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

March 15, 2022

Meeting Number: RTP013
Date: March 15, 2022
Location: Zoom Meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Committee Members present: Malhar, Glen, Gil, Rob, Bob

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of RTP012
Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of RTP012 March 6, 2022.
Moved: Glen   Seconded: Gil   Carried

2. Old Business
- Introduce Rob Woods to Dale Lane.
- Discussion on lower slot door automation.
- Discussion on dome rotation problem. Concentrate on the relay box.
- Require the purchase and integration of the AAG Cloud Watcher.
- Dave to provide source code to Rob.
- Use MaximDL V6.x instead of CCDSoft.
- Review Mission Control Minimum Pre-requisites and complete unfinished items.

Malhar's report (Still in progress)
- Next clear night - T-Point
- Check Spectrograph with Bob

Glen's report
- All dome, telescope, and camera devices are now controlled by the digital loggers.
- Resolved the dome synchronization rotation problem.
- Abandoned my current idea of controlling the lower slot doors with linear actuators.

3. New Business
- Source code given to Rob.
- Review Mission Control Minimum Pre-requisites and revise outstanding tasks and task priority lists.
- Discussion on various planetarium programs.
- Site visit on Saturday March 14 at 2:00 pm to look at lower slot door and flip mirror options.
- Raspberry Pi was ordered.

4. Current actionable items
Malhar:
- Evaluate Earth Centred Universe planetarium program.
- Evaluate DC3Dreams program.
- Determine if TheSky 6 planetarium program will work on a Win10 machine.
- TPoint run with Bob.

Bob:
- Replace desiccant in ST9 and ST10 cameras.
- Purchase MaxIM DL LT program.
- TPoint run with Malhar.
- Flip mirror.

Rob:
- Install Raspberry Pi.
- Collaborate with Dave Lane on code for shutter dome control system.
- Back up Alcyone and Maia computers.

Glen:
- Replace UPS batteries.
- Reconfigure rack mounted UPS to work with digital logger.

Gil:
- Flip mirror.

5. Outstanding tasks
1. Work on automating the lower slot door.

6. Task Priority:
- Work on automating the lower slot door.
- TPoint alignment
- Polar alignment
- Flip mirror automation
- Mirror cover mechanism

6. Date, Time, and Location of the next Robotic Telescope Project committee meeting
- The next committee meeting (RTP014) will be held on Tuesday March 29, 2022 starting at 7:00 pm using Zoom.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.