

MINUTES OF THE WCAS BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2004

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 discussion of current business and issues and planning for our future. In attendance were Tom and Mary Anne Romito, Nancy Howell, Teri Martincic, Paula Lozano, and Kit Birch.

1 Tom presided over this meeting and welcomed us all back.

2. Nancy told us she hopes to get the video "Pale Male" for our Christmas pot luck dinner meeting. She is having good luck securing speakers for our meetings who don't charge for their time and effort.

3. Tom asked if we would be in favor of giving decorated cups to new guests at our meet-ings so board members could easily identify them and pay special attention to them. We all thought this was a worthwhile idea and cups were decorated for this purpose.

4. Mary Anne has almost all of our field trips set up for this year. She has come up with the great idea of asking the Kirtland Bird Club if WCAS could attend their winter field trips as we will no longer be scheduling any. In return, the KBC could come to our summer field trips. She requested ideas for our summer field trips for next year, and is thinking of Wolf Creek in Medina as a possible site. Our next newsletters will be for Nov., Dec., and Jan. Blue Sky Technology will be doing our printing this year.

The Passport is printed up and was passed around. We now have 10 "enhanced" members who can participate in this program because they paid \$35 Chapter Supporter dues. This money stays with WCAS as opposed to the National Audubon Membership which now gives us no money back.

5. Terri told us Trish is still working on getting an artist to make a display mural of a native plant landscape which may also have an interactive format. This is being done with Audubon At Home grant money.

6. Terri presented a spending request for her Weeders in the Wild group. She would like to purchase a "Light Weed Wrench" for \$130 + \$23 shipping and tax from "The Weed Wrench Company". This request was approved by all present. Yard signs are needed to hold Weeders in the Wild signs so people know who we are when we are out in public areas. Terri also has had business cards made up for

the group. Six outings were held this year which was an excellent start for a totally new project.

7. Tom and Mary Anne attended the National Audubon Chapter Relations Subcommittee meeting which was mostly concerned with chapters that sponsor Audubon Centers. Mary Anne spoke on volunteerism and some of the things WCAS is doing in this area.

8. Paula is following up with teachers who have used Audubon Adventures educational classroom material in the past, and would also like to have some new people involved. We have a \$500 budget for this. Classroom kits are \$35 plus \$6 shipping (32 copies); Individual kits are \$19 plus shipping.

9. Tom asked if we would be willing to share our chapter mailing list with the Cleveland Metroparks so they could mail literature out supporting the upcoming .3 mil levy on the ballot in November. He presented an affidavit stating the Metroparks will not share this list with anyone else ever. Terri, Kit and Paula had concerns about some of the things the Metroparks management is doing in the land use area and voted no. Tom, Mary Anne and Nancy voted yes. Since the board was split, the president decided to follow the precedent of the State and National Audubon Society which support the sharing of mailing lists.

10. Tom adjourned the board meeting so we could begin the regular meeting.