Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: February 19, 2026

President Cathy Fisher called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

Present: Debbie Bucholz, Mervyn Cohen, Marian Fahy, Annie Falvey, Cathy Fischer, Paul Klimowitch, John McShea, Delaram Moghaddam, Laura Otten, Kae Ramey, Martha Rivera June, Terry Roesch, Konnie Schlechte, and Ed Wright

Minutes: The minutes of the January 15, 2026 board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Marian Fahy reported a balance and net worth of $27,825.23 as of January 31, 2026. The treasurer's report was approved.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board:

Payee	Amount	Reason
Karen Ramey	$460.83	Schedules & Roster – Print
Karen Ramey	$665.70	Schedules & Roster – Postage
Karen Ramey	$186.97	Supplies – Envelopes
Theresa Roesch	$13.97	Postage – New Members
Theresa Roesch	$23.46	Mailing Supplies
Theresa Roesch	$13.37	Name Badges – 2
Paul Klimowitch	$166.69	IHC Web Service Renewal
John McShea	$10.24	Mailing Supplies
Marla Zinkan	$200.00**	St Patrick's Day Parade Registration
Ed Wright	$300.00**	MeetUp Dues – Annual

**PENDING items – payment due before next board meeting

Committee Reports

Membership

New Members: Web Brewer, Phil Majer, Kevin D. Mar, Rachel Orr, Mary Power, Mike Price, Linda Walker. Terry Roesch reported YTD new members =44. Current membership active in database as of 2/19/26 = 506. Since some new members have had some issues completing the current new member form, Terry had some reservations concerning the online new membership form that Paul is working on. She suggested the new online form be as simple and easy to complete as possible. Paul said he will be sending out the draft online new membership form for review and that changes can be made.

Pathfinder

Ed Wright has sent out a request for April/May hikes.

Mileage/Database

John McShea reported that club members have hiked 35,694 miles since 10/1/25, with an average hike distance of 6.05 miles. The mileage report showed 212 active members with hikes since the last report.

Webmaster

Paul Klimowitch reported a slight timing mismatch for payments for the SSL certificate and website renewal and hosting service. He would prefer them to be in sync and will work on that. The technical committee met and Paul has developed an online form for new members with a Zelle payment option. He said it should be ready to implement by the end of February. The tech committee is also looking at links to hikes that would add them to your calendar or to maps of the hike location. In addition, they are working on a process for hike leaders to enter their own hikes (via a template.) Pathfinder approval would still be needed to add the hike to the schedule.

Publicity

Delaram Moghaddam reported 2875 Instagram followers and 4540 Facebook followers. In addition, Delaram has set up a new YouTube channel for the club that is up and running, with 3 videos available. There isn't a requirement to subscribe to view the videos, but if you do subscribe you get email notifications to new posts. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/@TheIndianapolisHikingClub
Delaram also shared that the first podcast is complete. She will finish editing (sound and video) and post the podcast. Lastly, Delaram inquired about the possibility of an icon for the club homepage that would link directly to our social media platforms.

Social

Annie Falvey reported the shelter at Eagle Creek Park has been secured for the annual picnic Saturday, 7/25/26. Mervyn Cohen confirmed the Unitarian Universalist Church has been booked for the General Assembly meeting Thursday, 9/10/26. Annie will contact St Therese Little Flower to reserve the date for the next Winter Banquet, Saturday, 1/9/27.

Historian

Mervyn Cohen shared that 50 years ago, the club hiked at Burr Oak State Park in Ohio. Mervyn and Janet visited the park recently and will plan a club trip for this fall. Mervyn said there is a lovely lodge on the lake as well as cabins for rent. The park has over 30 miles of hiking trails.

VP/Directors

Debbie Bucholz has distributed all achievement awards. Debbie will again offer tickets this year for club members to purchase to attend an Indians baseball game. The date will be 7/12/26. Karen LeClerc is looking at merchandise for the club's 70th anniversary.

Discussion Items:

1. Board members discussed the budget forecast with a focus on social activities and donations.
2. Mervyn Cohen provided multiple graphs of historical data for review. (The graphs are attached as an addendum to the minutes.) He asked for feedback and thoughts/suggestions of additional data to collect. Two ideas were to begin tracking the number of cancelled hikes, and the number of people who don't renew their membership for a second year.
3. Mervyn Cohen reported IHC will turn 70 on 1/23/27. Mervyn asked that we all start thinking of ways to celebrate. He proposed these ideas:
    a. Do something
    b. Repeat the first club hike to Holliday Park
    c. Don't repeat the 65th year celebration
    d. Offer 7 hikes to locations in Indiana that IHC has **not** visited before. Mervyn is happy to head up a small committee and report back to the board with location ideas.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be at 1 pm, Thursday, March 19, 2026, John Knox Presbyterian Church, 3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224.

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Konnie Schlechte, Secretary