Kirtland Bird Club of North East Ohio Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2026

1. **The meeting was started at 7:05 PM by president Sean McCleery on the Zoom platform.** There was a maximum of 41 screens logged in.
2. **Announcements:**
    - **a.** Welcome: Sean gave a brief history of the club and its mission statement. The club is volunteer run. It is named after Jared Potter Kirtland, a physician, abolitionist and naturalist.
    - **b.** All are welcome, and those who are not currently members were encouraged to join.
    - **c.** Field trip reports:
        - **i.** The Station Road trip in Cuyahoga Valley National Park was led by Fred Dinkelbach on April 25. Birds seen included Warblers, Vireos, and Bald Eagles (including one on the nest).
        - **ii.** Earlier this week, Patty and Paula led the West Side Bird Nerds (a group of Cleveland Schools 5^{th}-8^{th} graders) at Brecksville. Next week will be Magee Marsh, rain or shine.
    - **d.** Sightings: Hummingbirds, Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Wilson's Snipe (and a muskrat) at the former Horseshoe Lake, Yellow Breasted Chat at Public Square, Ross's Goose, and a Solitary Sandpiper was banded at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes (rarely banded in past).
3. **Future events:**
    a. Field Trips KBC
        i. 5/12 8:30 AM Magee Marsh
        ii. 5/30 Saturday 8:30 AM Frohring Meadows
    b. Field Trips non-KBC
        i. May 9, Cornell Global Big Day
        ii. The next two Saturdays mark the final Spring Bird Walks.

iii. May8 to May 17 are the dates for The Biggest Week in American Birding at Magee Marsh.

c. Meetings: the next meeting will be the annual picnic and field trip at Richfield Heritage Preserve starting at 8:30 AM

4. **Motion and vote on young birder funding:**
    a. Kirtland Bird Club of NE Ohio will earmark $1000 to establish the Young Birder Fund. This will be for young birder support, including, but not limited to field trips, summer camps, conferences &/or research. Applicants may be formal or informal clubs, school groups, or individuals. Applicants must fill out a form and provide a letter describing their request. Expenditures from this fund will require approval of any three board members. These funds will expire and revert to the general fund at the end of the day on Wednesday, May 3, 2028. To maintain the Young Birder Fund after this day, a motion must be raised and club members take a vote on or before the May 2028 meeting. This had been previously discussed at the April 2026 meeting.
    b. A motion to pass was made by Sean McCleery. It was seconded by Patty Kellner, and was unanimously passed.
5. **Approval of meeting minutes**. A motion was made by Sean to approve the minutes for March and April of 2026. This was seconded by Paula and the motion passed.
6. **Speaker Program**. Our speaker is Killian Sullivan on “Birding, the Comic Book You get to Live.” Killian is the American Birding Association's 2025 Young Birder of the Year! Killian’s story shows how birding is more than a hobby – it is a shared adventure where every birder writes their own heroic story. He is the youngest person to have seen 700 species.
7. **Adjournment: at 8:15 PM**