

**PRINCE GEORGE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
PRINCE GEORGE CENTRE**

**7365 Tedford Road
Prince George, BC
V2N 6S2**

**PGC135 Business Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2014**

Date: February 12, 2014
Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Blair, Glen, Bob, Gil, Jim
Members Present: Maurice, Rusty

Meeting Called to Order at 7:38 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC134

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC134 (January 8, 2014)
Moved: Bob Seconded: Rusty Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Attempt to view the ISS lunar transit was unsuccessful.
- Nova classes are running smoothly.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- Will teach NOVA 3 on February 15th at the observatory.
- Will talk about Aurora Borealis to the PG Naturalist Club on February 20th at Exploration Place.

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- Canada Post mail was picked up regularly.
- The RASC Centre Annual Activity report was sent to RASC National.
- Renewed Evan Williams' membership in recognition of him hosting the Centre web site.
- Submitted the GST rebate application.

d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)

Bank balances as of 2014/02/05

- Club Account Balance \$5564.56
- Gaming Account Balance \$12807.66

Motion: To accept the financial report as presented.

Moved: Rusty Seconded: Maurice Carried

A detailed financial statement is filed with the minutes.

- Gaming funds were automatically deposited to the gaming account on 2014/01/22.

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

Media Relations Report – Maurice

- Our Night Sky radio segments for February are done.
- Exploration Place is in charge of advertising Bob's Aurora Borealis presentation.

Webmaster Report – Glen

- Updated the maintenance logs.
- Ran into a problem when updating the website to the latest version that required the web site developer to resolve a problem with the tour booking page.

Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report – Glen

- Software on all observatory computers is current. Because Windows XP will no longer be supported, Windows 7 is in place on the classroom and dome computers. Non-essential computers will continue to run Windows XP, but will be on their own network.

Tours and Public Outreach – Mike

- The February 4th 3rd PG Beavers tour was well attended with 21 well behaved children and 13 adults in attendance. Rose and Rudy helped with the presentation and on the viewing deck. Jim ran the show in the dome.
- Tours are booked for February 22nd and March 8th.

Grounds Report – Glen

- Blockbuster pumped out the sewage holding tank.
- Damaged southeast pier communication box cover needs to be replaced.

Building Report - Glen

- Dome access door alarm contact and magnet need to be replaced. The sensor failed during -30C temperatures.
- Door sweep needs to be installed on the dome room access door.
- The west door exit sign needs to be repaired.
- The dome is frozen in position and won't rotate.
- The dome roof needs to be cleared of snow and the dome freed up.

Observing and Small Telescope Maintenance Report – Various

- Collimated the 10" handmade scope.
- More friction in the RA axis is required for Bob's 10" DOB to work properly.
- The Orion 10" DOB red dot finder needs servicing. It doesn't illuminate until the control is in the fully on position.
- Pneumatic wheels are required for the hand cart.

Other Equipment Maintenance Report – Glen

- Working closely with Dan Gray to get the dome/telescope synchronization problems resolved. It appears that the software needs to be modified for our site specific requirements.

Telescope Maintenance Report – Glen

- Uncontrolled telescope movement...re-soldered the CAT5 servo controller jack pins, re-terminated the CAT5 cable and tested the scope using the manual hand pad. The telescope is working at the moment. 2 CAT5 replacement jacks are now on hand in the event this repair is not a permanent solution. (Subsequent use at NOVA 1 and 2 was trouble free.)
- Created various telescope failure scenarios and updated the 24” telescope troubleshooting documentation accordingly.

5. Old Business

- RASC AGM in Victoria from June 26 - 29. Notify Blair if you plan on attending. Carpooling is an option with the PG Centre picking up some of the travel costs.
- Signing authority change needs to be addressed in a timely fashion.

6. New Business

- Motion: Remove Brian Battersby from signing authority for RBC accounts 04530 102-713-5 and 04530 102-714-3.

Moved: Rusty Seconded: Jim Carried

- Motion: Add Robert (Bob) Nelson to signing authority for RBC accounts 04530 102-713-5 and 04530 102-714-3.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Jim Carried

- Spring Work Bees

 North door ramp

 North ramp railings

- Messier Marathon March 1 @ 6:30 pm coincides with NOVA 4 – Telescopes and how to use them. In the event of poor weather, the marathon will be rescheduled to March 29th.

- Tuesday, April 14th total lunar eclipse. (Totality @ 12:06 am – 01:24 am PDT)

- 2015 Winter Games. Possible Sidewalk Astronomy event. Time and location TBA.

- Open Cluster Binocular Marathon. Date TBA.

- Spending proposals were submitted for a backup servo controller, scope drive motor and HD projector. These and future spending proposals will be dealt with at the April business meeting.

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

The next business meeting, PGC136, will be held on Wednesday March 12 at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Highway. Start time is 7:30 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday March 8, 2014.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.