

**Kirtland Bird Club**  
**2/3/2021– Meeting Minutes**

**1. – Zoom meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Patty Kellner**  
52 screens were logged on

**2. – Welcome and introduction by President Patty Kellner:**

A. If you're new to our meetings, and would like a call back from a club member, please put your name in the chat with "call back" and we'll get back to you - or stay on at the end of the meeting and introduce yourself

B. Patty gave a special welcome to SeMia Bray and Jacquie Gillon from Black Environmental Leaders. Over the past year they've welcomed KBC leaders as allies into their organization and I personally have learned so much from their meetings – about equity, the built and natural environment, and about creating a culture of inclusion and collaboration.

C. For those of you who are new to our club, the Kirtland Bird Club is a club of Northeast Ohio birding enthusiasts. The club has been around since 1940 and has a monthly meeting with a speaker from September to June.

D. Before COVID we had club field trips to areas where a good variety of birds could be found. This past year we've had some bird identification sessions on Zoom in place of our field trips. This year we are offering a series of introductory birding sessions for people interested in getting into birding.

E. In the past we were an exclusive club that required references to join, but now we're open to all. You are welcome to **join** our club or **make a donation** at [kirtlandbirdclub.com](http://kirtlandbirdclub.com) – links are in the chat:

- a. <https://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/become-a-member.html>
- b. <https://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/donate.html>

F. We are a volunteer-run organization. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please put a note in the chat or contact us at [info@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:info@kirtlandbirdclub.org). We will have a business meeting at the end of our presentation and I will elaborate on those more at that time.

**3.- Video :** Patty ran a short video created by birder Deb Sweeney –highlighting why the Cleveland Lakefront is so special for birds and birders ( most, but not all of these are seen on Ohio):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3SvzaXVpnk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2K3dN-Gft1zIPu5G570DJYMulc50e-4bOdFCq49F-QfQNa09KqrHcaGyk>

**4. -Speakers/topic:**

**A. CHEERS : Cleveland Harbor Eastern Embayment Resilience Study**

**a.** A collaborative planning initiative to look at opportunities to revitalize the lakeshore east of downtown Cleveland while addressing lakefront challenges.

**b.** Collaborating groups:

- i. Cleveland Metroparks
- ii. City of Cleveland
- iii. Ohio department of natural resources
- iv. Ohio Department of transportation
- v. Port of Cleveland
- vi. STUDY was funded by US Fish & Wildlife

**c.** KBC members Laura Gooch, Julie West, Lukas Padegimas, perhaps Tom Romito, and I have all been participating in their stakeholder engagement meetings over the last 9 months

**B. Kelly B Coffman**

- a. Senior planner with Cleveland Metroparks
- b. Works with staff and partners throughout Cuyahoga County to promote community connections and improve access to nature.
- c. Recent Work includes planning studies for the system's 18 reservations
- d. Serves as project manager for CHEERS

**C. Laura Sternheimer**

- a.** Director of Urban Planning and Engagement for Port of Cleveland – heading up planning and development initiatives as well as special projects which benefit from community engagement activities.
- b.** Responsible for management of the stabilization efforts at Irishtown Bend and Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve

- c. Career focused on issues related to urban redevelopment – in housing, real estate planning and development
  - d. MBA from Weatherhead, a Masters of Non-Profit Mgmt from the Mandel School at Case
  - e. Dredging, airport landfill, construction logistics and CLNP habitat restoration
- D. Patty suggested attendees take the survey:
- a. <https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/cheers>
  - b. In appreciation of your participation in the survey, Kirtland Bird Club will do a **prize drawing** for a 2 pound bag of **Birds & Beans Coffee** delivered to the winner's door the first week in March. *Bird & Beans Coffee is shade-grown Smithsonian certified bird-friendly coffee* and it's excellent!!
  - c. **To enter the prize drawing:**
- Email is at [info@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:info@kirtlandbirdclub.org) and tell us you completed the survey.

## 5.- Upcoming and announcements

### A. KBC programs

- a. Sunday 2/7- Gautam Apte on Gull identification
- b. Wed 3/3- DR Tim Beatley on “ the Bird Friendly City”
- c. Wed 4/7- DR Ben Winger ( former KBC member and currently professor at University of Michigan) on the Evolution of migration.
- d. Check the calendar on our website for more opportunities in birding and related areas:  
[Northeast Ohio Regional Bird Calendar](#)
- e. Spring beginning birdwatcher series- we are hoping for volunteers

**B.** OAPI grant request. Dwight Chasar announced it today. It will be voted on at the next meeting in March. \$1000 request to fund a grant through OAPI. More details at the March meeting.

**C.** Black birder or equity initiative- Patty plans to schedule in near future.

**D.** Volunteer opportunities.

**a.** Marketing and Publicity – find new ways to reach some of the 44 million birdwatchers nationwide who don't belong to our club, help promote our online series on beginning birdwatching we're planning to do in April – community newsletters, TV, community organizations, churches, schools, etc

**b.** Membership

**c.** Tech GURU

**d.** Habitat/Conservation

**e.** Education, including Beginning birdwatcher series to start in April

**f.** Photos- volunteer your photos! Work on making our website! Can we get a photo coordinator/editor who reaches out to all the photographers in the club when we need photos for our website? We do have a gallery of unusual birds in Cleveland , but nothing has been added for some time

**g.** Ideas for programs for next year.

**6. - Recording Secretary report:** Minutes of last month's meeting were posted on website . No corrections made. Motion to approve: Steve Cogan. Seconded Mary Anne Romito. Minutes were approved.

**7.- Treasurer Report:** Letters will be going out for members that are late to renew. We are behind last year in membership.

**8.- Closing:**

Thanks: to our speaker and all of our participants

Next meeting: March 3, 2020 , with speaker Dr Tim Beatley.

**9. Adjournment:** meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM