

OBBA Business Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2011

Minutes taken by Melinda Simon, Secretary

The October 1, 2011 OBBA meeting was held at the Hopewell Culture/Mound City National Historical Park Visitor Center in Chillicothe, Ohio, hosted by Kelly Williams-Sieg, OBBA President.

Business Meeting:

1. The Business Meeting opened at 10:50 AM, Kelly Williams-Sieg, President, presiding; 12 members attending.

Officer's/Committee Reports:

2. Minutes for the meeting of April, 2011 taken by Melinda Simon were presented. Accepted as written, moved by Bob Thobaben, seconded by Cheryl Dykstra. (Sandra Stone suggested that future minutes be posted by her on the website in advance of meetings so members can review them.)
3. Treasurer's Report and current membership information by Bob Thobaben:
 - a. All of OBBA's accounts are at the Wilmington Savings Bank, Wilmington, Ohio.
 - b. We have \$1598.51 in the checking account, up \$400 since the last meeting in April 2011, due to memberships.
 - c. We have three CDs: one for \$1382.62 now at .55% maturing in 2012; one for \$1272.41 at 1.7%, maturing this week; one for \$1278.02, also maturing this week.
 - d. Bob Thobaben presented alternatives to CD's for investing OBBA's funds, including stocks with high dividend payments or a suitable mutual fund. Kelly Williams-Sieg noted that our expenses remain low because we are not sending out printed newsletters, but depending on electronic communications including the website. Sam Williams made a motion, seconded by Sandra Stone, that we remain in short term CD's for now, despite the generally low interest rates available. Motion agreed unanimously.
4. Membership Committee:
 - a. Jill Russell has resigned as Membership Chair.
 - b. Kelly Williams-Sieg has been keeping up with registrations. Sam Williams has sent out notes if emails bounced back. Our contact information is OK, but no effort has been made to contact past and lapsed members. Registrations for meetings are easy to update and send on to Bob Thobaben, but beyond that, other membership efforts are currently more work than anyone is willing to take on.
 - c. Dick Tuttle suggested that occasional banders, those who have mist nets in their yards, could be a source of new members. Cheryl Dykstra had obtained a list of those with banding permits issued by the State of Ohio, but we would need to get someone willing to contact these individuals and encourage OBBA membership.

- d. Sandra Stone noted that the Caesar Creek event is a popular one and we could promote this activity on Public Radio, etc. and use it as an opportunity to secure new members.
 - e. We could send out notices to lapsed members at the time of the Caesar Creek event encouraging attendance and renewal.
 - f. Bob Placier volunteered to do an e-outreach to identify and encourage new/returning members.
5. Research Committee:
- a. Nothing new has been received from Dave Russell on the Banding Training Manual which is being developed using digital pictures. It was mentioned that McGill Bird Observatory currently has a nice aging site on-line with a species list and links, Quick Tips and wing photos; there may be no need to duplicate this. The site is: www.migrationresearch.org/mbo/id/wiwa.html
6. Newsletter/Website:
- a. Newsletter: No one has taken over the newsletter from Jed Burt's student during the past year. The bylaws state we should have 2 newsletters per year, but does not specify how they are to be put out. We need to decide if electronic newsletters are sufficient, whether the bylaws need to be changed to reflect this and whether we would provide printed versions (perhaps at meetings) for non-electronic members. Sandra Stone indicated the newsletter could be put online at a low cost...typically \$5-6 quarterly, which would require an automatic payment from a credit card account.
 - b. Website:
 - i. Sandra Stone said she would like to have the names of past Presidents of OBBA to put on the website.
 - ii. Photographs would be desirable, from banding stations including close-ups of birds with species ID.
 - iii. Will list OhioBirdBanding.org as a link on the site.
 - iv. Kelly Williams-Sieg will contact Tim Tolford about taking down our old site.
 - c. Newsletter/Website Management: There was a discussion of the need to have a person manage the newsletter/website. Previously Tim Tolford was being paid \$350 per year to do so. Sandra Stone indicated she would take on these responsibilities and do the work at cost. Sam Williams proposed that Sandra Stone should also receive token compensation for this work. Bob Placier seconded Sam Williams motion. All agreed. Sandra Stone will contact Bob Thobaben for required funding.

New Business Items:

- 7. The NABC field test will be given to Sharon Pawlowski and Eric Burgess on October 6 at Hueston Woods.

8. Caesar Creek Banding and Spring Meeting: Bob Thobaben indicated a need to set a date for Spring 2012 for the Caesar Creek banding. After discussion, it was agreed that this event and the OBBA Spring meeting should take place on the same date, March 24, 2012. Sam Williams said that Dave Russell would give a talk on the photo guide and that he was available. Bob Thobaben indicated he would handle food and do skin identification, with some coming from Herm Mays at the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History. There was discussion about having an updated poster board about OBBA at the event to promote membership. Sam Williams volunteered to do this update.
9. The Fall 2012 Meeting needs to move north, but the issue is securing assistance in setting up. Crawford County, between Bucyrus and Gallion, at the Lowe-Bolk Park was identified as a location having a good room for meeting. Bob Placier has a former student he will contact, with August 18 and 25 as prospective dates. As an alternative, Bob Crouch mentioned Port Clinton and/or Kelleys Island...potentially at Tom Bartlett's Saw-whet station....
10. Sandra Stone suggested a "Wilds" field trip; Kelly Williams-Sieg indicated it will take a year's planning for such an event...perhaps in 2013.
11. A Nominating Committee is needed to secure candidates for the Spring 2012 Officer elections. Cheryl Dykstra agreed to be the Committee.... Kelly Williams-Sieg indicated she does not want to continue as President due to the press of her school and other activities. Sam Williams agreed to continue as Vice-President. Bob Thobaben indicated a willingness to be President if another Treasurer can be identified. Melinda Simon was willing to continue as Secretary if Sharon Pawlowski will be a backup in case Melinda Simon misses a meeting due to travel, etc.
12. Kelly Williams-Sieg moved that we contribute \$75 to the Mound City/Hopewell Culture National Historical Park designated towards the Biological Resource area. Passed unanimously.
13. Motion to adjourn at 12:00 Noon by Cheryl Dykstra, seconded by Jackie Augustine; agreed unanimously.