

WCAS Board Meeting-January 29, 2006

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm at the home of Tom and Mary Anne Romito. In attendance were Tom and Mary Anne, Nancy Howell, Liz Clingman, Claudia Anders, Kit Birch, Terri Martincic (and the two house cats).

1. The Board discussed the benefits of meeting for longer period on a day other than the Monthly meeting. The Board agreed to meet on the last Sunday of a month. Discussion followed on a separate meeting for the IBA events. The Board decided to meet on February 19th at the Book and Bean at 1 pm. (Two members would not be able to attend due to previous commitments).
2. Questions and discussions of the March 5th Kick Off event followed. Tom Romito stated that John Ritzenthler from Ohio Audubon would be present. This date was chosen to coordinate with the Maple Sugaring events in RR Reservation. Tom will create/obtain a power point presentation, John will do Bird ID, Kit Birch will set up the Bulletin Board, Don Howell will set up points, Liz will provide the food and the Large Map of the IBA will be displayed. Tom asked if he could bring brownies. Board agreed.
3. Mary Anne passed out copies of the IBA flyer. She said that she will send to e-mail contacts and discussion followed on the number to order and to distribute to the various Nature Centers and Groups. It was also recommended that flyers be available during the RRNC Raptor weekend of Feb.3 to 5. Mary Anne said that she would she that they arrived at the Center. Board decided to not send copies to the National only members at this time.
4. Terri Martincic proposed to the Board her ideas regarding picking an area and just reporting on it. After a lengthily discuss the Board decided to table the idea for now in order to concentrate efforts on the upcoming events and to allow Terri to research more on the possibilities of partnering with already established projects in the RR Reservation.
5. Regarding the "Pigeon Lady of W.130th" case, Tom and Mary Anne visited the homeowner per report from Jerry Tinianow. She had been cited by for feeding pigeons and creating a health hazard. Attorney Bill Gerber, provided pro bono services and the City has dropped the case. Casey tucker form Audubon will work with the City on bird feeding from a scientific basis. Looking for someone to link up with Casey for local follow-up.
6. Mary Anne announced that the Take Action page was up on the website. Co-developer, Kit Birch will announce this at the membership meeting. The Board suggested that one link should be to Ohio Audubon.
7. Nancy Howell announced that help was needed for School Days, Cleveland Lakefront Park, Wed, May 24th 10-2 pm to monitor display and present info. WCAS treasury is solvent.

March Program changed to Erin Boone on the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas She attended the end of the meeting on the Lake Isaac-Abrams Trail. The paper had the wrong starting time for the meeting. She felt more were pro trail. The major expense will be the tunnel under the RR tracks.

Great Backyard Bird Count will be Feb. 17th to 20th.

10 people attended the Wilds Field Trip in Jan.

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8. Terri shared info on the Metroparks Board meeting. Board recommended a link from WCAS site.
Tom Romito will address the Metropark Board this Thursday for 2 minutes. He plans on presenting the purposes and process of IBA Adoption of the RR Watershed.
Dan Petit will meet with Tom and Mary Anne prior to the meeting.
9. Terri will contact RRNC to inform of flyer and IBA events.
Claudia will contact Trailsiders regarding their newsletter. This is published quarterly.
10. Terri asked the Board members to watch for free advertising opportunities as in The Sun and PD.
11. Tom reported that he has been contacted by John Ritzenthler to host the Ohio Audubon training on IBA adoption on April 29th. Board decided that we appreciated the offer; however this was not a good date for birders.
12. Board approved Tom Romito requested to fund his registration fee to attend a Mar 22nd grant writing seminar.
13. Tom stated that letters of support had or are expected from Metroparks and Ohio Audubon.
14. Tom reminded Board members to invite prospective Board members to the next meeting.
15. Nancy reminded all that Earth Day is April 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.