

Black Canyon Astronomical Society (BCAS)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 14, 2022

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Joint meeting with BCAS and WCAS.

Minutes prepared by Val Szwarc- co-secretary

Note: **BCAS Business Topics:** Business was not covered in this video conference.

The meeting was a hybrid format with in-person at the Centennial Room in Montrose and Zoom online attendance. Bryan Cashion hosted the meeting at the Centennial Room and all other attendees were on zoom. Four persons attended at the Centennial Room, and there were 32 online logins. Total attendance was 42, including pairs who viewed on Zoom.

Minutes Summary:

President Bryan Cashion opened the meeting welcoming members and guests and introduced the guest speaker, Aaron Watson, chair of Colorado IDA Chapter. Val Szwarc, BCAS co-Secretary mentioned that Ridgway Ouray Community Council (ROCC) will host Bettymaya Foott, IDA Director of Engagement at TOP on Friday Sept 16.

Program Presentation and Summary:

Aaron provided a comprehensive overview of Chapter Dark Sky activities in Colorado. Some of the key activities and programs that were discussed included:

- Currently 15 IDSP (Places) in Colorado, and a number of new places are in the pipeline.
- A Colorado House bill is expected to be introduced that would support candidate IDSP.
- The Chapter is involved with the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) to support Dark Sky Tourism including initiatives like the Colorado Stargazing Road Map.
- The Chapter and its board members are also significant contributors to a number of Colorado magazines
- Partnerships include the Audubon and the Colorado lights out initiative.
- Some of the stewardship initiatives include developing dark sky camping etiquette practices similar to the "Leave No Trace" concept.
- Aaron spent some time discussing light pollutions impact on bird migrations, pollinators, and other insects such as fireflies.

Bryan wrapped up the meeting, thanked all that attended the hybrid format, and he adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:30pm.