

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

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

**PGC218 Business Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2023**

Date: April 12, 2023

Location: Zoom Meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Executives Present: Malhar, Glen, Gil, Maurice, Rob

Members Present: Adriana, Rebecca

Visitors Present: Mike

Meeting Called to Order at 7:34 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC217

Motion: To accept the business meeting minutes of March 8, 2023.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Maurice Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Malhar)

- Will be talking with Gracie from Exploration Place regarding collaboration.
- Looking at installing software on the new Win11 computer.
- Donating CCDOPS V5 for control of ST* cameras.

b. Vice President (Maurice)

- See Media relations report.

c. Secretary (Glen)

- Processed mail as required.
- Received notification from CRA stating that our return was OK.

d. Treasurer (Glen)

- CWB account balances as of 2023-03-31
 - General Account Balance \$5314.58
 - Internally Restricted Fund Account \$6000.00 (Tabor Mtn. Observatory removal)
 - Gaming Account Balance \$5802.36

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report of March 31, 2023.

Moved: Rob Seconded: Gil Carried

e. National Representative Report (Rob)

- Attempting to obtain the minutes and video of the latest National Board meeting.

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

Webmaster Report - Glen

- Website is being updated regularly.

Computers and A/V Equipment Report - Rob

- Established a VPN for remote access to all devices on the local network.

0.6m Telescope Maintenance Report - Glen

- The primary mirror will be cleaned Saturday, May 6 @ 11 am.

Grounds and Building Report - Glen

- All fire extinguishers need to be replaced.
- Portable water tank needed.

Media Relations Report - Maurice and Malhar

- Our Night Sky features being recorded remotely and MP3 file e-mailed to CFIS, for Monday 10:30 am broadcast.
- CKPGToday interviewed Malhar twice in March.

Outreach - Glen

- 200 visitors at March Open Houses (Activity summary attached)
- Two tours resulted in 59 visitors.
- Telescope courses (2) attendance was 31 people, of which 6 attended an evening of telescope activity.
- Good volunteer attendance.
- 288.5 public outreach related volunteer hours accumulated in March.
- CKPG Fun Chaser visited the observatory during one of the March open houses.
- UNBC student tour scheduled for Friday, May 5.
- Three groups of 25 Girl Guides (total 75) tentatively scheduled for daytime tours on Saturday May 6.

Grants and Funding – Rob and Malhar

- Rob to request RDFFG funding.
- Malhar to meet with Friends of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada regarding funding on April 20.

Observatory Store – Glen

- NightWatch books are available at cost to members.
- Three styles of red-light flashlights are available to members.

5. Old Business

- **Motion:** Authorize the spending of up to \$250 for additional robotic telescope control equipment.
Moved: Rob Seconded: Glen Carried

- **Motion:** Suspend preliminary discussion on what Prince George Centre has to gain or lose by leaving RASC National until after the National board meeting on April 9. Cancellation of SkyNews as a resource is the primary mover of this discussion. Members will be canvassed before any decision is made.

Moved: Rob Seconded: Maurice Carried

- Rob is working on a PGAS and Prince George Educational Collaboration with the aim to create a program for teachers and professors to use for teaching astronomy to different levels of education.
- Malhar to pursue NRC funding through Ben Dorman (Friends of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory Society chairman) and Don Moffat on Monday March 13, 2023.
- Discussed purchasing an inflatable portable planetarium for use in the local community. Minutes etc. from an attempt to implement this project back in 2016 were forwarded to the executive for analysis.

6. New Business

- Motion: Authorize spending up to \$250 for four new fire extinguishers.
Moved: Gil Seconded: Maurice Carried
- Adopt a wait and see stance on separating from RASC pending review of the latest National Board meeting minutes.
- A special meeting (possibly in person at Adriana's) will be held to discuss the National board meeting minutes and decide the future of our Centre leaving or staying with RASC.
- Work Bee Saturday, May 27 to clean out the basement, repaint the building grout, general cleanup of the building interior, wash and paint dome.
- Malhar to contact Doug regarding water tank.
- Glen to investigate Win11 drivers for Mallincam camera.

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

- The next business meeting PGC218 will be held on Wednesday May 10, 2023 starting at 7:30 pm using Zoom.
- Please submit all agenda items to Malhar no later than Sunday May 7, 2023.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.