

**Kirtland Bird Club**  
**Date May 1, 2024 – Meeting Minutes**

**1. – Meeting started at 7:15 PM -**  
29 people were present.

**2. Welcome & Speaker Introduction**

Renee Boronka of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, who graciously arranged for KBC to meet at Western Reserve Land Conservancy Headquarters in Moreland Hills, welcomed Kirtland Bird Club members and guests, including a number of guests from Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Patty Kellner, KBC President, welcomed people as well, thanked Renee Boronka Western Reserve Land Conservancy, and announced the speaker and her topic: Genelle Uhrig, director of Ecology at the Wilds, speaking on American Kestrel ecology. She noted the Ms. Uhrig was a past recipient of an OAPI (Ohio Avian Project Initiative) grant from Kirtland Bird Club.

**3. Announcements, led by Patricia Kellner, president:**

A. There was a bird walk before the meeting on the bridle trail at South Chagrin Reservation. KBC member Sean McNeely gave the report. There were 41 species seen over 90 minutes and ½ mile walked. Birds seen included Eastern Kingbirds, Yellow Warblers, Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, a Pileated Woodpecker, Warbling Vireos, and a Common Merganser. A Common Yellowthroat was heard, but not seen.

B. Upcoming bird walks include:

- i. Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> bird walks, to be led by Fred Dinkelbach, at Richfield Heritage Preserve. There will be one walk at 7:30 AM and another at 9:30 AM
- ii. Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> bird walk, to be led by Paula Lozano and Patty Kellner at Magee Marsh

C. KBC member Tom Romito reached out to the Stolier Family Foundation on behalf of KBC. The foundation awarded \$2000 to KBC to be used for education through KBC's Ohio Avian Project Initiative (OAPI).

D. Patty Kellner has been participating in the planning group for a grant provided by Cornell Lab of Ornithology to Trust for Public Land to promote birding to BIPOC individuals in northeast Ohio, particularly Cleveland.

**4. Speaker:**

Genelle Uhrig, director of Ecology at the Wilds for the past 4 years, received her Master's degree in population genetics from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Her topic was ecology of Kestrels and she described how she did her work, including the use of nesting boxes, cameras on telescoping poles, GIS, MOTUS tracking of individual birds, and the challenges of doing this work. She shared maps and preliminary results. This work continues.

**5. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM