

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
Board Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2009
6 p.m. at Book and Bean, Berea, Ohio
Minutes

Present: Gayle Albers (Cleveland Metroparks Zoo), Kit Birch, Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell, Terri Martincic, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito (President), Diane Sigler (IBA Coordinator)

1. Finances
 - a. Nancy Howell reported \$7,616.81 in the treasury. No deficit for 2008/2009 fiscal year.
 - b. Mary Anne Romito is working on IRS form 990. She reported that about \$300. of IBA funds are carrying over to 2009/2010. This figure reflects donations to the IBA project and payment of Diane Sigler's salary.
2. Membership: Nancy reports that there are some new members, due to the membership form inserted in the newsletter. Mary Anne will send an e-mail reminder to renew.
3. February meeting place: On the date of our February meeting the area around Rocky River Nature Center will be closed due to deer cull. Will investigate whether another Metroparks location is available: Zoo? Park Operations in Rocky River Reservation? Canalway?
4. Environmental Award Dinner: WCAS has been honored with a Northeast Ohio Environmental Award from the Biodiversity Alliance. Recipients will be recognized at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History at 7:30 p.m. on Friday October 2, 2009. Dr. Marcus Eriksen will present a program entitled: "Plastic Debris, Lakes to the Sea." Anyone may attend. Tickets are available from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. WCAS President will attend a special reception with three other WCAS members.
5. Stakeholder brainstorming session on November 16, 2009: This will be a full day, hosted at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The Board worked on the list of invitees, including representatives of environmental organizations, public officials, and scientists in the Rocky River watershed. The event will be announced at the next membership meeting, in case WCAS members would like to take part.
6. Lapel pins: Board decided on a circle-shaped pin. Mary Anne is investigating the costs. The pins would be a way to recognize WCAS members who have made significant contributions of time and resources. Pins might be made available for sale to others.

7. Feathered Flyer newsletter: Kit would like to have articles by October 1. The Northeast Ohio Environment Award will be on the first page. Mary Anne will take a picture at the awards ceremony. Terri Martincic will provide an item on upcoming Weeders in the Wild event with the Rocky River Nature Center's Green Team for November. Penny will provide a note on the Midwest Birding Symposium.
8. Additional items:
 - a. Gayle Albers provided copies of a booklet: Native Plants of Ohio. She will check on availability of 30-50 copies for WCAS to hand out at meetings.
 - b. Gayle made note of the Lake Erie Boat Float. Marcus Eriksen will travel on a plastic raft of pop bottles named the "Cola-Hoga" This is a public event, Saturday, October 3, 2009.
 - c. Penny reported on the Midwest Birding Symposium, September 17-20, 2009 at Lakeside. Lakeside will host this event again in 2011.
 - d. Terri Martincic suggested a news article on the Northeast Ohio Environmental Award.
 - e. Terri Martincic suggested using Facebook
 - f. Dike 14: Nancy Howell reports that the new name is Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve. The Dike 14 Environmental Education group is also renamed.
9. The next meeting will be Monday, October 12, 2009 at 6 p.m. at Book and Bean, Berea Ohio.