

## MINUTES OF THE APRIL 24 WCAS BOARD MEETING

1. The WCAS board held its monthly meeting on April 24 at the Book and Bean coffee house in Berea. Attendees included President Tom Romito, Treasurer Nancy Howell, and Directors-at-Large Mary Anne Romito, Terri Martincic, Liz Clingman, and Kit Birch.
2. FINANCES. Nancy reported that we have \$7,485.66 in our bank account. This will increase by \$1,400 when we receive a grant from Audubon Ohio, which is due very soon.
3. IBA PROJECT. Tom reported that he is in the process of coordinating with Dan Petit to set up a schedule to download points from the Cleveland Metroparks computer to our new GPS units and cull the points that do not fit our monitoring criteria. Once that is done, we will schedule days and times to locate the points on the ground. Mary Anne volunteered to call all of the people who attended the April 2 training and testing day to see if they still want to participate in the IBA project and in what capacities. We discussed the concept of observers taking one or more recorders with them on their point counts to mentor them in bird identification. The goal of this would be to prepare them to qualify as observers themselves next year. Nancy will be present at the North Coast Nature Festival at the Rocky River Nature Center on April 23-24 during Tom Barlett's presentation to talk to people who are interested in our IBA project.
4. NETWORKING WITH BLACK RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY. Terri said that Black River Audubon Society has an active bluebird program in which we could participate. They also have a garden. Terri suggested that we partner with them on field trips.
5. AUDUBON AT HOME. Terri displayed the pamphlet she produced on native and invasive plants with the help of a local printer. She said 5,000 copies will cost \$350 of the Audubon at Home money we received from Audubon Ohio and 10,000 copies will cost \$500. We agreed that the Audubon at Home grant will cover this cost.
6. FIELD TRIPS. Terri passed out a proposed calendar of field trips that she developed for the 2006-2007 field trip year. The board discussed alternatives for locations and leaders.
7. BOARD MEMBERS. Terri suggested that we try and recruit some new board members. We decided that each of us would say something at that next membership meeting about what being a board member is like in an effort to attract new people to the board.
8. GPS UNITS. Terri suggested that we use our new GPS units at chapter activities besides the IBA project. For example, the Ohio Environmental Council wants data on vernal pools. We could obtain coordinates of these areas and submit it to OEC. Tom said WCAS members could sign out the GPS units from him to do this.
9. NEWSLETTER. Kit suggested that the August-September issue of the newsletter identify candidates for national election and summarize their positions on environmental issues. The board favored this idea. Kit asked that we send ideas for issues to her to research.
10. REGIONAL ELECTION. Nancy said National Audubon Society sent her a ballot for nominations for the election of National Audubon Society's Great Lakes regional representative. Alan Dolan of Canton Audubon Society is the only candidate. The board voted to support him. Tom will submit the proper forms to NAS.

11. PICNIC. Kit suggested that we hold our annual picnic in 2007 somewhere besides South Mastic picnic area. The board discussed alternatives. Nancy volunteered to call Brecksville Reservation and ask about Royalview Picnic Area.