

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

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

Robotic Telescope Project (RTP) Minutes

January 4, 2022

Meeting Number: RTP007

Date: January 4, 2022

Location: Zoom Meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar

Recording Secretary: Glen Harris

Committee Members present: Bob, Malhar, Glen, Gil

Meeting Called to Order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of RTP006

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of RTP006 December 16, 2021.

Moved: Glen

Seconded: Malhar

Carried

2. Old Business

Actionable items:

- Update Alcyone dome control update via Teamviewer – Establish time.
- Polar alignment. **Bob, Malhar**
- TPoint alignment **Bob, Malhar**

3. New Business

- Purchased Davis Weather Station.
- Purchased All Sky Camera.
- Replace Chrome Remote Desktop with AnyDesk Remote Desktop.

Malhar's report

- Setting up time with Jean-Bruno this weekend to resolve FTP issue.

Glen's report

- Created a 'Remote Control' profile on Alcyone. Password is on file.
- Gaming funds were approved.
- Installed Chrome Remote Desktop on Alcyone.
- Installed Kaspersky Security Suite on Alcyone.
- Activated WIFI connection to the Canon DSLR camera from Alcyone using EOS Utility.
- Digital logger ordered.
- 300Gb SAS SCSI internal hard drive ordered and enroute.
- Installed EOSBackyard software and connected the DSLR camera. EOSBackyard doesn't appear to support a Wi-Fi connection. Using USB connection.
- Unsuccessful attempt to install the 4-port serial port PCI-E card. The building power kept failing. Will try another time.

- Sourced resistors for homing circuitry. (Thanks Gil)
- Unable to bench test homing hardware due to software component requirement.
- Due to Alcyone's power requirements, the existing UPS unit provides Alcyone with power for up to 5 minutes of AC loss. Stand by battery may need replacement.

Bob's report

- Continuing on with the fabrication of the RA and DEC split ring assemblies.

Gil's report

- Will work with Glen on actionable items.

Current actionable items

Malhar:

- Polar alignment with Bob.
- TPoint alignment with Bob.
- Follow up with Ajai and Jean-Bruno.

Glen:

- Complete dome rotation limit switch wiring. (Weather dependent)
- Complete dome shutter limit switch wiring. (Weather dependent)
- Install hard drive upon receipt.
- Install PCI-E card and associated drivers (from CD)
- Obtain static IP addresses for digital loggers.
- Investigate firewall for static IP Addresses.
- Install AnyDesk Remote Desktop.
- Remove Chrome Remote Desktop.
- Check for MicroSD card slot on Alcyone.
- Install Cat5 cable for AllSky Camera USB Extender.
- Install Cat5 cable for IR dome camera USB Extender.
- Install additional 2" HDPE ceiling conduit. Existing conduit is full.

Gil:

- Homing sensors (work with Glen).

Bob:

- Continue fabricating sensor mounting hardware and cowlings.
- Polar alignment with Malhar.
- TPoint alignment with Malhar.

Task Priority:

- TPoint alignment
- Polar alignment
- Guiding
- Telescope homing
- Dome rotation limit switches
- Dome Slot limit switches
- FTP for weather station, AllSky camera and infrared camera
- Build dome slot motor controller
- Software update

- Flip mirror automation
- Mirror cover mechanism

Outstanding items:

- If shutter plans are provided, build it ourselves. **Bob**
- DSLR image link to website. **Glen**
- All Sky weather camera link to website **Glen**
- Weather station link to website. **Glen**
- Infrared camera link to website. **Glen**

4. Date, Time, and Location of the next Robotic Telescope Project committee meeting

- The next committee meeting (RTP008) will be held on Tuesday January 18, 2022 starting at 7:00 pm using Zoom.

5. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.