



West Valley Astronomy Club

Virtual & Physical Combination Monthly Meeting Minutes
Sept 7, 2021

Location of Meeting: Unitarian Universalist Church in Surprise and Online Zoom Meeting

Board Members & Volunteers Present: Bob Randle-President, John Cline-Vice President, John Hiatt-Secretary, Bob Colvert (Treasurer) and Janie Randle (Membership Director), along with other volunteers, club members and visitors (18 in person + 6 online = 24 total).

The regular meeting of WVAC was called to order at 7:00 pm by Bob Randle

Agenda: Opening Welcome Back / Guest Speaker / Club Announcements / Club Business / Closing

1 - Opening Remarks by Bob Randle

Introduced himself and thanked everyone in attendance. Presented a brief agenda for the meeting starting with the dates of upcoming Star Parties. The next Star Party is Saturday, Sept 11th, sunset is at 6:43 pm. if you are interested in attending, check for updates at the WVAC website: <https://wvac.net/events/star-party>

2 - Bob Colvert introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Molly Simons from ASU

Presentation Topic: Citizen Science - Data At Your Fingertips: Unlocking the Potential of People-Powered Research

Description: In this talk, Dr. Simons will draw on examples from the Zooniverse (www.zooniverse.org), the world's largest online platform for citizen science, to discuss a few of the most significant people-powered astronomical discoveries, both intentional and serendipitous. Dr. Simons discussed the demographic make-up of over 2 million registered volunteers worldwide, and highlighted how astronomy club members can participate. She concluded by discussing the future of citizen science, and how machine learning can be combined with human-power to propel the next generation of Zooniverse projects.

3 - Club Announcements: Going forward, there will be 2 Star Parties per month, with no backup date.

4 - Club business:

John Cline - No new business, will work with John Hiatt on Surprise Sci Tech Festival on Saturday Nov 6th

John Hiatt - Outreach report, 2 events in Sept, 2 in Oct, and 2 in Nov

Bob Colvert - Club Account at \$5700 with \$400 in reserve for \$5300 available. Contributions were good this year and expenses were lower due to Covid. A membership of 93 would be sustaining, excluding donations.

Janie Randle - Membership at approximately 80

5 - Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Minutes submitted by John Hiatt, via email on September 7, 2021.

Minutes approved by: _____ Date _____
Bob Randle (WVAC President)