Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: March 20, 2025

Before beginning the meeting, John McShea shared remarks about Kathy Whalen and Armen Avakian, and their love of and loyalty to the hiking club. John read a poem about being grateful. Ed Wright shared the write up of memories of Kathy Whalen that Marti Burton prepared to be included in the new schedule.

Vice President Cathy Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

Present:, Marti Burton, Mervyn Cohen, Phil Coons, Marian Fahy, Cathy Fischer, Pat Lawler, Karen LeClerc, John McShea, Kae Ramey, Konnie Schlechte, and Ed Wright.

Minutes: The revised minutes of the February 20, 2025 board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Marian Fahy reported a balance and net worth of $26,820.41 as of February 28, 2025. The treasurer's report was approved.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board:

Payee	Amount	Reason
Eagle Creek Park Fdn	$750.00**	Donation
Martha Burton	$14.60	Postage
Martha Burton	$244.17	Name Badges

**Marian Fahy requested approval for payment of 1 pending item. During previous board discussion, it was agreed that the club would make the donation to Eagle Creek Park Foundation earlier in the year and that we would increase the amount of our donation. John McShea made a motion that the donation be increased to $750.00 and that the donation be paid now. Karen LeClerc provided the second and the board approval was unanimous.

Members
New members – Valerie Beaver, Lynette Jennings
Current membership is 511 compared to 523 last year.

Committee Reports:

Pathfinder

The April/May schedule was approved by the board.

Mileage/Database

John McShea reported 340 members have hiked at least one hike in the current club year. The total miles hiked year to date is 43,254.

Electronic Media

We have 4050 Facebook followers. Phil Coons has added Delaram Moghaddam as co-administrator to the club's Facebook page.

Publicity

Delaram Moghaddam reported we have 689 Instagram followers. She asked the board to discuss/decide if the club wants to participate again in the Earth Day Festival at Garfield Park on May 31st. The fee is $75.00. Phil Coons made a motion to approve participation and the fee. Ed Wright provided the second, and the board approval was unanimous.

Publications

Kae Ramey will have the April/May schedule printed and mailed.

Social

Cathy Fischer reported for Annie Falvey that the Eagle Creek shelter has been reserved for the Club Picnic on Saturday, July 26. Annie has also reserved Little Flower as the Winter Banquet location, scheduled January 10, 2026. The fee will be $325, an increase of $25.00. The additional cost is for use of their sound system. (We were not charged for using their sound system in January.) Pat Lawler will confirm availability of the Unitarian Universalist Church for the General Assembly meeting September 4.

Historian

Phil Coons advised Mervyn Cohen that Katie Smith has a complete history on the book club. Mervyn will contact Katie and get the information to add it to the club's history.

Discussion Items:

1. Two old business items (club donations and follow up discussion on Indiana Forest Alliance and possible conservation project) were tabled to the next meeting.
2. A question was raised if there is a need/requirement to fill the director vacancy that resulted from Kathy Whalen's unexpected passing. This will be added to the next meeting agenda.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be Thursday, April 17, 2025, 1 pm, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 3000 N. High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46224.

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Konnie Schlechte, Secretary