

**Wabash Valley Audubon Society
Monthly Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting (Zoom)
Terre Haute, IN
March 17, 2021**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order @ 5:03 PM**
 - a. Nick Gabry
 - b. Phil Cox
 - c. Ray Peck
 - d. Lucinda Berry
 - e. Carissa Lovett
 - f. Courtney Wiesepape
 - g. Ellen Lunsford
- II. Approve Minutes**
 - a. Phil motioned to approve corrected minutes from February 2021 meeting. Carissa seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- III. Membership Chair Report**
 - a. February Report: 176 Members
- IV. Treasurer's Report (Phil Cox)**
 - a. Checking: \$18,444.75
 - b. Savings: \$2933.17
- V. WVAS Public Relations**
 - a. Facebook
 - i. 1,455 down from 1,456 likes
 - ii. 1,503 down from 1,505 following
- VI. Recently Completed Events**
 - a. February 17th, 2021 – Barny Dunning
 - i. Finches and Owls and Nuthatches (Oh My!): Winter Irruptives in Indiana
 - ii. ~20 in attendance
 - b. March 17th, 2021 – Brad Bumgardner
 - i. Significance of the Indiana Dunes: Ecology and Migration
 - ii. ~13 in attendance
- VII. Upcoming Events**
 - a. June 21st, 2021 – Shake Your Tailfeathers: Birding Photography
 - i. Hosted by Vigo County Public Library, presented by Marty Jones
 - ii. 10am on Zoom
 - b. October 2nd, 2021 - Terre Haute Bird Fest (**TENATIVE DATE**)
 - i. 1- 5pm
 - ii. Thoughts on October 9th? Likely the weekend before Big Day?
 1. Carissa is unavailable on the 9th; October 2nd would be a better option. Once date is confirmed we can begin planning.

2. Set up eBird station to bring more attention and interest to the October Big Day.

VIII. Upcoming Board (5:00pm) & Member Meetings (6:30pm)

- a. April 21st, 2021 – Helen Nesius and Tabitha Olsen
 - i. Northern Saw-Whet owls presentation. Title to come.
- b. May 19th, 2021 – Member Picnic – No speaker
 - i. Picnic with COVID-19 precautions in place - social distance, bring your own food, etc.
 - ii. Postpone board elections until August at Member Banquet
- c. August 18th, 2021 – Member Banquet
 - i. Dan Bradley confirmed for RiverScape talk
 - ii. Waiting to hear from Bob Warn for live entertainment
 - iii. \$150 to reserve patio at Moggers; \$150 from the initial \$200 deposit will be used for this
 - iv. We will need to collect orders ahead of time
 1. Start collecting orders in mid-July; Members to send orders to Carissa and Carissa will forward orders to Moggers
 - v. No longer doing an auction at banquet
 - vi. Potential timeline (we need to figure out when Moggers will be closing)
 1. Happy hour @ 6/6:30
 2. Food @ ~7
 3. Elections and chapter updates
 4. Dan Bradley @ 7:45/8

IX. Projects

- a. Indiana Bird Trail- Local Guide
 - i. **10 COMPLETED WRITE-UPS!**
 - ii. Scanned through and selected photos, waiting for approval from photographers.
 1. Contact Jim Sullivan and Joe Dickson via phone
 - iii. Statement from WVAS to come...
- b. Universal Mine IBA
 - i. Met with Meagan from Apex along with AGL folks + Steve Lima and Peter Scott
 - ii. Subsidence Insurance is moving ahead, but still working out other issues (Mineral rights, leasing terms)
 - iii. Narrowed our focus down to a single ~67-acre easement, which could serve as prime habitat for Henslow's sparrows and other grassland species.
 - iv. Need to get Lubovich on board with this plan, and work out agreements for a potential viewing area? Group meeting to come on Thursday, March 25th
- c. Institute for Bird Populations
 - i. Met with IBP + the head bander at Los Guatuzos

- ii. Agreed to make a \$1,000 donation
 - 1. Lucinda motioned to move forward with donation. Carissa seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
 - iii. Need to follow up with Steve about payment method.
 - iv. Audubon Great Lakes Chapter Meeting – two other chapters thinking about donating/getting involved with IBP
 - 1. Potentially coordinate a “match” donation system or group donation to provide more support
 - d. FeatherFriendly – partnership for UV window dots
 - i. Waiting to put up the window stickers until the weather gets a little warmer
 - e. Sports Illustrated Cover contest.
 - i. No submissions
 - f. Winter Newsletter
 - i. Goal is to get it out before the next meeting
 - ii. Nick to write up information about IBP partnership and Indiana Bird Trail to include in winter newsletter
 - g. Brochure
 - i. More information coming
- X. WVAS Fundraiser/Advertisement Ideas**
 - a. T-shirts
 - i. \$10 each, Sand or Gold, Sizes Kids Medium – Adult XL
 - ii. Can be purchased at member meetings, board meetings, and events
- XI. New Business**
 - a. Interview about Bald Eagle that was shot and killed in Vigo County requested from local news station
 - i. WVAS thoughts: stricter guidelines and following through with consequences is needed in situations like this
 - b. SB389 Call to Action
 - i. Distribute information about this bill and what they can do to members via Facebook post and email blast
- XII. Adjourn @ 5:59 PM**