

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 16, 2013
Sandwich Delites, Berea, Ohio

Present: Nora Ebie, Nancy Howell, Kurt Miske, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito.

1. Finances: Nancy Howell presented a one-page summary of chapter finances. In the treasury, \$25,943.34. Memberships and donations come to \$360. The Silent Auction netted \$188. and coffee sales \$90. Also received \$7.35 from Rock Pile fundraising. Major expenses were printing, labels, postage and envelopes for the Annual Appeal.

2. Updates

a) Lost Bird Project "friendraiser" Nancy Howell and Nora Ebie reported that it will be marketed as a symposium, with 4 speakers. The date is Sunday, March 9, location Metro Campus of Cuyahoga Community College. Nora will report back with costs of room, cleanup, food and coffee. Hop to market through Birding Ohio on Facebook, Ohio-Birds, E-Blast, Local newspapers. Nora and Nancy reported that there was some doubt about the date and location according to Kirtland Bird Club. Tom Romito volunteered to call leadership of KBC and of Greater Cleveland Audubon to finalize plans. WCAS will need details for upcoming newsletter for Feb-April 2014.

b) Cleveland International Film Festival: Marty Burrows and Barbara Shagawat have offered to attend the matchup meeting on January 14.

c) Annual Appeal: Nancy reported \$461. received so far. Nora will compose a letter to acknowledge donations.

d) Hog Island Audubon Camp: Tom has been in contact with David Krasovic, who was sponsored last summer. He will make a presentation to the membership at the May meeting. He would like to apply again for summer 2014.

e) WCAS outreach presentation and preview: Nora showed a revised version. She would like some additional photos.

3. Scientific journal article based on IBA Forest Breeding Bird survey: Scott Rush has published, it is due out in March. WCAS will link on the website.

4. Donations from WCAS to Cleveland Metroparks for land acquisition on the East Branch Rocky River: Tom Romito reported that CMP has approached WCAS for funds toward a parcel in North Royalton. It is next to some other parcels recently acquired, and will be in Mill Stream Run Reservation. Board voted to donate \$2,000. WCAS Carbon Offset fund was for habitat in the

Rocky River Important Bird Area, and money came also from the Owen Davies bequest.

5. Mark Hofelich as a board member: Re-elected in May, but has not been to a meeting. Mary Anne Romito will contact Mark.

6. Acquiring Creative Suite 6 Design and Web Premium WIN ESD license and DVD-ROM for web development/image editing from Tech Soup (\$170): Nora would like to be able to use for building a new website. Discussion was that through Tech Soup, WCAS will have this at a very advantageous price. Board voted to acquire.

7. Written position as an organization on placement of wind turbines. Nora presented some information. Tom Romito will compose a letter to Secretary Jewell regarding 30-year permit for wind utilities to take eagles. Also will e-blast.

8. Upcoming Newsletter, Feb-April 2014. Need the following by early January:

Field Trips (Penny)

Programs (Nancy)

New Members (Nancy)

Christmas Bird Count results (Nancy)

Carbon Offset fund and donation to Cleveland Metroparks (Tom)

Publication of Journal Article (Tom)

Northeast Ohio Young Birders club (Mary Anne gave details to Kurt)

Elections

9. Further discussion on direction of WCAS: will take up at another meeting

10. Other WCAS business:

a) Northeast Ohio Young Birders Club Kickoff January 11 noon-1 p.m. at Rocky River Nature Center. Follows the Monthly Morning with the Birds (9-noon). Tom Romito will attend.

b) EarthFest: Sunday, April 13, 2014. Nancy will send in application. WCAS should receive a discount as a member organization of Earth Day Coalition. Table and 2 chairs is \$100, a ten-by-ten foot space is \$300.

11. Next meeting: Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 20, 2014, 6 p.m. at Sandwich Delites.

ADDENDUM to Minutes:

Note that the during the WCAS Board Meetings of October 21 and November 11, 2013, the Board discussed the get-together to tally Christmas

Bird Count results. While a formal vote was not taken, consensus was for a dinner, rather than lunch, catered, rather than a potluck with cost to be covered by WCAS, free to CBC participants. Suzanne Aldrich, Nora Ebie, Nancy Howell and Stan Searles explored some options, and settled on a dinner of pasta, meat balls, salad, bread sticks delivered from Frankie's in North Olmsted.

-Penny O'Connor