

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

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

**PGC225 Business Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024**

Date: March 13, 2024
Location: Zoom meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Malhar, Glen, Rebecca, Gil, Rob
Members Present: Dave
Meeting Called to Order at 7:32 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of PGC224

Motion: To accept the business meeting minutes of January 10, 2024.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Malhar)

- Accessibility assessment of the observatory is required.

b. Vice President (Gil)

- Our Night Sky episodes are being sent to CFIS radio.

c. Secretary (Glen)

- Processed mail as required.

d. Treasurer (Glen)

- CWB account balances as of 2024-02-29

 General Account Balance \$541.67

 Gaming Account Balance \$9996.23

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report of March 13, 2024.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Rob Carried

e. National Representative (Rob)

- Call for Nominations for the Society's Board of Directors

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

Webmaster Report - Glen

- Updated as required.

0.6m Telescope Maintenance Report - Glen- Telescope and dome had intermittent tracking issues at -10C during the March 1 open house. Resorted to using time consuming manual methods.

Grounds and Building Report - Glen

- Snow removed as required. No building issues.

Media Relations Report - Gil

- Our Night Sky episodes being recorded remotely and MP3 files e-mailed to CFIS, for Monday 10:30 am broadcast.

Outreach - Glen

- There were no entries for the Prince George Astronomical Society award at the Central Interior Science Exhibition.
- No tours in February but there were 177 visitors at the four open houses. 121 volunteer hours were spent hosting our guests.
- The last open house of the season will be Friday, April 12th.- Possible Japanese student tour in March.

Computer and AV Equipment Report – Glen

- No issues.

Observing and Small Telescope Report – Glen

- No issues

5. Old Business

- Urban Sky Park collaboration on hold due to cold weather.
- Two upcoming tours: Fort St. James homeschool Saturday, January 20, Sparks Group Wednesday, January 24.
- Malhar is invited to DP Todd Career Fair on Monday January 29.
- Capital expenditures as stipulated in the gaming request can now be purchased.
- Require more open house presenters.
- Dome, roof and sidewalks need to be cleared of snow before the January 19th open house.
- Suggestion from Gil to sell some of our extra telescopes tabled.
- Robotic Telescope Project on hold due to weather.

6. New Business

- Robotic Telescope Project Committee – Ongoing -No updates.
- UNBC Photography Club Tour – March 24.
- Clean the 0.6m mirror in June.
- Motion: Malhar to meet with Nancy Harris of AccessBC to arrange an accessibility assessment of the observatory. Moved: Rob Seconded: Gil Carried
- Possible areas of improvement
 - Addition of a dome area stairlift.
 - Sidewalk to southeast pier
 - Concrete pad surrounding the southeast pier.

- Two paved handicapped parking spots.
 - Extension of the north exit ramp.
 - Requirement for two articulating eyepieces.
- Explore funding opportunities to enhance accessibility at the Observatory. (Require a person dedicated to writing proposals).
- 1) Fraser-Fort George Endowment Grant
 - 2) Other Fraser-Fort George Community Grants
 - 3) Recreation Foundation of British Columbia Grant Program
 - 4) New Horizons for Seniors Program
 - 5) PacifiCan Funding
 - 6) Community Economic Development and Diversification in British Columbia

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

- The next business meeting PGC226 will be held on Wednesday April 10, 2024 starting at 7:30pm via Zoom.
- Please submit all agenda items to Malhar no later than Sunday April 7, 2024.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.