Attendees:
Donald Dann
Randi Doeker
Bob Fisher
Glenn Gabanski
Lee Ramsey

1. Treasurers Update: Not all members have paid for 2005; a few have indicated that their fiscal year has yet to end and that is when they pay dues.

2. Change in Migratory Bird Treaty Act: Randi suggested that we invite someone from US FWS to educate the membership about the changes in the law; Donnie will follow-up with John Rogner.

3. Northerly Island: The group discussed the issues and conflicts that appear to exist between the public announcements of a BCN member club versus those of the Northerly Island coalition that BCN helped found. Donnie will talk to some club leaders to determine if a problem exists.

4. Monitoring: Lee reported that the response by volunteers has been good. Likewise, the negotiations with the land owners (mostly county FP’s) have been successful in most areas. The counties actively involved are: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake and Will. McHenry County has agreed to participate in the grassland birding blitz. Lee and Judy Pollock will be talking to the NW Indiana counties next.

5. Wild Things Conference: Very successful. And a very impressive job by the organizers both in the conference itself and also in their outreach to a wide variety of Chicago Wilderness organizations.

6. Birds & Buildings Conference: Very successful. Over 100 attendees; about 60% from the architecture and building fields. The IIT Dean of Architecture recommended to the audience that a second event be held in 2006.

7. Illinois Bird Conservation Initiative: Per Bob and Donnie, it seems unlikely that we can launch the organization given the inability of any large organization to offer permanent staffing.

8. Access to sewage ponds: Jeff Sanders requested that BCN address this. It was agreed that Jeff or any other BCN member that would like to tackle this issue can do so using the BCN name.

9. Succession: The board had a general discussion about future board members. Lee has announced that this is his last year on the Board. Randi has suggested that a 2nd VP position be added to the board.

10. New BCN Member: The Board voted to recommend as a new BCN member the Birds & Building Forum, which has been formed by Randi Doeker in conjunction with Libby Hill and
other North American leaders in the window-collision movement. It was agreed to recommend that this new organization would not have to pay 2005 dues.

11. Prospective New Member: Bob will talk to McHenry Audubon about joining BCN.

12. The date for the BCN regular meeting is April 9th at Camp Sagawau.

Submitted,
Randi Doeker
Secretary