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 29, 2022

Meeting Number: RTP014
Date: March 29, 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 RTP013
Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of RTP013 March 15, 2022.
Moved: Glen   Seconded: Gil   Carried

2. Old 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.

Malhar's report (Still in progress)
- Next clear night - T-Point
- Check Spectrograph with Bob
- Evaluating ECU, DC3Dreams software
- Evaluating Sky6 working on Windows10

Glen's report
- Ordered UPS batteries, one has arrived.
- Eliminated the lower shutter door binding issue.
- Finished installing the lower shutter door pre-loading mechanism.
- Researching various motors, power supplies, gear boxes, and pulleys for lower slot door automation.
- Ordered a 6" x ¾" x 3/4" bore pulley for the existing shutter crank mechanism.

Rob's report
- Setting up Raspberry Pi for outside access to website.
- Weather station data is being uploaded to the Weather Underground website.

3. New Business
- Rob to purchase Cloudwatcher.
- Bob purchased MaxIM DL LT program.

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.
- TPoint run with Malhar.
- Flip mirror.

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

Glen:
- Replace UPS batteries.
- Reconfigure rack mounted UPS to work with digital logger.
- Automate lower slot door.

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
- 4Shooter automation
- Mirror cover mechanism

6. Date, Time, and Location of the next Robotic Telescope Project committee meeting
- The next committee meeting (RTP015) will be held on Tuesday May 12, 2022 starting at 7:00 pm using Zoom.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.