

**WCAS Board Meeting**  
**Monday, July 15, 2013**  
**6 PM at Sandwich Delites, Berea, OH**

**Present:** Nora Ebie, Tom Romito, Mary Anne Romito, Liz Clingman, Nancy Howell (taking minutes), Stan Searles, Penny O'Connor (moderator of meeting), Barry Wolfe

Meeting began at 6:30 PM

**1) Reports from Strategic Champions.** All tabled until further board meetings (Aug. or Sept.)

**2) Finances.** Nancy had account information showing Deposits and Deductions. Balance as of 7/15/13 \$26,500.21. Next big expense will be the newsletter to all WCAS and NAS members – approx. 1200. Nancy thanked Nora for the changes to the membership (new/renewal) that will be inserted in the newsletter.

**3) Membership dues for Board** – Just a reminder that Board members should be members of the chapter. \$20.00 – cheep!

**4) Reports on visits to Lutheran Home and Safron property**

Tom and Mary Anne visited the Lutheran Home (Concord Reserve in Westlake). Had been contacted by Maria and/or Christine to work with them and the Bird Tales program. Bird Tales is a NAS program for older folks with dementia and Alzheimer's. Tom and Mary Anne went over information with Maria and Christine to assist them with basic bird information. Recommended Wild Birds Unlimited for bird feeding information. T and MA will donate Dave Lewis photos for use by the staff at Concord Reserve. Andy Lihani who lives nearby has offered to assist with information as well. Dates selected to meet with Concord Reserve staff again are – Fri., July 19 in the AM, Wed., July 24 in the PM, Fri., July 26 in the AM or Mon., July 29 in the AM.

Regarding the Safran property in Valley City (Medina Co.). The Safrans have 15 acres and want to purchase acreage around them to provide a wildlife preserve. Safrans had contacted NAS (did not want), Medina park district (did not want) so WCAS was contacted. Tom and Mary Anne visited and highly suggested a discussion between the Safran family and Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC). The meeting between WRLC (Bill Jordan) and the Safrans will occur on Sat., July 20 since the Safrans will be joining WCAS on a field trip to the Medina Raptor Center ... hence the Bill Jordan connection.

**5) NAS Annual Report from chapters.**

Nora looked at the NAS website and the 2012-2013 annual report template is not up yet. She modified the 2011-2012 report template and we all assisted in filling out the annual report as much as we could with the information we had on hand. A few folks will have to get back to Nora with items to fill in. Thanks everyone!

**6) Partnership with Audubon of Greater Cleveland.** Nancy did a quick overview of the programs for 2013-2014. Most should be up on the website now. There are a few that have not been filled in. Nancy talked about the meeting partnership with Audubon of Greater Cleveland in showing “The Lost Bird Project”. Contacted the pres. of AGC (Mark Demyan) who then sent their board the information to review. Lots of questions were posed, such as at which place would the film be shown Rocky River Nature Center (where WCAS meets) or Natural History Museum (meeting place of AGC), would there be food/beverages, how to market to get the biggest crowd we can collectively get, etc. If we do not hear back in a timely manner or if things are stalled then WCAS will do this on its own.

**7 & 8) NASA Sustainability event and Combined Federal Campaign**

According to Penny O’Connor the NASA event is still on for Wed., Sept. 18. The event is where we promote WCAS. Will it be combined with the Combined Federal Campaign? WCAS had its Combined Federal Campaign application denied. ‘Nuf said.

Penny needs names of people who will help with NASA event.

**9) Other Community events?**

Nancy will ask if WCAS might have a table or part of a table at the Conservation Symposium held at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on Fri., Sept. 6. *Nancy did get a reply from the symposium organizer and YES we can have a table or part of a table with our tri-fold, literature, etc. I can keep an eye on the display area for the day.*

**10) Other WCAS business**

Nora discussed that we cannot do much with our WCAS Facebook page as is (group page). It would be better if we had an organization page that can be customized such as having a “donate” button and different tabs. Does Facebook have a way to merge and or convert a group page to an organization page? Nora will look into it.

No Tom and Mary Anne in Aug/Sept and Oct. – vacation time!!! So need to send them things that will need to go on the website AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**11) Next Board meeting(s)**

Mon., Aug. 19

Mon., Sept. 16 all at 6 PM at Sandwich Delites in Berea

Mon., Oct. 21

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted to Board on Tues., July 16, 2013. Please review and submit corrections.

NJH