

CITY OF JONESTOWN NIGHT SKY ADVOCACY  
MINUTES from **March 20, 2023 – 5:30pm Zoom Meeting**

***Anne Morley Called to order at 5:35pm***

**Present in meeting are the following: *Mark Grossman, Anne Morley, Lecia Ellis, Darla Ekrut and Meshell Counterman***

Approve February Meeting Minutes

***Mark moved to OK February 2023 Minutes until April 2023 as Patti was not present for meeting.***

***Lecia seconded the motion.***

**Secretary/Treasurer Report – 5 Minutes – *None to report per David, via Anne.***

**President Report – 10 Minutes Item #1 SQM Readings**

To stay consistent with our SQM readings, we must log a reading every quarter 1 SQM reading per quarter. Preferably with 2 or more reading participants. **(We need a volunteer for this and will train.)**

\* New meter SQM-L ordered.

\* More detailed GOS Coordinates

\* Revisit existing sites, add 3 more “fixed” locations for city limits?

\* Offer “spot, one time” readings as prizes at JNSA attended/sponsored events?

\* Post results on Globe at Night website.

\* Communicate meter reading program to residents and neighboring cities via JNSA website, North Shore chamber news, Jonestown city council newsletter and other media. \*2024 New Moon dates to accompany Agenda

***Mark said he was still waiting on new light meter from Switzerland. And it was suggested to him, that he is not the only one to do the readings. We all agreed that we would like to learn it when the new meter comes in.***

***He also said it would be easier if 2 people went out, one to read and one to record.***

***We all discussed going together to learn, again when the new meter comes in.***

***Our IDSC Application was emailed for review as planned on 2/28/2023.***

***Lecia emailed it to Amber Harrison and Ashley Wilson.***

***We have not received any feedback at this time.***

**ITEM #2 – BE A STAR Program – 5 Minutes**

What if we approached the lighting examples we are submitting and nominated them to be a BE A Star??? Should we create and present a BE A STAR plaque to businesses who qualify? Trying to figure out how to get this program off the ground especially before Cajan Fest. Ideas would be greatly appreciated.

***We talked about ranking businesses.***

**Help us achieve our Goal! Placing the businesses/residence on social media if it's ok'ed in writing to do so by them.**

**Anne will investigate pricing etc. acrylic plaques via Zazzle and/or the trophy place, etc.**

**Mark will ask COJ Mayor Paul Johnson if we can include the words COJ on the Be A Star plaque.**

**Darla will ask Greg Teal, owner of Austin Stone Storage, if he would send us something in writing that it's ok for us to place on social media that they are a good example of responsible lighting.**

### **General Updates/Open Discussion - 15 Minutes**

*Business and Residential Lighting Projects - we still need examples; we still need these and will always need these.*

*Hollow's Annual POA Meeting 2/25/23 – takeaways Meshell.*

**Lecia suggested that we always take pictures of responsible lighting if we see it in JT.**

**Meshell said that she had 4 people come up and asked her for help and wanted to drive around and look at a few places that they had issues with.**

**Meshell suggested another letter be mailed out to all POA's letting them know we would be willing to come to their POA meetings and talk.**

**Mark and Meshell will work on a new letter to send to POA/HOA boards.**

*Andrew Gauld, Oldner Lighting – Meshell and I will schedule meeting this week with Andrew to discuss Lighting Education and helping us work with the city for a lighting plan review on new builds. This topic needs to be tabled until we meet with Andrew, we will have an update for the April meeting.*

*Austin Astronomical Society Meeting 3/10/23 – Lecia, we might should consider joining as an organization which would allow us to attend their private and public Star Parties \$40.00 Membership fee. They had a short session on Beginner Star Parties which I attended. What I learned from this is we need to attend other community Star Parties.*

**---Lecia will see if we could go to one of their 2-night events--**

*Lago Vista and Leander School Curriculum – Note from Patti, we can get the Lago Vista and Leander School District to help us during the 23-24 school year. Even if we are the ones presenting to the classes with educating the students early in 2nd and 3rd grade on the importance of dark skies and the impact on the whole environment. I know curriculum administrators in both districts.*

*Lago Vista and Bee Caves have submitted their IDSC applications – Lecia takeaways.*

*Attended Hill Country Night Sky Team Meeting. At least 11 communities in Central Texas trying in some sort of effort to initiate Responsible lighting or working towards their IDSC designation.*

*IDA Membership – I would like to highly encourage everyone that is on this committee to join IDA.*

**---Lecia suggested we be a member that there is lots of good information, fee is \$35 a year.---**

### **Events 2023**

Cajan Fest 4/1/2023 registered for the parade and the event (registration fee waived by NLTC)

Hollows 7/4/2023 Parade- TBA

Jtown Street Fair 9/23/23 we will have a booth at this event.

Star Party 10/7/2023 Pavilion reserved. Tom Campbell with the AAS will be attending.

### **Cajan Fest Setup – 25 Minutes**

Add Cajan Fest date to Website Ann D. ---**maybe have a next door neighbor acct and advertise---**  
Facebook advertise event 2-3 times a week NOW.

Booth Space is 10 x 10. Booth spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

No Electric or Water.

We are not required to sell anything. Do we want to sell anything? T-SHIRTS!!!

---**\$15-20—Mark will look into this.**

Event Set-up hours are: 8:00-10:30 (must be setup by 10:30)

Takedown begins at 7:00pm

Hours of Event 11:00-7:00, Parade starts at 11:00 Vehicles permitted for unloading.

Who will attend? Times?

Please refrain from using the word “Dark” when speaking to the public. Better choice is  
“Responsible.”

Raffle? Home Light Reading, maybe give away (2) IDA Approved Exterior Lights Installed?

---**Mark suggested a free light reading or a ride-along when taking light meter readings---**

This could lead into the BE A STAR program.

Parade-Darla-toss candy/candy for event? Starburst?

### **Poster to promote International Dark Sky Week?**

*April 15-22, 2023, International Dark Sky Week is marked every year during the week of the new moon in April and this year it will be observed from April 15 to 22.*

### **Items needed for Event:**

Coordination of times for us to be at the event - Meshell

Tables – Colleen to set up her’s

Raffle Tickets-Lecia

Volunteer Sign-up Sheet/Pens-Lecia

Lights Out Sign-Lecia

Table Covers-Lecia

JNSA Brochures-Lecia Coloring Pages/Crayons? Lecia

Stickers-Lecia

Small Easel-Lecia

Lg. Posterboard and Lighting Examples-Lecia Banners

Donation Box - Patti

Lighting Display? Would be great to have, even if it’s a not a live display.

(2) Large Easels-Darla

Photo Fun Prop-Darla --**Darla will try and get something made for the event--**

EZ-UP-Mark -**Anne & David have EZ Up-**

Cooler – Mark to bring some water for us

Trash Can – Lecia to bring a bag if needed

**Bring your own chair, wear your T-Shirt.**

**Pick a Date for our next meeting. – APRIL 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 5:30pm -**

**ADJORN – Lecia moved to Adjourn meeting, Darla seconded it at 6:59pm.**