

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2009 6-8:30 p.m. at Book and Bean, Berea, Ohio

Present: Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito (President), Diane Sigler

1. Finances: Nancy reported a balance of \$12,382.77. The Ultrawalk brought in \$1,800.
2. Ultrawalk Wrap-up
 - a. Diane Sigler reported that the Rocky River Mayor complimented the group on good communications during the walk
 - b. Liz Clingman proposed a booth in the Berea area for next year's walk. Ideas: updates on the walk, WCAS display, IBA and WCAS literature, handouts, bird guides for sale
 - c. Discussion: Tee shirts for walkers next year? Many do not like to wear an extra shirt. To promote the IBA and publicize the event, walkers need a visible shirt or sign. Sign or kerchief might be pinned on or draped over the shoulders.
 - d. Suggestion: a handout item for Ultrawalk day and other promotional events. Cling? Magnet? Kerchief? We have a supply of clings. Nancy will forward contact info for Sheldon's to Diane. They produced the clings, and have WCAS logo on file.
 - e. Upcoming newsletter will carry a thank you to the Ultrawalk participants and supporters.
3. Membership letter
 - a. Next newsletter will go to all 900 national Audubon members. It will include Membership letter and renewal blank as a separate insert. Letter will include information on raffle, if practical (see below)
4. Silent Auction and Raffle

Several collectible items have been donated for the Silent Auction in December. Donor suggested raffling some of the more select items. Mary Anne will pick up the items and ask for photos. If practical, we will conduct a raffle, selling tickets at meetings between now and December. Winner will be drawn at the December Potluck and Silent

Auction. Announcement of the raffle will be in the next newsletter, as it will go to all 900 on the national mailing list.

5. Mini Display Board

Dave Lewis has delivered a small very portable display board to Tom. It will be useful for outreach events.

6. Field Trip review

- a. Accessible trip: Canalway field trip September 13 will feature “birding by cart.” Canalway staffers will be trip leaders and drive two golf carts. Birders may walk, ride the entire way, or ride between birding spots. Board members are encouraged to invite birders who may appreciate the help with mobility.
- b. Upcoming trips are Ottawa Driving Tour July 18, Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plant July 31, and Ohio Prairie Nursery August. Participants for Wastewater tour need to sign in advance.
- c. January 10 field trip is to Dike 14. Nancy Howell will lead.

7. Program review

Nancy reports a mix of science and lighter material. September will feature Keith Tarvin from Oberlin. October will be on feathers.

8. Wetland point counts

- a. Liz reported that the CD provides a stream of different bird calls, with little chance for the observer to listen for birds to respond
- b. Flagging on Lake to Lake trail is difficult to find. Cattails have grown up. GPS is the best way to find the points
- c. The boots provided by Metroparks work very well.

9. Appreciation Dinner

- a. Still awaiting news of a sponsor. Tentative date is set. Tom will contact Rocky Nature Center to reserve the date. Will also contact potential program presenters

10. Flags at IBA survey points: Mary Anne will ask observers to remove them after finishing the third point count

11. Hinckley property: Next survey will be Sunday, July 5 at 7:30 a.m.

12. Berea Arts Festival: Date is September 13, same date as WCAS field trip.
Possible table?
13. Audubon Ohio Minigrants: Tom reported that Chapters must return agreement forms, then he will forward to Lynne Tennefoss at Audubon.
14. Audubon Ohio update: Tom reports that the regional coordinator is in Pennsylvania. Next Audubon Ohio board meeting is June 27.
15. Next WCAS board meeting is Monday, July 20 at Nancy Howell's.

-Penny O'Connor