

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

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

**PGC219 Business Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2023**

Date: May 10, 2023

Location: Zoom Meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

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

Members Present: Rebecca, Robyn

Visitors Present: Adriana

Guests Present: Charles Ennis

Meeting Called to Order at 7:31 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- RASC President Charles Ennis

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC218

Motion: To accept the business meeting minutes of April 12, 2023.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Gil Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Malhar)

- 0.6m mirror was cleaned, may require recoating.

- Will contact Nova Voce regarding singing at the observatory during the Perseid Meteor Shower in August.

b. Vice President (Maurice)

- See Media relations report.

c. Secretary (Glen)

- Processed mail as required.

d. Treasurer (Glen)

- CWB account balances as of 2023-04-30

 General Account Balance \$4693.56

 Internally Restricted Fund Account \$6000.00 (Tabor Mtn. Observatory removal)

 Gaming Account Balance \$5550.49

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report of April 30, 2023.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Gil Carried

e. National Representative Report (Rob)

- Next Directors meeting will be in June.
- New Executive Director is Jenna Hinds, formerly Outreach Coordinator.

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

Webmaster Report - Glen

- Website is being updated regularly.

0.6m Telescope Maintenance Report - Glen

- The primary mirror was cleaned but may require recoating.
- The two secondary mirrors still require cleaning.

Grounds and Building Report - Rob

- Two fire extinguishers were replaced.
- Two fire extinguishers are being evaluated.

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 April.

Outreach - Glen

- 127 visitors at four April Open Houses (Activity summary attached)
- Telescope courses (2) attendance was 28 people
- Good volunteer attendance.
- 136.75 public outreach related volunteer hours accumulated in April.
- UNBC student tour scheduled for Friday, May 5.

Grants and Funding – Rob and Malhar

- Rob approached RDFFG for funding. Redirected to other sources.
- Malhar to meet with Friends of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada regarding funding in June.

Computers and A/V Equipment Report - Rob

- Difficulty programming the digital loggers for remote use.

Tabor Observatory Removal

- A contractor has finally been found willing to remove the Tabor observatory. Site visit planned with the contractor, Dave and Glen in May or early June.

5. Old 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.

6. New Business

- Summary of discussion with RASC President Charles Ennis:

- **Jenna Hinds is the new Executive Director.**
 - **Expect to have a balanced budget in 2024.**
 - **Board and National Council communication has improved.**
 - **Free access to robotic telescope at Roberts Creek (Sunshine Coast) will replace the California robotic telescope.**
 - **California robotic telescope program was cancelled, saving \$1,000/month.**
 - **Investigating cancelling the current office space lease and sharing office space and costs with either the Royal Canadian Institute or Space Place.**
 - **Possibility of taking the Dorner telescope museum on the road or moving it to the new office space.**
- Malhar to contact DAO regarding the recoating of the 0.6m mirror.
 - Appointed Robyn and Rebecca as temporary directors. They will have to be re-appointed in August and September but can be re-appointed as permanent directors at the AGM.
 - Motion: Compose Aboriginal Land acknowledge to be stated at every public event. Robyn to approach the Native Friendship Centre for assistance in wording.
- Moved: Robyn Seconded: Gil Carried
- Convene a special in person executive board meeting for May 17 to evaluate Charles' comments on the RASC financial status.
 - Compose a message to all Prince George Centre members regarding the future of our Centre.
 - Work bee on Saturday May 27 at 9:00 am to clean out the basement, repaint the building grout, general cleanup of the building interior.

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

- The next business meeting PGC220 will be held on Wednesday August 9, 2023 starting at 7:30 pm using Zoom.
- Please submit all agenda items to Malhar no later than Sunday August 6, 2023.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.