

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

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

**PGC136 Business Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2014**

Date: March 12, 2014

Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Executives Present: Blair, Glen

Members Present: Brian, Mark, Maurice

Meeting Called to Order at 7:34 p.m.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**2. Approval of Minutes of PGC135**

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC135 (February 12, 2014)

Moved: Maurice

Seconded: Brian

Carried

**3. Reports of Officers**

**a. President (Blair Stunder)**

- Messier Marathon planned for March 29.
- Open Houses are well attended.

**b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)**

- On vacation.

**c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)**

- Canada Post mail was picked up regularly.
- The PGAS Bylaw changes related to membership types were accepted by and filed with BC Registry Services.
- Created Dome/Scope Synchronization and Mallincam /Celestron Focus operating instructions and filed them in the Operating Procedures binders.

**d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)**

Bank balances as of 2014/03/01

- Club Account Balance \$5885.78
- Gaming Account Balance \$12807.66
- Registered Charity Information Return Summary was received. There were no issues with the tax return I submitted.

Motion: To accept the financial report as presented.

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

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

##### **Media Relations Report – Maurice**

- Our Night Sky radio segments for March are done.
- Approximately 45 people attended Bob's Aurora Borealis presentation held at Exploration Place..

##### **Webmaster Report – Glen**

- Added several Operating Procedures to the Member's area of the website.

##### **Computers and AV Equipment Maintenance Report – Glen**

- Software on all observatory computers is current.

##### **Tours and Public Outreach – Mike**

- The February 4<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Dragon Lake Girl Guides Tour. 15 kids and 7 adults. Deann, Rose, Rudy, Rusty, and Jim assisted.
- March 4 Malaspina Elementary School 19 kids and 15 adults. Deann, Rusty, Rose, and Jim assisted.
- March 8<sup>th</sup> Vanderhoof and Blue Mountain Cub groups. Deann, Rose and Rudy assisted.
- Will possibly hold an astronomy viewing session at PGYCC in the near future.

##### **Building Report - Glen**

- The dome roof is leaking into the dome stairwell. Maurice will talk to Mons Aase and see if he will take a look at it. If not, Maurice will get a repair estimate before the next meeting.
- The dome door alarm magnet was replaced.

##### **Observing and Small Telescope Maintenance Report – Blair**

- More friction in the RA axis is required for Bob's 10" DOB to work properly.
- Dobsonian telescopes keep going out of collimation. Remove the main door threshold before moving the telescopes outside and then move them very carefully to/from the viewing deck. Additionally, don't store them pointing down.

##### **Other Equipment Maintenance Report – Glen**

- The Mallincam was out of focus. Focus is achieved by using the focuser hand pad. If focus cannot be achieved, adjust the focuser to 3.5 on the focuser dial using the handpad and then do a rough focus using the knob on the Celestron visual back. Fine adjustment can then be made with the handpad.

##### **- Telescope Maintenance Report – Glen**

- The dome/scope synchronization project is complete. Operating instructions are filed in the Operating Procedures binders.
- Installed sensor controlled heat tape on the dome rotation motor and gear box.
- Repositioned the Servo Controller for easier access to wiring.

- Replaced defective Servo Controller male power connector.

## **5. Old Business**

- Signing authority change needs to be addressed.
- Spring Work Bees
  - North ramp railings.
  - Prep ground for sidewalk extension.
- Messier Marathon March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 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 to date.
  - Fiber Optic Cable \$1380
  - Spare DC Servo Controller \$560
  - Spare DC Drive Motor \$260
  - Benq Projector \$1980

## **6. New Business**

- Spending proposal received for rekeying the observatory. Spending proposals will be dealt with at the April business meeting.
- Motion: Allocate \$7000 of available funds to pay fixed costs for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.  
Moved: Maurice      Seconded: Mark      Carried
- Keyholder Policy discussion tabled to next meeting.
  - Keyholder observatory orientation to be held in conjunction with new key distribution.
  - Tentative plans are being made for the Fort Saint James Star Party. August 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the date.
  - The 24" mirror needs to be cleaned.

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

The next business meeting, PGC137, will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at Arctic Manufacturing 3323 Hart Highway. Start time is 7:30 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday April 12, 2014.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.