

**Minutes**  
**Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting**  
**Date: May 20, 2021**

President Mary Barbara Miller called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm via Zoom and welcomed John McShea to the board. John will be replacing Karen Zimmerman in the Mileage/Database Admin position. Karen will mentor John through 2021.

**Present:** Jean Ballinger, Marti Burton, Mervyn Cohen, Phil Coons, Harold Crooks, Anne Heighway, Pat Lawler, John McShea, Mary Barbara Miller, Konnie Schlechte, Lori Showley, Susan Sievers, Phil Smith, Barb Strite, Kathy Whalen, Rick Wortman, Ed Wright and Karen Zimmerman

**Minutes:** The minutes of the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kathy Whalen reported a balance and net worth of \$17,568.04 as of May 20, 2021. 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 Zimmerman	\$43.86	Mailing Labels
Barb Strite	\$84.64	Badges - Mileage and Name

**Members**

New members - Randy Deane, Brian Donahue, Sue Goodman, Jan Hise, Mary Steinke, Jodie Wilson, Kate Wilson

Current membership is 500 compared to 516 last year

**Committee Reports:**

**Conservation**

Marti Burton will be scheduling trail maintenance (including trash removal) in conjunction with or immediately following select Eagle Creek Park hikes. Konnie Schlechte informed the group of a Fox 59 news story saluting member Ned Lewis for 8000 volunteer hours at Eagle Creek Park. Phil Coons has already posted the story to the club's Facebook page. Konnie will send a google group message to the membership with a link to the story.

**Publicity**

Ed Wright announced that 156 people have joined our Meet Up site. Susan Sievers reported that two new members have joined the hiking club thus far as a result of the Meet Up site.

## **Pathfinder**

The June/July hike schedule was approved.

## **Electronic Media**

We have 2107 Facebook followers and 2144 Facebook likes.

## **Social**

The annual club picnic will be Saturday, July 17 at Eagle Creek Park Shelter A. Entry to the park will be free to all members. Three, four, and five mile hikes will begin at 10 am. The picnic will follow at noon and is a pitch in. In addition to fried chicken, member Bob Kriz will grill hot dogs. Tables will be spread out and plastic gloves for food serving and hand sanitizer will be available to the group. The club will again collect school supplies at the picnic to be donated to children in need.

The general assembly meeting will be Thursday, September 9, at Unitarian Universalist Church, 6 pm.

The caterer that has prepared the meal for the awards banquet annually has retired. Pat Lawler asked for referrals/ideas for the event that is scheduled for Sunday, December 5.

## **Historian**

Mervyn Cohen reported the committee working on the history booklet is meeting monthly and making good progress. There is a clear timeline to have the booklet published prior to December. There will be additional discussion at the next meeting regarding a commemorative shirt and/or hat to mark the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **Discussion Items:**

1. Regarding the Covid-19 policy in effect, the following was proposed by Mary Barbara Miller - "Based on the current situation, the Indianapolis Hiking Club Covid-19 policy is no longer in effect. Please be aware of and follow CDC guidelines and local restrictions." Following discussion, Marti Burton made a motion to approve the decision. Ed Wright provided the second. The decision was unanimous to discontinue the Covid-19 policy. The club will be notified of this decision in the new (June/July) schedule.
2. The board agreed to return to in-person meetings beginning next month.
3. Susan Sievers and Lori Showley relayed details of an extreme health emergency that they encountered on a recent hike (not a club member.) Discussion followed, including helpful

“supplies” to carry on hikes, emergency contact information, and how to identify location to emergency personnel. Susan and Lori will prepare updated hiker guidelines with regard to wilderness hiking and present them at the next meeting. Lori will also send a google group message to the club membership with instructions for how to “PIN” a location.

4. Kathy Whalen and Mary Barbara Miller will prepare the required letter to our insurance agent by July 1 to provide an updated number of members.
5. Mary Barbara Miller will contact current board members to see if they are willing to continue with the board for another year. Current known openings are Vice President and Publicity. It was suggested that anyone interested in the Publicity position should be internet savvy and strong in social media usage. A nominating committee consisting of Rick Wortman, Cherie Voegel and Dewey and Cheryl Conces will recruit current members for any open positions and determine a potential slate of candidates.

**Place and Time of Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be Thursday, June 17, 2021, 1 pm, at Flanner and Buchanan, 2950 N. High School Rd, Speedway, IN 46224.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Konnie Schlechte, Secretary