

Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: August 15, 2024

President Debbie Bucholz called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Present: Jean Ballinger, Debbie Bucholz, Marti Burton, Mervyn Cohen, Phil Coons, Dave Drzewiecki, Marian Fahy, Annie Falvey, Pat Lawler, John McShea, Konnie Schlechte, Lori Showley, Kathy Whalen, and Ed Wright. Janie Westermeier, who has agreed to take on the Meet Up portion of the Publicity Director duties, also attended.

Minutes: The revised minutes of the July 18, 2024 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Whalen reported a balance and net worth of \$22,464.14 as of August 15, 2024. The treasurer's report was approved. In addition, VP Marian Fahy advised that she and Kathy reviewed the bank account for the 3rd quarter and no exceptions were noted.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board:

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Kae Ramey	\$142.80	Postage – Aug/Sept schedule
Kae Ramey	\$83.77	Printing – Aug/Sept schedule
John Triplett	\$156.95	Picnic – Chicken

Members

New members – Fred Graf, Dee Pierson, Nancy Tinsley

Current membership is 557 compared to 569 last year.

Committee Reports:

Membership

There will be no changes to the New Membership form for the next club year (Oct 2024 – Sept 2025.)

Pathfinder

Ed Wright advised he will send out a request for October and November hikes by end of day tomorrow. Jean Ballinger shared that she received some negative feedback from the leaders of the long-planned October club trip to Hocking Hills and Cuyahoga Natl Park regarding the fall trip that Kelley Hale added to the schedule recently.

Webmaster

Debbie Bucholz advised that she met with Paul Klimowitz and Ed Wright regarding a line-by-line division of duties for the Webmaster role. Paul will be assuming all duties related to programming, while Ed will keep the duties related to content. Some Webmaster tasks may be delegated to Debbie after October 1. As the webmaster is an appointed role, no board action is required for these changes.

Mileage

John McShea provided the following stats as of August 15, 2024: Total miles hiked = 85,727; Individual hiker hikes of at least one mile = 17,965; Average hike length = 5.72

Publicity

Rick Wortman applied for club participation at Penrod (9/7/24) again this year. As of the meeting date, no response has been received. During a discussion of possible expenses to participate, it looked like there could be a shortfall based on current remaining funds in the Publicity budget. Annie Falvey made a motion to approve \$150 for additional expenses beyond registration if we participate in Penrod this year. Konnie Schlechte provided the second and the board approved the motion. Janie Westermeier advised that she has had some confusion on Meet-Up entries and will work with Ed Wright to be sure that entries posted are correct. Following the meeting, it was confirmed that our application was accepted, and we will participate at Penrod. Debbie will work with Janie on volunteers, etc. Cost will be \$210 - \$135 registration plus 5 additional tickets at \$15 each.

Electronic Media

We have 3572 Facebook followers.

Social

The annual General Assembly meeting will be Thursday, 9/5/24, Unitarian Universalist Church, 615 W. 43rd Street, Indianapolis 46208. Members are invited to arrive at 6 pm to enjoy snacks and beverages, with a short business meeting to follow at 6:30. John McShea will be the guest speaker this year and share his experiences hiking the Camino de Santiago trail. Annie Falvey will contact members that expressed an interest in providing appetizers for club events and will advise board members if they need to bring

anything. Following the meeting, Annie has asked the board to provide appetizers for the meeting, as they have in the past.

Conservation

Dave Drzewiecki will send a google groups message to club members, requesting that service hours through 9/30/24 be reported to him by 10/15/24 to be considered for a Trail Maintenance Award at the annual Winter Banquet.

Discussion Items:

1. Debbie Bucholz reported the next Technology Committee meeting is Aug 29, with continued discussion of electronic form filling and electronic payments. Marti Burton and Marian Fahy will attend.
2. The forms regarding membership renewal and registering for the Winter Banquet will be revised (if needed) and presented for approval at the next board meeting.
3. Marian Fahy presented cost proposals for our banking needs from Fifth Third (our current bank,) Chase, and PNC. As Fifth Third does not allow Zelle payments for business accounts, there is a need to establish a new bank account for the club to pursue accepting electronic payments from members. Following discussion, Mervyn Cohen made a motion to open a new business checking account at PNC and to transfer \$5000.00 of existing club funds from our Fifth Third account to the new PNC account. Annie Falvey provided the second, and the board voted to approve the motion. All decisions regarding electronic payments were tabled for future research and recommendations from the Technology Committee.
4. All requests related to budget for the 2024-25 club year should be sent to Debbie Bucholz, Marian Fahy and Kathy Whalen.

Place and Time of Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be Thursday, September 19, 2024, 1 pm, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 3000 N. High School Rd, Speedway, IN 46224.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Konnie Schlechte, Secretary