

Black Canyon Astronomical Society (BCAS)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 22, 2021

7:00 to 8:15 p.m.

Online BCAS video meeting using Zoom video conferencing service

Prepared by Val Szwarc- co-Secretary

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

This was the first BCAS meeting held using the Zoom platform. If you participated in the meeting, please send any comments on your experience to Bryan at bcas.club@gmail.com

22 individuals attended online.

Minutes Summary:

President Bryan Cashion opened the meeting, welcoming members and possible new members. Astronomy News was mentioned by Bryan Cashion, President and Art Trevena, Vice President. The program for the meeting was the documentary Saving the Dark by Sriram Murali which was hosted by Val Szwarc. Val also reviewed status of some recent Dark Sky preservation efforts in Western Colorado. The original topic by Nancy McGuire was moved to the May meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

Current Astronomy News:

Bryan presented a NASA video showing the first flight of the Drone Ingenuity on Mars. Also, news of Perseverance producing O₂ from CO₂ was discussed. Finally, NASA's news that SpaceX was selected to build the Moon Lander and support two demonstration missions to the Moon, one unmanned and the other manned.

Program Presentation and Summary of Key Points:

Featured Program: [Saving the Dark documentary](#). Also discussed was recent news on Dark Sky Preservation in Western Colorado included the following:

- Mesa Verde National Park is the latest Place in Colorado to be designated a Dark Sky Park by IDA.
- Crestone Colorado submitted a strong and comprehensive application to IDA in late Feb 2021. They will also have a Star Festival on May 14-15.
- Nucla/Naturita also submitted an application in Feb.
- Paonia Town Council recently reviewed a revised draft lighting ordinance that is IDA compliant.
- Bob Grossman reported that Norwood and Nucla will be having a Star Fair on June 19th

Bryan wrapped up the meeting and mentioned the next meeting will be May 27 with Nancy McGuire discussing the latest efforts for "...The Scientific Search for Extraterrestrial Life"

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm