

MINUTES OF THE WCAS BOARD MEETING OF FEBUARY 1, 2005

The board of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society met at the Rocky River Nature Center before the regular monthly meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss current business and plan for the future. In attendance were Tom and Mary Anne Romito, Terri Martincic, Nancy Howell and Kit Birch.

1. Kit requested she be allowed to purchase a bulletin board for the purpose of displaying current events, advocacy, educational and conservation related materials at our monthly meetings. This was granted, but she will price materials and confer with the treasurer and president before purchasing anything.
2. Mary Anne distributed print outs of the "WCAS Profit and Loss July 2004 through June 2005". Total income for the year was \$4,050.94; total expenses were \$2,235.05; net income was \$1,815.89. Our current bank balance is \$9,450 (as of Feb. 1, 2005).
3. Nancy and Terri attended the Rocky River Watershed meeting and were impressed with the number of influential people who are involved with this program. They feel it would be a good idea for WCAS to join and increase our visibility and ability to network with conservation minded groups and people. Tom will fill out the necessary form to accomplish this. There are no costs involved, but volunteers will be needed to attend quarterly meetings and report on what is going on currently.
4. Tom has printed out letters for member to send to their representatives regarding keeping drilling out of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Nancy suggested we put information about this on our website. Mary Anne will provide a link to this from our website.
5. Tom told us that Christie Vargo, Audubon Ohio's Director of Development, will attend March meeting.
6. Terri reported that her Audubon At Home pocket plant guides are a few months away from completion. She gave us "Cats At Home" fliers to preview, and she will pass them out tonight. These are great educational tools to inform cat owners of the harm free-roaming cats can do to wildlife and themselves. Terri also reported that she will not be seeking an Ottawa NWR grant because they will not pay for transportation.
7. Nancy will be representing WCAS at the Science Olympiad at Cleveland State U. on March 5 and is in need of volunteers. She next passed out a "brainstorming" sheet outlining possibilities for a Rocky River IBA Dedication Ceremony to be held in fall, 2005 or spring or summer 2006. There were many great ideas proposed, and Nancy will begin making contacts with the Metroparks about this soon. She also will be in charge of our first "Bird of the Month" activity, in which she will make a short presentation on the "brown creeper".
8. Tom will be going to Audubon Ohio's "Audubon Assembly" on Feb. 12 and 13 in Columbus, Ohio. He will attend meetings and workshops on chapter development and leadership. The board approved \$200 to reimburse Tom for his expenses.
9. Kit provided printouts of some articles and pictures from the Bird Conservation Alliance website and we discussed the advisability of spending \$50 to join this group. It was decided that since National Audubon is a member, we don't need to join also at this time.