

Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: 17th October 2024

Present:

Jean Ballinger, Debbie Bucholz, Mervyn Cohen, Phil Coons, Annie Falvey, Cathy Fischer, Martha Rivera June, Paul Klimowitch, Pat Lawler, Karen LeClerc, John McShea, Delaram Moghaddam, Kathy Whalen, and Ed Wright

President Debbie Bucholz called the meeting to order at 1:00pm at John Knox Church

Minutes The previously distributed minutes of 19th September 2024 were approved.

Treasurers Report: Kathy Whalen reported for Marian Fahy that as of 13th October 2024 our balance was \$25,641.17 and net worth was \$25,641.17. Our balance at the end of our fiscal year on 30th September 2024 was \$18,577.33. The reports were approved.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board were:

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|-----------|-------------|---|----------|------------------------|
| 009/20/24 | Ed Wright | Publicity (Meetup fees for 9/19/24-3/19/25) | \$178.99 | \$178.99 |
| 09/21/24 | Kae Ramey | Mailing supplies (Envelopes) | \$83.28 | |
| | | Printing- Oct/Nov Schedules | \$101.03 | |
| | | Printing - Renewal and Banquet forms | \$93.73 | |
| | | Postage | \$436.84 | \$714.88 |
| 10/07/24 | Marian Fahy | Inbiz (Indiana State Business Entity report filing fee) | \$22.00 | \$22.00 |
| | | | Total | <u><u>\$915.87</u></u> |

Members

The new members are Maureen Hoyer, Mark Hoyer, Kristine Knecht, Mark Hoopingarner, Greg Topp, Barb Bates, and Mark Chambers
Current membership on 30th September 2024 was 570 compared to 586 the prior year.

Committee Reports
Membership

There was discussion about what to do with members who had not renewed during the year. To more easily manage the database and to stop these members getting mileage credit it was felt that a specific category was needed to identify these folk in the database. It was suggested that these members be categorised as *suspended*. A final decision will be made next month.

Pathfinder

A request for hikes for the next schedule will be sent out today. Ed reported that Marla Zinkan and Janie Westermeier had taken responsibility for all the day-to-day operations with regard to Meet-up and that he no longer has this responsibility

Mileage/database

22 members completed hiking over 1000 miles last year. There was discussion about defining 25-year membership. It was decided that this award would be given to members who had belonged to the club for 25 years, irrespective of this being continuous or interrupted membership.

Webmaster

Paul reported that he is working to migrate our database from SQL 5 to SQL 8. Sequel 8 is in a testing phase. End users should not notice any difference.

Electronic Media

We have 3697 Facebook likes.

Publicity

The board approved a suggestion from Delaram to have the club start using Instagram. She will set it up so that Instagram entries will automatically post to Facebook. It was felt that Instagram would appeal to younger people and that it would have a much greater audience than Meet-up. We will continue to use Meet-up for six months and then evaluate continuing with it.

Karen asked why people were not able to comment on Facebook postings. The feeling was that this would result in too many unwanted and potentially nasty comments.

We will have a table, later this month, at a Hendricks County senior centre fair.

Social

The venue and dates for the Winter Banquet have been confirmed. Karen showed examples of the item that will be given out for the club award. Expenditure, not to exceed \$1,300.00 for purchase of this item, and additional items to be sold to club members, was approved.

Conservation

Eight members, wishing to be considered for the conservation award, have submitted information regarding their volunteer hours.

Historian

The scanning of all the hike schedules from 1957 to 2007 has been completed and they are in a database. This will be integrated with the later hike schedules which already appear on the website.

Preparation of the next Trailblazer has started.

Old Business

1. Banking update and Zelle trial.

Several board members successfully paid their membership dues using Zelle. Marian receives an e-mail regarding each Zelle payment. Paul suggested that we ask the bank to include the reason for the payment in this e-mail.

Payments must be manually entered into the database. Paul felt that an automatic entry system would be too complex and expensive

2. Tech meeting update

Paul reported that all board members needing to receive e-mail, will have specific e-mail address that is based on their Board function. As office holders change, these e-mail addresses will carry over.

New Business

1. Budget committee

They will hold their first meeting on the 29th of October.

2. Donations to John Knox church

The church allows us to hold our board meetings in their facility and does not charge us for this. Debbie will send out an e-mail to all club members asking those coming to the Eagle Creek Thursday morning hikes, starting 31st October, to bring food which can be donated to the church, for them to use in their food pantry. The food collection will be for four weeks.

3. Audit committee

Dewey and Cheryl Conces will replace Mike Khalil on this committee and work with Mike Lindstedt.

Next Meeting is 21st November 1:00 PM EST
John Knox Presbyterian Church

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Mervyn Cohen for Konnie Schlechte - Secretary