

AUDUBON OHIO
MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sunday, November 12, 2006
Holiday Inn on the Lane, Columbus
Start Time: 9:00am

Board Member Attending: Lyn Boone, Greg Cunningham, Barry Hunlock, David Jenike, Jackie Light, Guy & Katy Mercer, Pete Precario, Jan Rodenfels, Tom Romito, Jack Rupert, Jack Smith, Will Sogg, Liz Woedl, Burch & Ellen Zehner

Board Members excused: Frances Beasley, Peter Cannon, Sam Fitton

Chapter Presidents/Guests: Carol Bertrand, Bill Heck, Maureen McCormick, Alan Dolan, Karen Orenstein, Robin Mullet, Delle Nadler, Mark & Julie Shieldcastle, Kathleen Tiburzi, Irv Simon

AO Staff attending: Jerry Tinianow, Casey Tucker, Cathy Raymond, John Ritzenthaler, Heather Starck, Christie Vargo, Marnie Urso

AO Staff excused: Ellen Armstrong

1. Will Sogg called the meeting to order and welcomed all for attending.
2. After a round of introductions, the Minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting of August 26, 2006 were approved with no changes.
3. After a brief introduction, Pete Precario, Chair of the **Governance Committee**, nominated Robin Mullet to join the Board for one of the unexpired terms that runs through 2008 and she was approved unanimously. The report on the leaders to be nominated for the 2007 board officers was deferred to the next board meeting, February 10th at Design Group. The Annual Meeting to elect new board members was set for Wednesday, January 24th at 4:00pm and all were invited to attend.
4. A PowerPoint presentation was given by Mark Shieldcastle on "Colonial Waterbirds and Cormorants in Ohio". The report was a follow-up to the Conservation Committee's concerns over the ODNR Cormorant Kill Program.
5. Delle Nadler of COAC gave a presentation about COAC highlighting their strategic plan, goals, mission, proposed projects, chapter help, and action items.
6. Tom Romito, facilitator of the **Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee**, opened a discussion of the draft Strategic Plan for 2007-2012 with a discussion about the mission statement and how it might be changed to better reflect the current needs. Adding education, advocacy, and "IN Ohio" rather than "for all Ohioans" was

suggested. The wording of our “Vision” should include “conservation including bio-diversity”. The wording for our “Values” should be stated as “respect for all LIVING things”. “Core values and core principals” need to be included in the statements. The Committee will incorporate input from this meeting into a new draft to be presented at the board’s next meeting.

7. A special update on the Center Capital Campaign was given by Christie Vargo for the **Development Committee**. To date, 6.89 million has been raised. Advanced gifts have been pursued and we now need to get 100% participation in the Campaign from both board members and staff. On Thursday, November 16th at 10:00am at Whittier the announcement will be made about the Center and its’ name. All are invited to attend. Any questions about the board campaign can be directed to Barry Hunlock.
8. Going back to the **Governance Committee**, Pete Precario brought up the issue of term limits and after a brief discussion it was decided to continue this at another time. Motions were withdrawn and suggestions were left as a concept. Pete and Jack Rupert will propose language to amend the current policy for consideration at the next meeting.
9. The remaining Committee reports were presented:

Chapter Relations (Jackie Light, Chair) No report. Tom Romito wants to replace Jackie IF he can swap out his current role as chair for the Communications Committee for Chapter Relations chair.

Education (David Jenike, Chair) The committee met on October 15th and has the Audubon Adventure series Ohio supplement text ready for review. The final deadlines are approaching for printing.

Communications Committee (Tom Romito, Chair) WOW! Moments is a success, as is the updating of the web site.

Development Committee (Lyn Boone, Chair) The Board’s annual giving is at 82% of amount goal with 12 out of 17 having committed. The goal is still \$50,000, and Lyn hopes that it is met. The date for Birdathon is yet to be determined.

Conservation Committee (Sam Fitton, Chair) Pete Precario gave written update on Sam’s behalf (copy attached).

10. **Executive Director and staff report**

- Marnie Urso reported she attended a regional training the previous weekend on the Great Lakes in Chicago. There is also a training session in Washington, DC in March that she’ll attend.
- John Ritzenthaler had no update of the written report.

- Heather Starck spoke about the Milwaukee trip in October where 30 community leaders from Columbus attended (including the Mayor and donors) and the message for the day was how operations can be done in Columbus like they are in Wisconsin. Heather has also hired a full time Educator, Doreen Whitley. who will hopefully be starting the end of the month.
- Casey Tucker had no update of the written report.
- Jerry reported that he can't comment on any financials due to the delay caused by a switch of accounting programs at the national level.
- Katy Mercer brought up the fact that Jerry wrote a "problem" for the national negotiation competition for law students. A \$2500 donation was made for Jerry's participation.

11. Schedule of next year's meetings:

Saturday, February 10th, 2007 at Design Group in Columbus from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Saturday, April 14th, 2007 at French Creek Metro Park in Lorain County from 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Lunch before hand and possible bird banding session at the Black Swamp Bird Observatory Banding Station from 9 to 11 am prior to meeting.

Saturday, August 25th - time and meeting location yet to be determined, but it will be in Central Ohio.

Last meeting of the year – not set yet. It will probably be in Southwest Ohio in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am by unanimous consent.