

**Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club
November 18, 2014**

Present: Philip Coons, Jeff Edmonson, John Gaebler, Mike Khalil, Mary Ann Layman, Pat Lawler, Kathy Oguss, Mick Parker, JoAnne Starzyk, Charles Turner, Kathy Whalen, Mary Williams, Ed Wright, Karen Zimmerman

President Pat Lawler called the meeting to order at her home at 7:00 pm on November 18, 2014.

Minutes of October 21, 2014: The previously distributed corrected minutes were approved.

Financial Report: Kathy Whalen reported that as of November, 2014 our balance was \$16,614.40 and net worth was \$15,474.4. The financial report was approved. See **November 2014 Financial Report** (on IHC website) for details. So far 416 members have renewed their membership.

Bills to be Paid: The following bills were submitted for payment: \$8.40 postage, \$1.07 supplies, 93.09 for 25-year reward, and \$135.09 for badges. The total was \$237.65. The board approved payment of the bills.

Committee Reports:

Mileage and Membership: According to Mary Williams' November Membership Report we have seven new members and no reinstatements. These were approved by the board. (See **December-January Hiking Schedule** on the IHC website. Mileage awards were also announced. (See **December-January Hiking Schedule** on the IHC website).

Publicity: The IHC was represented at the IUPUI fair on October 31. We were not represented at the Ben Davis function. There are no upcoming events in the near future.

Pathfinder: Ed Wright reported that the December-January Hiking Schedule will be out soon. There are many "woods" hikes and a number of "slow and easy" hikes. The December-January schedule was approved.

Publications: No report.

Webmaster: Ed Wright reported that tomorrow the December-January hiking schedule will be posted to the website as will the 2014 Trailblazer Report.

Electronic Media: No report.

Social: JoAnne Starzyk reported that 111 members have made reservations to the Christmas party thus far. We need volunteers to set up tables and chairs prior to the party. We also need volunteers to bring table candles and holders to the party. The vest prizes have arrived for distribution at the party.

Conservation: A maintenance hike on the Three Lakes Trail has been scheduled for December 8 at Morgan-Monroe State Forest. We are working with the Indiana Hiking Council and Eagle Creek Park regarding adopting a trail on the west side of Eagle Creek Park. Although two deer hunts are scheduled for Eagle Creek Park in late November and early January, it is unknown whether they will occur.

Historian: Mary Ann Layman discussed our donation of club records to the Indiana Historical Society.

Old Business:

Nell Larrison donated \$100 to the club.

We must pay \$100 for the January Bradford Woods hikes. \$2 per person will be collected for each hike.

The audit report has been signed and submitted.

New Business:

The budget for 2015 was reviewed and approved. Membership is down 4%. We estimated that we will have 570 members in 2015. Our largest budget expense is postage and printing. We discussed various ways to cut expenses, but we appear to be in good financial shape for the near future.

It was suggested that we contact the Indiana DNR and the National Forest Service to inquire about the various hunting seasons and indicate these in our upcoming hiking schedules. We discussed that hike leaders should be informed of the hunting seasons. This topic will be continued as unfinished business.

The Board discussed the IHC Hiking Activity Report generated by Karen Zimmerman. It contains data from 2003-2014. We have doubled the number of hikes in the past ten years. It was suggested that we follow-up with club members who don't renew their membership. We'd like to know their reasons for non-renewal and invite them to renew. A committee consisting of Ed Wright, Mary Williams, Kathy Whalen, Mick Parker, Mary Ann Layman, and John Gaebler was formed and they will generate a list of questions for Karen Zimmerman to query the member database. We discussed the need for flexibility in determining whether to charge a reinstatement fee.

Place and Time of Next Meeting: We will not have a Board meeting in December. Business during December will be conducted by email. The next board meeting will be at the home of Pat Lawler (8704 Sunningdale Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46234) on January 20, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted Philip Coons.