Open Cluster viewing, and viewing at Baldy Hughes were Fall viewing options discussed.
- Spending proposal for 4.5” Dobsonian travel bags to be submitted.
- Illuminated keyboards for the classroom and dome room to be purchased.
- Contact Insurance Agent to arrange for billing to be made before September 30th.

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

The next business meeting, PGC131, will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Highway. Start time is 7:30 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday September 7, 2013.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.