

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

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

**PGC157 Business Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2016**

Date: September 14, 2016
Location: 3323 Hart Hwy.

Chairperson: Blair Stunder
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Blair, Glen, Bob (Skype)
Members Present: Rod, Maurice

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC156

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of PGC156 August 10, 2016

Moved: Glen Seconded: Rod Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Blair Stunder)

- Fort St. James star Party was cancelled due to bad weather.
- Open Houses are progressing.
- Parking lot should be done by the end of September.
- New red dot finders are in place on the larger scopes.
- Two 8-24mm variable eyepieces are available for viewing deck scopes.
- I will attend the 'Friends of the Fort' event in Fort St. James on January 26, 2017 and give a presentation on the Antikythera Mechanism.

b. Vice President (Bob Nelson)

- Ordered a focuser for the spectrograph.
- The portable planetarium initiative will recommence soon.

c. Secretary/Recorder (Glen Harris)

- No response yet from the Gaming Branch regarding our reconsideration request.
- 2017 RASC calendars are available for purchase at \$13 each. Contact Glen to arrange payment and pickup.
- Canada Post mail was processed as required.

d. Treasurer (Glen Harris)

Account balances as of 2016/08/31

- Club Account Balance \$9428.09
- Gaming Account Balance \$5755.32

- Prepaid Account \$0.00

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Maurice Carried

- Detailed financial information is filed with the minutes.
- \$3277.16 was transferred from the gaming account to the club account to cover legitimate gaming expenses paid from the club account.

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

Webmaster Report – Glen

- The latest WordPress release eliminated a bug preventing large image files from being uploaded.
- Fall tour dates and the most current observatory volunteer schedule were uploaded to the website.
- An [Aurora prediction](#) link has been added to the website.

Telescope Maintenance Report – Glen

- A new focuser is required for the spectrograph. There are sufficient funds remaining in the spectrograph account for the purchase. The existing focuser will be moved to the left most 4 shooter position and used as an imaging port for visitors phones, etc.

Observing and Small Scopes Maintenance Report - Blair

- New red dot finders were installed on the larger scopes. Backordered finders will be installed on the remaining telescopes when they arrive.

Computers and A/V Equipment Report – Glen

- The primary Viewsonic projector failed and is out for repair.
- Rod donated a 20" monitor for use in the classroom.
- Rod has an ETX90 optical tube available.

Media Relations Report – Maurice

- Our Night Sky reports heard on CFIS radio Monday mornings at 10:30am continue to be generated.

Building and Grounds Maintenance Report – Glen

- The parking lot expansion should be finished by the end of September.
- Weed whacking and minor exit ramp repairs occurred in August.

Tours and Public Outreach – Glen

- 236 people attended the clouded out Perseid shower. 7 volunteers were on hand.
- Subsequent August open houses were poorly attended due to poor weather.
- Detailed information pertaining to the Messier poster is located next to the poster.
- Five tour dates have been posted on the website.
- Mike did some outreach at Mount Robson.
- The active Living Market at Pine Centre Mall booth saw a total of 183 visitors over two days.

Grants and Funding Report – Bob

- A list of needs is required for the next gaming application.
- A minor capital grant application for the rear observing deck needs to accompany the gaming application. Estimates and quotes for labour and supplies are required.

5. Old Business

- Ten new red dot finders and two 8-24mm Clickstop Zoom 2” Hyperon eyepieces were purchased.

6. New Business

- The society bylaw transition package will cost \$40.
- Blair and Glen will attend the Board Basics Series of workshops individually over the next two months. Topics are the BC Societies Act; Organizational Structure, Governance and engaging volunteers; Liability, Risk Management and board member responsibilities; and Funding sources and financial accountability.
- The H.R. MacMillan Space Centre portable planetarium is returning the Prince George in November. Arrangements have been made (thanks Mike) to have a public open house at Immaculate Conception School from 6:30pm until 9:30pm on November 8th.
- The NOVA course evaluation was reviewed.
- Retired Norm Brooks has offered his assistance pro bono in rewriting the PGAS constitution and bylaws.
- Motion: Allocate and authorize the amount of \$3200 for the purchase of:
 - Two 2” Orion variable polarizing filters
 - One 1.25” Orion variable polarizing filter
 - 50mm Lundt HA Refractor Telescope
 - Power Tank 7AH 12 V
 - Skywatcher EQ5 Synscan Go To Mount c/w GPS
 - iOptron Ball Head camera mount
 - 8” Dove Tail Bar
 - ‘V’ series Dove Tail Adapter
 - Vixen Universal Mounting Plate
 - AC Adapter 12VDC 2.5A

Moved: Blair Seconded: Glen Carried

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

The next meeting, PGC158, will be held on Wednesday October 26, 2016 at the observatory. Business meeting start time is 7:00 pm. The AGM will start at 8:00 pm. Please submit all agenda items to Blair no later than Saturday, October 22, 2016.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.