

MINUTES OF THE IBA COMMITTEE HEADS MEETING

January 16, 2005

7:00 to 8:30

The meeting was held at the Romito residence in Cleveland. In attendance were Tom and Mary Anne Romito, Nancy Howell and Kit Birch. The purpose of the meeting was to further plan for WCAS's adoption of the Rocky River IBA.

1. It was decided that WCAS will continue with plans to hold a kick-off party on March 5, 2006 and a point-count training on April 2, 2006.
2. March 5 will be a four hour ongoing event offering information on what an Important Bird Area is and what point counts are all about in a casual, party atmosphere. It will include such things as a power point presentation put on once every hour, bird pictures with bird call CDs, maps of the Rocky River watershed area, etc. Light refreshments will also be provided.
3. Tom will talk with John Ritzenthaler of Audubon Ohio to gather information helpful to our project, and to invite him to our March 5 event. We need to know if a smaller point count project using only ten points instead of 50 would be of any use to anybody. We also need to know what form our data needs to be put into, where our data will go, and what it will be used for. Tom will ask John Ritzenthaler; Mary Anne will ask Lisa Petit of the CVNP. We need to know these things for volunteer motivation
5. It was decided that we will send out a special mailing to all 800 Audubon members in our area to explain what WCAS is planning for our Rocky River IBA adoption activities. We hope to encourage volunteers to come to the training session and be part of this project. Kit and Mary Anne will work on this letter.
6. Tom is working on obtaining grant money from local foundations to help fund our IBA project.
7. Tom will attend a Metropark board meeting in February to explain to board members what WCAS has planned for its Rocky River IBA adoption activities.
8. Kit will attempt to have our March 5 event put into the February Emerald Necklace newsletter.