

**Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
Board Meeting August 19, 2013
at Sandwich Delites, Berea, OH**

Present: Kit Birch, Liz Clingman, Nora Ebie, Nancy Howell, Kurt Miske, Penny O'Connor, Stan Searles, Barry Wolfe

Vice-President Nora Ebie moderated the meeting

1. Reports of Strategic Champions

- a) Barry Wolfe, Membership: Will have a table and speak at the upcoming membership meeting
- b) Kurt Miske, Leadership: Feels that the chapter has accomplished the desired transition
- c) Stan Searles, Outreach: Creating a presentation to be used to educate the public about WCAS. Nora will assist. Kit would like to have some slides to help in promoting shade-grown coffee

2. Finances: Treasurer Nancy Howell reported that the treasury has \$24,723.03. Memberships are coming in; a deposit made today is not reflected in this figure. The financial report is due to the National Audubon Society. Nancy will supply figures to Nora.

3. Status updates

- a) Nora asked if all board members are up to date on dues
- b) Lutheran Home/Concord Reserve Bird Tales project: Tom Romito e-mailed the board to report that Andy Lihani and Tom met with staff to discuss the project. The Lutheran Home would like to put up bird feeders. Andy will work with them. Penny O'Connor agreed to contact them to see if they would like to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count in February. Nancy will make contact about our Christmas Bird Count. Liz Clingman will donate a suet feeder.
- c) Safran property in Valley City: Tom e-mailed to report that he and Mary Anne Romito met with the Safrans to discuss preserving their property. Tom introduced them to Bill Jordan, who is with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. This is a possible field trip destination.
- d) "Lost Bird Project" video: Nancy reported that the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland would like to meet with WCAS regarding a joint showing. Nancy will arrange.
- e) NASA Sustainability Fair: Penny reported that the event is scheduled for September 18. Volunteers include Nancy Beheim, Laura Obloy, and Diane Sigler.

f) Conservation Symposium September 6 at Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The title is "The Battle of Lake Erie." Nancy will put up a display for WCAS.

g) Ohio Audubon Chapters: Nora, Stan Searles and a representative of Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland will travel to Columbus to meet with other chapter leaders. Focus will be on exploring joint projects, especially in the area of Important Bird Area conservation or research. Will draw on the expertise of Black Swamp Bird Observatory.

h) September program: E-Bird. Penny will bring a Wi-Fi hotspot.

5. WCAS annual report to the National Audubon Society: Nora reviewed the data she has gathered, and requested some additional data. Board members added to the document and agreed to supply the necessary numbers to complete the report.

6. Chapter Leader Report: Nora circulated the report that she is preparing, and members verified their information. Mark Hofelich was added, as he was elected by the membership in May.

7. Social Media

a) Nora has created an "Organization" page on Facebook to replace the existing group page. An "Organization" page would allow for donations. She will close the group page, migrate essential content, and ask members to "like" the new page.

b) Paper.li "Online newspaper" could be created for WCAS. Content is pulled from many sources. Stan pointed out that WCAS would have no control over specific content, which can cause awkward situations.

c) Nora is exploring other social media as well: LinkedIn, Pinterest, Google Plus.

8. The next WCAS Board meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, September 16, 2013, at Sandwich Delites, Berea, OH.