

Black Canyon Astronomical Society (BCAS)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 11, 2020

7:00 p.m.

First online BCAS video meeting using BLUEJEANS by Verizon cloud-based video conferencing service

Prepared by Sara Ungrodt-Secretary

*Note: Prior to the meeting the Board decided not to include the business portion of the meeting in the video conference.

26 individuals participated. Several people were logged in together.

Minutes Summary:

This was the first online BCAS video meeting using BLUEJEANS video conferencing service.

The last BCAS meeting was held in Delta at the Partners building on March 12, 2020. There were no meetings in April and May due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bryan reviewed this video conferencing process and how to use chat to ask questions and how to mute sound and video. Bryan also asked for attendees to email mail him comments about how the BLUEJEANS system worked for them.

Program Topics:

Current astronomical news:

None

BCAS Business Topics: Business will not be covered in this video conference.

Presentation:

Intro- This is Gina's 3rd year at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (BLCA) as an Interpretive Ranger.

Topic: "Exploring Our Space Ethics"

Gina covered many complex aspects of space ethics. From how we have benefitted from space exploration to "Are we in the new "Wild West Space"? How did we treat animals, (bison slaughter example), indigenous peoples (wars and reservations), and the land hundreds of years ago? (pristine park treasures mistreated). We humans came up with treaties to address what we could and couldn't do in space. Other topics were Space Traffic such as the eventual 42,000 Starlink satellites, space debris, security, moon-living and space-based services.

Could National Parks serve as catalysts to make people more aware of how to treat outer space?

Gina's talk lasted approx. 1 hour.

Bryan asked if there were questions or comments. There were several.

Some attendees also commented on the video conferencing. Tom Baird wondering why Zoom wasn't used. Bryan talked about the Board's evaluation process. The Gillenwaters liked the fact that they could attend a meeting while they were in California. Overall, it was exciting to see so many people attend!

Next meeting will be a video conference on July 9th. Alice de Anguera of BLCA will be the presenter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.