

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

**PGC131 Business Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2013**

Date: September 11, 2013
Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Blair, Glen
Members Present: Maurice, Deann

Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC130

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC130 (August 14, 2013)
Moved: Maurice Seconded: Deann Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Waiting for RASC guidance regarding bylaw changes.
- Binocular viewing session is being planned.
- Possible late season viewing at Baldy Hughes.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- Absent

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was picked up regularly.
- Mailed a thank you letter to Niven Contracting for the free delivery of road fill.
- E-mailed donation receipts to two members who donated when renewing their memberships.

d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)

Bank balances as of 2013/08/31

- Club Account Balance \$4405.72
- Gaming Account Balance \$4280.52

Motion: To accept the financial report as presented.

Moved: Deann 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

- More friction in the Right Ascension axis is required for Bob's 10" DOB to work properly.
- The dobsonian telescopes were collimated recently.
- A 6" f7 refractor telescope, several premium eyepieces, and 13 astronomy books were recently donated to the observatory. Once the finder scope aligned, the telescope will be ready for use.

Media Relations Report - Maurice

- All but 2 'Our Night Sky' spotlights heard on Mondays at 10:30 am on radio station CFIS 93.1 are complete for September. The remaining spotlights will be recorded soon.
- PG Naturalists would like a talk on Aurora this fall. Bob will prepare a 45 minute talk.

Tour Report – Mike

- The Mount Robson Star Show on September 6th and 7th was a huge success. Although clouded out on the Friday the 6th, 30 people attended the lecture. Saturday's lecture saw only 15 people in attendance, probably due to the absence of marathoners that had just completed a 50km run, but those in attendance enjoyed clear skies after the talk.
- One confirmed tour of the Cedars Christian School Grade 3 class on Wednesday, November 20th is booked.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- Replaced the dome keyboard with an illuminated unit.
- All observatory computers are updated on a regular basis.

Building Report – Glen

- Installed signage on the inside and outside of the north classroom door.
- Installed an exterior motion sensor above the north classroom door, adjusted and tested.
- The flashing on the bottom of the large dome shutter was trimmed to prevent interference with the dome surface.

Grants and Funding Report - Bob

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

Suggested items:

- Replace the classroom and main hallway flooring.
- Refigure the 24" mirror.
- Replace the south viewing deck surface with grass.
- Spectrograph completion.
- Replace the classroom shingles.

Grounds Report – Glen

- Trimmed some branches from the north poplar tree to allow for proper operation of the motion sensor.

Other Equipment Maintenance Report - Glen

- A problem with the Mallincam wiring to the computer has been isolated and repaired. The Mallincam camera is now operating properly.
- Dome/scope sync synchronization is still inoperable. Manual control of the dome is still possible. Troubleshooting is ongoing.

Webmaster Report – Glen

- The website is being kept current with advisories on Open House status and upcoming events.
- The volunteer page is being continuously updated.

5. Old Business

- Bob to contact Tom Field regarding conducting a webinar about Astronomical Spectroscopy.
- Bob to prepare and present an Aurora presentation for the PG Naturalist Club.
- Deck resurfacing proposal deferred due to budget restraints.
- Further spectrograph development deferred due to budget restraints.
- North door railing project is ongoing.
- Dome/Scope synchronization project is ongoing.
- Description of membership types are required to comply with RASC/CCRA. This may involve changes to the bylaws. Awaiting guidance from RASC National.
- Fall Messier Marathon, Open Cluster viewing, and viewing at Baldy Hughes were late Fall viewing options discussed.
- Contact Insurance Agent to arrange for billing to be made before September 30th, and check on the amount of public liability coverage.

6. New Business

- AGM to follow the business meeting on October 5th at the observatory.
 - There are mice in the observatory building. Traps will be set and Deann will purchase mouse proof containers for consumables and replace damaged supplies as required.
 - The concrete at the west building entrance will be ground down to facilitate the placement of a door threshold that will deter mice from entering the building.
 - Replace the existing EXIT signs with Glow in the Dark units.
 - Move the First Aid Kit from above the stove, check the contents for expired items, and replace as necessary.
 - Motion: Purchase a High Definition Projector from gaming funds. Cost from NewEgg is \$1349 + tax + shipping.
- Moved: Blair Seconded: Maurice Carried
- The remaining gaming funds will be dedicated to prepaying the utilities. A gaming account balance of < \$100 will be carried forward into the 2013-2014 fiscal year.
 - The existing projector will be dedicated to the MallinCam and moved so it projects a smaller image onto the north classroom wall. The classroom television set can then be decommissioned.
 - A video surveillance system will be installed. Monitoring of the building exterior will be active only during the summer months when vandalism typically occurs.
 - Discretionary spending is suspended until 2014 gaming funds have been received.

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

The next business meeting, PGC132, will be held on Saturday October 5th, 2013 at the PGOO Observatory, 7365 Tedford Road. Start time is 7:00 pm. AGM to follow at 8:00 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday September 28th, 2013.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.