



# West Valley Astronomy Club

Virtual Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2021

Location of Meeting: In Person and Online Zoom Meeting

Board Members & Volunteers Present: Bob Randle-President, Janie Randle - Membership John Cline-Vice President, John Hiatt-Secretary, Bob Colvert (Treasurer) and Janie Randle (Membership Director), along with other volunteers, club members and visitors 11 (+ 23 online) for 34 total.

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

1 - Opening Remarks by Bob Randle

2 - Bob Colvert - Introduction of Speaker

Presentation Topic: Sam Smartt - screening of Luminous

**Presenter:** Sam Smartt

**Presentation:** A pilot screening of the new documentary Luminous.

**Format:** Mr. Smartt will present via ZOOM to our in person audience and any remote attendees.

Join us for a pilot screening of the new documentary Luminous, directed by award-winning filmmaker, Sam Smartt (Wagonmasters), which chronicles the journey behind Calvin University astronomy professor Larry Molnar's 2017 prediction of a Luminous red nova in the constellation of Cygnus. Q&A with Smartt to follow.



Astronomy professor Larry Molnar, working with a handful of undergraduate students remotely operating a 0.5 meter telescope in the desert of New Mexico, believes he can find the unfindable—a star that is about to explode. Luminous, a new documentary by award-winning filmmaker Sam Smartt (Wagonmasters) follows Larry and his students for five years as they make and test their unprecedented prediction.

3 - The next Outreach Event is the International Observe the Moon night, Saturday October 16 at 6:00 pm at Heritage Park next to Marley Elementary School..

4 - Other business: The next Star Party is Saturday, October 30th. if you are interested in attending, check for updates at the WVAC website: <https://wvac.net/events/star-party>

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by John Hiatt, via email on October 6, 2021.

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Bob Randle (WVAC President)