

Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: December 19, 2024

President Debbie Bucholz called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

Present: Debbie Bucholz, Marti Burton, Mervyn Cohen, Dave Drzewiecki, Annie Falvey, Martha Rivera June, Paul Klimowitch, Delaram Moghaddam, Kae Ramey, Konnie Schlechte, Kathy Whalen, and Ed Wright.

Minutes: The revised minutes of the November 17, 2024 board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Marian Fahy reported a balance and net worth of \$30,835.72 as of November 30, 2024. The treasurer's report was approved.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board:

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Karen Ramey	\$84.74	Printing – December/January schedule
Karen Ramey	\$114.24	Postage
Martha Burton	\$5.40	Postage – badge
Martha Burton	\$21.90	Postage – stamps

On the day after the meeting, an electronic vote was requested to approve the expenses for the Winter Banquet. Dave Drzewiecki made a motion to approve up to \$4000 for Winter Banquet expenses (approx. \$3800 for CR Heroes and \$200 for decorations, table cloths, etc.) Kathy Whalen provided the second and the motion was approved by the board.

Members

New members – Tiffany Baker, John Holloway, Melissa Holloway, Helene Laughlin, Suzanne Morris

Current membership is 472 compared to 494 last year.

Committee Reports:

Pathfinder

Ed Wright will send out a request for February and March hikes.

Mileage/Database

John McShea reported total club mileage Oct 1 – Dec 18, 2024 = 21,804 miles; total hiker hikes = 3803; average hike length = 5.73 miles.

Webmaster

Paul Klimowich reported that he has purchased a club laptop and software and is working on the configurations. Paul also reported that a status code other than 1 on the database will not allow mileage to be entered. Ed Wright requested the same be applied to viewing mileage. It was also noted that when a name includes an apostrophe, the apostrophe must be entered when searching for the member's name.

Electronic Media

We have 3875 Facebook followers.

Publicity

Delaram Moghaddam reported an additional 150 followers on our new Instagram page. Most of these new followers also follow Eagle Creek or Fort Harrison. Delaram is receiving messages from followers about club hikes. She requested that hiking photos be sent to her via text or email for posting to Instagram. Delaram will be looking for another vendor event (like Penrod and the Hendricks County Senior Center) for the club to participate in. Board members suggested Broad Ripple Art Fair and the History Center Festival of Trees – she will research both.

Social

Annie Falvey shared that there are currently about 130 reservations for the Winter Banquet. CR Heroes, our caterer, will provide 4 charcuterie trays as appetizers at a cost of \$340. Board members will arrive at 1 pm for set up and decorating; club members arrive at 2 pm for a social hour and the meal will be at 3 pm. Martha Rivera June and Delaram Moghaddam will be at the check-in table. Debbie Bucholz will recruit someone to work the merchandise table selling hats. Debbie ran through the order of the program. Glee Crowder will be recognized for the most hikes led in the history of the club after receiving her 25-year membership award. There may be a poem for Glee from member David Kincaid. The afternoon will close out with the club song. Annie will send an email to the membership as the date approaches, including a reminder that the banquet is on Saturday, not Sunday, and providing directions to the venue. She will also request all members to wear their name badge, remind them of the canned food drive, and advise that hats will be available for sale (\$20 cash, check or Zelle.)

Conservation

Dave Drzewiecki has data for 6 of the 8 trail maintenance nominees and is working with Eagle Creek staff on the remaining 2 nominees.

Historian

Mervyn Cohen reported that the Trailblazer is progressing, and that he will have a display of old club posters at the Winter Banquet.

Discussion Items:

1. Debbie Bucholz reported for Karen LeClerc that a different hat was required for the vendor to include the wording "2024 Achievement Award" on the hat. Board members were shown the new hat.
2. Marian Fahy, Kathy Whalen and Debbie Bucholz have a meeting scheduled with PNC on 12/30 to discuss opening a new savings or money market account. ACH payments will also be discussed.
3. Marti Burton suggested that the old hiker logo (single man) be retired from use on club documentation, and the board agreed. Marti also showed a magnet that she has added to her name badge, making it easier to wear for club events. Marti will order 24 magnets that will be offered for sale (\$1 each) at the banquet. Lastly, Marti proposed a change to the recognition of the first 500 miles hiked that is currently in place. Following her explanation and recommendation, Mervyn Cohen made a motion to continue to award the 100-mile patch, and to discontinue awarding 200, 300, 400 and 500 mile patches, except to individuals who have already been awarded a 200 or later patch. At 500 miles, a name badge will be awarded with a "500 miles" designation. Annie Falvey provided the second, and the vote was unanimous to approve the change.
4. After discussion about the St Patrick's Day parade, the board agreed to participate again in 2025. The \$100 entrance fee will be included in the amount budgeted for publicity.
5. Following discussion, the board agreed to keep the Pinnacle Award as an achievement award category, even though there hasn't been a recipient of the award in several years.

Place and Time of Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be Thursday, January 16, 2025, 1 pm, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224.

The meeting adjourned at 2:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Konnie Schlechte, Secretary