

Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: 20th December 2016

Present: Janet Cohen, Mervyn Cohen, Philip Coons, Pat Lawler, Phil Smith, Kathy Whalen, Ed Wright, Karen Zimmerman, Barb Strite, Jackie King, Narcissio Povinelli, Mike Khalil, Chuck Turner

President Phil Smith - called the meeting to order at 6.00pm at his home.

Minutes The previously distributed corrected minutes of 15th November 2016 were approved.

Financial Report: Kathy Whalen reported that as of 15th December 2016 our balance was \$18,864.87 and net worth was \$18,864.87. The financial report was approved.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board were:

<u>Who</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Sally Sandman	\$181.26	Printing (Dec/Jan schedule)
	\$204.00	Postage (Dec/Jan schedule)
	\$14.86	Postage (Dec/Jan schedule)
Halo Brand Solutions	\$731.46	Bicentennial T shirts
Excalibur catering	\$4,550.00	Christmas party
Janet Cohen	\$30.00	Christmas party (Gift card/Target)
	\$50.00	Christmas party (Gift card/REI)
	\$60.00	Christmas party (Gift card/Starbucks)
	\$17.64	Christmas party (Decorations)
Phil Smith	\$849.94	Bicentennial books
	\$107.00	Christmas party (stereo system)
	\$27.82	Miscellaneous (Larrison lifetime plaque)
Kathy Whalen	\$22.00	Business entity (NP) filing fee
Indiana University	\$32.00	Bradford Woods January hike deposit
Barb Strite	\$13.58	Postage

Committee Reports:

Mileage and Membership:

New members approved by the Board are;

Dave Seng, Amanda Hunter, Susan Harley, Cara Vektor, Stephen Morris, Kathy Cassetty, Erik Streib.

Reinstated members approved by the Board are;

Victoria Palmer-Smith.

Kathy Whalen reported that current membership is 478 compared to 496 last year.

Membership

Ed Wright tested the system whereby hike leaders can enter the information about their hikes directly into the mileage data base. It worked well.

Publicity

Mike Khalil indicated that helpers would be needed for the Wayne Township Health Fair on 11th February and at the Boat, Sport & Travel Show at the State Fair Grounds from 17th – 26th February. Phil Coons reported that two people from Muncie PBS TV will join next Thursdays Eagle Creek Park hike to gather material for a program.

Pathfinder

Ed Wright and Jean Ballinger are working on the next schedule.

Publications

Nil

Web master

Photos and award winners from the Christmas party are now on the club web site

Electronic Media:

We have 1059 facebook Likes and 141 Twitter followers

Social

Janet Cohen reported that she will make reservations for shelter A in Eagle Creek park for next year's summer picnic and at the Unitarian Church for the annual General Assembly.

Conservation

Eagle Creek Park has an engineer designing the new bridge to be able to reach the Boy Scout Trail in Eagle Creek Park

Recognition and Awards

Nil

Bicentennial Hikes

Pat Lawler agreed to distribute remaining commemorative pins to those who walked at least one State Park hike.

Chuck Turner thanked everyone who helped organize the hikes and mentioned that only 18 of 300 State Park passports are left over.

Action Items

- A.** Review of Bicentennial expenses compared to budget. Total expenses were \$3,382.48 of which \$1018.73 was paid from the 2015/16 budget and \$2,363.75 from the 2016/17 budget.

- B.** Review of Christmas party expenses compared to Steed bequest. Total expenses were \$5,374.03. The bequest paid for \$5,000.
- C.** Determination of funds available for charitable contributions for the 2015- 2016 budget year. The Board approved increasing the previously budgeted amount of \$1,500 to \$ 2,000. Distribution to 10 organizations will be based on final calculations on Board member preferred % distributions to each organization..
- D.** Discussion of possible donation to assist Great Smokey Mountain and Gatlinburg wildfire relief. The Board will not make a specific donation, but will encourage club members to make their own contributions. Janet Cohen and Phil Smith will research specific nonprofit organizations that will be recommended to the club members.

Other Business:

A. Discussion of use of Yahoo Group

Mervyn Cohen asked for discussion of two issues:

1. Encourage old and new members to join the Yahoo Email Group
 - The Board agreed that all new members would be sent information about the Yahoo Email Group, encouraged to join and be provided with a link to the *joining* page from our web site. Ed Wright will periodically include similar information in the hiking schedules.
2. Replying to group messages.
 Emails that should go to one individual (the sender) are often sent to the entire Yahoo group. Receiving these personal messages is frustrating to club members
 The problem occurs because clicking the “*reply*” button automatically sends the response to the entire group. In other situations, one must click the “reply all” button to send a group response.

Possible solutions:

- Change the function of the “*reply*” button to only respond to the sender. This may not be possible.
- The current Yahoo group emails already have appropriate options in small print at the very bottom of the message. These indicate the email of the sender, an option to reply to the sender and an option to reply to the entire Yahoo group. (Posted by: [mervyn cohen<mecohen@iupui.edu>](#) Reply to sender Reply to group)
 These should be moved to be placed above the message and in larger font, with appropriate instructions for their use. Karen Zimmerman will discuss possible options with Joan Grifitts

Place and Time of Next Meeting: The January board meeting is cancelled. Any necessary business will be conducted by email.

The meeting adjourned at 7.15 pm.

Mervyn Cohen Secretary
Addendum – action outcomes after the meeting

From Phil Smith

This is an update concerning last night’s IHC Board of Directors meeting:

1. Charitable contributions

Kathy has tallied the voting for charitable contributions for the 2015-2016 budget year. The \$2,000 approved by the Board last night will be divided as follows:

Organization	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	TOT	Divide by 10	\$	
B & O			10	10	10	5	20	10			20	85	8,5	\$170
Eagle Creek	50		10	10	10	15	10	25	50	50	50	280	28	\$560
Indiana Parks Alliance			10	10	10	10	10	10				60	6	\$120
Holiday Park			10	10	10	5	5	10	50		20	120	12	\$240
Hoosier Hikers Council			10	10	10	15	5	10		10		70	7	\$140
Indianapolis Cultural Trail			10	10	10	10	10	5			10	65	6,5	\$130
Knobstone Trails Assoc.			10	10	10	15	10	10		20		85	8,5	\$170
Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary			10	10	10	5	10	5				50	5	\$100
Meals on Wheels			10	10	10	10	10	5				55	5,5	\$110
Indiana Forest Alliance	50		10	10	10	10	10	10		20		130	13	\$260
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		100	\$2000

Katy will write and mail the checks after the holidays. I’ll also include options for donations to Great Smokey Mountains National Park and the Gatlinburg area in the January president’s message.

2. Yahoo Groups

Karen and Mervyn contacted Joan Griffiths and she has made a change that appears to have solved the problem of unintended response to the entire group. Joan changed how the return to sender works. I tested it on Pat’s recent message. I clicked return as I always do for any email on my email program and Pat’s email went into the “to” line. I tried the same on an earlier IHC group message and Indy Hike went into the “to” line. I want to thank Karen and Mervyn for their initiative on this “troublesome” and long-standing problem. I also want to thank Joan for her quick actions.