

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society  
Board Minutes  
Monday, October 12, 2009  
6 p.m. at Book and Bean, Berea, Ohio

Present: Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell, Terri Martincic, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Stan Searles, Diane Sigler

1. Finances
  - a. Nancy Howell reported that there is \$13,030.93 in the treasury. Audubon sent dues share, also Northeast Ohio Environmental award check was deposited.
  - b. Chapter expenses are about \$7,500 per year, including speaker fees, insurance, newsletters, refreshments, etc. Tom Romito noted that WCAS will send \$8,000 to Cleveland Metroparks in January to cover the salary for the IBA survey coordinator's salary.
2. Review of Form 990

Mary Anne Romito presented copies of IRS form 990 for WCAS 2008 fiscal year. With minor changes, it was approved.
3. The board adopted a motion to review the conflict of interest policy,
4. Zoo and Brookside Park Birding Trail
  - a. At the last board meeting, Gayle Albers advised that the Zoo is considering a birding trail at the Zoo and Brookside Park. WCAS could help to plan this.
  - b. Mary Anne noted that a neighborhood group, the Brooklyn Centre Naturalists, is working to become a National Wildlife Federation Certified Neighborhood. Their territory is large, but must contain 200 yards which have been certified. The fee is \$25. and there is just a brief list of criteria to be met. Mary Anne asked that all of us within the area apply for certification. Brooklyn Centre Naturalists may be interested in being involved in the trail.
  - c. Nancy will supply a list of birds nesting in boxes.
5. Pin, which to choose and when to buy
  - a. Mary Anne reported that lapel pins made in USA will cost \$200. for setup plus \$3 per pin, if we buy 200 pins. Most of the group favored buying U.S. made pins. Diane Sigler wants to investigate pricing further.
  - b. The purpose of the pins would be to recognize the efforts of members. Possibly we could sell additional pins.
  - c. Diane brought up the idea of refrigerator magnets for sale or as handouts at public events. Board agreed that the purpose of magnets would be different from purpose of lapel pins.

6. Being a cooperator with Cleveland Metroparks  
Terry Robison is writing a grant proposal on invasive species control. WCAS is asked to be a cooperator. Will discuss further at the November 30 Board Meeting.
7. Brainstorming session on Monday, November 16
  - a. Invitations have been mailed. Stan Searles suggests an e-mail followup
  - b. Stan proposes an e-mail questionnaire to IBA volunteers to help inform participants of the brainstorming session. He will draft the questionnaire and offer to Board for comment.
  - c. Brainstorming session will offer an overview of WCAS
  - d. Tom proposed having a facilitator for the November 16 session. Some names were offered. Tom will ask these individuals if they are available. Stan asked for a request to cover travel expenses if the facilitator is not from the Cleveland area.
  - e. Head count needed one week in advance of the event.
  - f. Other dates for timeline: Draft of Questionnaire to board by October 15. Deadline to return Questionnaire, October 27.
8. Silent Auction  
Mary Anne has put bid sheets on a board for some of the more substantial items. Will give a notice to members
9. Golf Course – IMG and change of Mastick Woods to a driving range
  - a. Penny expressed concerns about more buildings on the site. Large trees and shrubby areas on and around Mastick Woods support birds. The park is narrow at that point, so habitat is valuable.
  - b. Stan agreed to ask for plans and environmental impact
  - c. Terri Martincic asked about a conservation easement on park land. Stan observed that park area is redeemed land.
10. Next board meetings will be Monday November 9, 2009 and Monday, November 30, 2009.