

## **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 29, 2006 WCAS BOARD MEETING**

1. The WCAS board held its monthly meeting on October 29 at the Romito residence in Cleveland. Attendees included President Tom Romito, Treasurer Nancy Howell, Directors-at-Large Mary Anne Romito, Liz Clingman, and IBA Coordinator Diane Sigler.
2. FINANCES. Nancy reported that we have \$5,846 our bank account. Tom read a letter he received from the National Audubon Society announcing baseline funding for WCAS for 2007 in the amount of \$2,583. NAS will make a direct deposit to our chapter's bank account in the near future.
3. MEMBERSHIP. Nancy reported that we currently have 46 paid chapter supporters.
4. AUBUBON ADVENTURES. Nancy reported that she has spent all of the \$600 we budgeted for Audubon Adventures this year, including kits for 12 classrooms in six schools and two home schools. The cost of kits for this coming school year is \$38.50 for a classroom kit plus \$7.15 for shipping and \$19.00 for an individual kit plus \$6.00 for shipping.
5. BANNERS. Nancy researched the cost of banners for WCAS and reported the following: "Signs and More and 24" offers a 3X4 banner for \$96 and a 5X2 table sign for \$99, plus \$35 for setup; "Fast Signs" charges \$111.60 for banners and \$100.90 for table signs and has no set up fee if we submit our material in Adobe Illustrator in an .eps file. Signs for Weeders in the Wild are \$36 each, but we can make our own at the Museum of Natural History at no expense. Mary Anne offered to check on the availability of the software and coordinate with the vendor to transmit the file.
6. CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. Tom read Penny's input on this subject, and we decided to defer it until our strategic planning session in January. Tom suggested we invite a representative from the Rocky River Watershed Council to that session, since we have been partnering with RRWC and they have just completed their strategic planning process.
7. AUDUBON OHIO STATE ASSEMBLY. Tom reported that he and Kathleen Tiburzi are going to attend the state assembly on November 10-12. Diane will attend on November 11 to make a presentation on the IBA project.
8. WESTERN RESERVE LAND CONSERVANCY (Firelands Chapter). Tom read a letter from WRLC thanking us for our letter of support for a grant they just received from the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund for \$880,000 for a conservation easement on the Firelands Scout Reservation. The board decided we should stay connected to WRLC. We will establish files on the organizations with which we are partnering so we can routinely communicate with them and maintain our relationships. Tom offered to ask Penny as Secretary to start these files. Mary Anne said she would post this information on the web site once it is complete.
9. IBA REPORT. Diane reported that she has completed a draft of a report on our IBA project. Once the report is complete, we will send it to those organizations that gave us money this year for the project (Audubon Ohio, Cleveland, Zoo, and Cleveland Museum of Natural History).

10. DIKE 14 EEC PROJECT. Nancy reported that the Environmental Education Collaborative (EEC), of which she is a member, is sponsoring a year-long education project at Dike 14 on the lakefront. EEC has asked WCAS to participate by assembling 20 birding kits that will go into larger backpacks containing other kits for students to use when they visit the facility. Nancy asked for one or more volunteers to assemble the birding kits. EEC will provide funds for the materials and a monetary stipend for the volunteers. Mary Anne and Diane offered to help, and Nancy will enlist Paula Lozano's help.

11. Our next board meeting will Sunday, November 19, at 4:00 at the Romito residence.