

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society Board Meeting
Monday, June 21, 2010
At Sandwich Delites, Berea Ohio

Present: Gayle, Albers, Kit Birch, Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Diane Sigler, Stan Searles

1. Treasurer Nancy Howell told us we have \$14,044.56 in the bank currently, with outstanding pledges not counted. .
2. The UltraWalk-UltraBird event has so far brought in \$1,528.12.
3. Vicky Searles has put WCAS on Facebook which is hugely active and widespread with the general public. Stan suggested that Vicky educate the board at next month's meeting as to how to use our Facebook presence.
4. Mary Anne said the WCAS website is now with a new web server, GoDaddy.com. This is part of the OPAL group, with Jim Kilmer as our contact person. This has so far been done at no expense to WCAS. Mary Anne also told us some of our e-blasts are getting blocked and not received by some institutions such as the Metroparks, and CMNH.
5. Diane said the point counts appear to be going well, with many complete or nearly so. She will contact a few that have not sent in any yet. Stan asked us to brain storm some ideas about increasing our observer pool to be able to do more point counts in the future. We may be able to shift our focus to other types of habitat such as wet lands and also private lands between Hinckley and Mill Stream Run to determine what birds are living in this part of the Rocky River Important Bird Area. John Mac has generated 400 random points, some of which would be in the southern part of the IBA. There may be some money available in the Metroparks budget to pay for observers. It was suggested that WCAS might put some money towards this also. We would have to poll our WCAS members to see if anyone would be interested in doing more point counts if they were paid.
6. The Ruhlin Co. email asking for help creating a bird habitat in downtown Cleveland as part of a construction project they are bidding on was discussed. It was decided we do not have enough information to make a decision on this.
7. The Ohio Ornithological Society will hold its annual conference in Cleveland this Fall. As of now, WCAS has not been given any further information on this.
8. The membership flier was discussed and improved upon. It will be send out in our August newsletter to all chapter and National members in our area (approx. 900), as well as: all mayors in our area, the OPAL group, Blue Sky Graphics, the Rocky River Watershed Council, Betty Sutton, Western Reserve Land Conservancy, Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland, and the Kirtland Bird Club.
9. The idea of charging a nominal fee for field trips was discussed since some other chapters are doing this. It was decided not to do this at this time.
10. Our next meeting will be at the Cleveland Zoo tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 26 at 6:00 pm. We will have an interactive half hour on how to use Facebook presented by Vicky Searles. We will also get an update on the CSU project (GIS), and discuss further action on Vision 20/20. Diane will put together an email update to send to all those who attended the first Vision 20/20 meeting. Pizza and pop will be served! A tentative date of August 30 was set for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner which will again be held at the Zoo with Aramarc catering it.

