

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
Board Meeting
Monday, August 17, 2009 6 p.m.
at Book and Bean, Berea, OH

Present: Kit Birch, Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Diane Sigler, and Gayle Albers, Conservation Coordinator at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

- 1) Finances
 - a. Treasurer Nancy Howell reports \$7,052.21 in the treasury. Memberships are coming in. WCAS has 12 new members so far.
 - b. Nancy asked where to send the year-end report, as our fiscal year is coming to an end. Tom asked that it come to him, and Mary Anne will take care of IRS form 990.
 - c. WCAS has received \$750. minigrant from Audubon, plus dues share.
 - d. WCAS has been nominated for one of the Northeast Ohio Environmental Awards. Winners will be recognized at a dinner at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on October 2. Prize is \$2,500.
- 2) Draft of invitation letter for Stakeholder Planning Meeting
 - a. Meeting of Rocky River Important Bird Area stakeholders will be Monday, November 16, 2009, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.
 - b. WCAS will seek input from environmental, governmental and other concerned parties, about what direction to take once the 5-year Forest Breeding Bird Survey is complete.
 - c. Board members reviewed the guest list and edited the invitation letter composed by Tom.
- 3) Mary Anne reported that there is a new membership roster available on the Audubon website. She has password to download it. Audubon allows only one person.
- 4) Handouts, totes, magnets, etc.

Diane investigated the cost for gift and promotional items from various vendors. WCAS could use these at community outreach events, to hand out during the 31-mile walk. Grocery totes cost \$2 and up for 75 at a time; Magnets cost \$.23 in quantity of 500 with one vendor or \$24. for 200 with another, Bandanas about \$2.

- 5) Miscellaneous matters
 - a. Kit reported that she has ordered Audubon Shade-Grown Coffee to sell at meetings. Changeover of staff caused some confusion over price and discount.

- b. Penny presented a bird list to be put used on WCAS field trips, and to be put on the website so people can print it for their own use. Mary Anne will check with printer on price to print on stiff paper and fold, in quantity.
 - c. WCAS will do a butterfly survey at the Hinckley Township property, 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 30, 2009
 - d. Penny has secured bird booklets and CD's and Butterfly booklets from Ohio Division of Wildlife, to be handed out at WCAS events. We have: Owls, Songbirds, Waterfowl, Warblers, plus Butterflies.
 - e. Diane has contacted Sarah Mabey, at Hiram College about writing up WCAS Forest Breeding Bird study data.
 - f. Mary Cruz and Suzanne Aldrich have volunteered to input Bird Survey Data.
 - g. Gayle Albers announced that the Zoo would like to create a wildlife and bird trail from Brookside Park to the Zoo. Will make have nest boxes. Will document nesting birds. WCAS can be part of this citizen science endeavor
 - h. Dike 14 Open House September 26: WCAS will coordinate Bird walks. Nancy Howell volunteered to lead a walk at 7:30 a.m. Tom suggested having a leader for each walk plus another person to help out. Tom will contact potential leaders.
- 6) Appreciation Dinner for WCAS IBA volunteers: Thursday August 20, 2009 at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Dinner is courtesy of Aramark. Stan Searles will emcee; Bill Deininger will bring DVD of his bird movies. Gather at 6 p.m., Dinner at 6:30, Zoo Walk at 7:30. 38 have signed up.
- 7) Next WCAS program meeting, Tuesday September 1, 2009 at Rocky River Nature Center. Board to gather at 6:30. Agenda items: Announce November 16 planning meeting, ask for a hospitality chair
- 8) Next Board meeting Monday September 21 at 6 p.m. Book and Bean.