



Jonestown Night Sky Advocacy

**Monthly Meeting Minutes
Compiled by Anne Morley**

Monday January 20, 2025

5:00 pm

Call to Order: 5:03pm

Attendees: Darla Ekrut, Lecia Ellis, Mark Grossman, David Morley, Anne Morley

Approve December Meeting Minutes: Approved Unanimously

Treasurer Report:

- Bank Balance: \$3,763.20
 - When is NLTCC Membership dues due?
 - Hill Country Alliance grant of \$1,042 will pay for 2 SQM monitors.
 - Mark is researching best monitors to purchase and installation design.
 - Mark will coordinate with Ann D as to where we will install them.
 - David to give a quarterly treasurer updates to the City of Jonestown (COJ), including Cindy Jolly

City Training Session:

- Lecia had a phone conversation with Cindy Cassidy (DarkSky Texas) about a training session.
 - Cindy will do a training for us.
 - Training will last about 2.5 hours.
 - Invite City employees, City Council, other communities we are mentoring
 - Lecia will call Cindy Jolly (City of Jonestown) to get a variety of dates that work for the city.
- DarkSky Texas training resources available on their website: PowerPoint presentations, Video Clips, etc.

Liberty Hill City Council Request Collaboration efforts:

- Mark, with David's help, has been mentoring Liberty Hill with their Dark Sky application. Thank you!

NLT Chamber Casino Night donation:

- Darla coordinating the donation: hat, star blanket, stickers, bottle of wine, red light flashlight; theme: "Enjoy the Awesomeness of the Hill Country Night"

JNSA collaborating with the COJ on new/updated commercial/city lighting (example Strip Center by the Chevron on Nameless Rd.):

- No update. Who was supposed to talk to Cindy about this?

Newsletter/Wastewater Bill/Business Card:

- Anne has completed the February newsletter
 - Approved by the City
 - Sent to the printer
 - Will have Ann D post the newsletters to the website and take the newsletter signup off the website
 - Anne will confirm she has the latest Dark Sky logo on the website
- Wastewater bill is complete and will be sent to the city.
- Business card is almost ready to go to print.
- All approved, except we will modify DarkSky Texas QR code to link directly to the DarkSky Texas YouTube video.
- Laura Gatannah is not active at this time, and she is willing to hand off the Mailchimp email account to Anne Morley, if we want to continue sending email newsletters. **It was decided to no longer publish email newsletters; rather, we only will publish hard-copy mailings of the newsletters.**

BE A STAR Program:

- We will utilize Dark Sky Texas' Be a Star Program by providing links on the JNSA website, newsletters, flyers, etc.
- Anne will add the link to future newsletters and other graphics.
- Mark and Darla to talk to the North By Northwest RV park and the Austin Stone Storage about helping them to sign up for the Be a Star Program.

Star Parties:

- Brainstormed about ideas for Star Party locations and food options.

- Ideas to improve Star Parties: host at winery or brewery, include telescope clinic, food trucks, food donated by local vendors, etc.
- Tom Campbell (Austin Astronomical Society member) suggested we do it on Sunday nights.
- Mark to give Lecia possible dates for the parties. Then Lecia will reach out to coordinate with Tom Campbell, Balcones Canyonlands, Flat Creek Winery, local food trucks, etc.

2025 Significant Dates

- **Jonestown Cajun Fest April 5, 2025**
- **International Dark Sky Week April 21-28, 2025**
- **Jonestown Street Fair September 27, 2025**

Next Meeting: Monday, February 17, 2025 at 5:00 pm

ADJOURN: 6:26pm