Minutes
Indianapolis Hiking Club Board Meeting
Date: 20th November 2025

Present:
Jean Ballinger, Mervyn Cohen, Marian Fahy, Annie Falvey, Cathy Fischer, Martha Rivers June, Paul Klimowitch, Karen LeClerc, John McShea, Delaram Moghaddam, Laura Otten, Kae Ramey, Terry Roesch, and Ed Wright

President Cathy Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:00pm at John Knox Church.

Minutes The previously distributed corrected minutes of October 2025 were approved.

Treasurers Report: Marian Fahy reported that as of 10.31.2025 our cash balance was $30,267.90 and net worth was $30,267.90. The report was approved.

18% of members have used the Zelle option for membership renewal. Ed wondered if electronic payment use would have been higher if there was a credit card option.

Paul Klimowitch will coordinate with Marian Fahy to change the status of members who have not paid this year's membership dues from active to suspended as of January 1.

Bills submitted for payment and approved by the Board were:

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
10/23/2025	Steven Hise	Refund overpayment of dues	$50.00
11/7/2025	Barbara Bates	Refund overpayment of dues	$25.00
11/1/2025	Karen LeClerc	Merchandise - 50 IHC bandanas	$346.00
11/15/2025	Karen LeClerc	Achievement Awards - 48 backpacks	$924.48
11/20/2025	St Therese - Little Flower	Winter Banquet facility rental $300 and AV equipment $25	$325.00
11/14/2025	Terry Roesch	Name badges	$140.43
11/20/2025	Terry Roesch	25 year Awards	Pending
			$1,810.91

Members
New members are Duane Pierson, Vicki Knoop, Joan Tillett, Kathy Williams, Mark Miller, Xiaoling Xuei, Javad Momayez, Patricia Vassallo, Nathaniel Hastings, Michael Aspy, Kimberly Marshall.
Current membership is 375 compared to 396 at this time last year.

Committee Reports

Membership

11 new members this month and 22 for the past 2 months. Ed mentioned that on average 15% of members do not renew each year.

Twenty-five Year Awards- There are 11 members eligible for the award this year. Terry contacted them to check if they would like to receive the award. Eight members indicated they would.

This year, as in the past, the award is an engraved acrylic paperweight.

Pathfinder

New schedule approved.

Ed reminded the group that the latest mileage awards appear in each schedule. As badges are only manufactured every two months, members will not get their badge until sometime after the schedule is published.

Mileage/database

As of November 19, 2025, there have been 2,541 hiker hikes this club year, covering a total of 15,474 Miles. The average is 6.09 miles per hike.

Webmaster

Paul reported no issues with hike leaders using the new login system to enter hike miles. The online form for new member applications is nearly complete.

Publicity

We have 2,279 Instagram & 4,300 Facebook followers

Delaram is preparing to create podcasts to go mainly to potential new members. They will describe the club. She will have training and do the dictation at the Pike library. The Board approved a booth for the club at the St. Pius Holiday Craft Fair on December 6th for $45.

Social

The Board rejected an offer from a member to pay the rent for 3 future Winter Banquets if we return to our prior location. Feedback for the current venue from attendees has been very positive.

To date 90 members have signed up for the Banquet in January 2026

Historian

The Trailblazer for the year 2024/2025 is nearly complete. It will have a new section with stories from club couples who met through the club.

Old Business

1. Facility agreement.

   We have signed a new agreement for the Board to use the John Knox Church for another 12

months for its monthly meetings. (January 2026– January 2027). We will continue to donate food to them for their food pantries.

2. Merchandise

Ed reported that there are 48 award winners. Karen showed the board the item that will be given to each winner.

Karen also showed a bandana with the club logo, that will be for sale at the Winter Banquet. She reminded everyone that many items of club merchandise can be purchased on the club website.

New Business

1. The Board approved expenditure of up to $120 for recognition of a mileage milestone.
2. The Board approved club participation in the St Patrick's day parade for $200.
3. Budget

   Last year we had about $3,000 more income than expenses. This was mainly due to costs lower than anticipated, including insurance premiums, printing and mailing. The budget for this fiscal year includes additional funding for social activities. There will be further discussion on spending the surplus from prior years at the at the February Board meeting.
4. LEAP Project/Citizen's Water- Discussed briefly. Feedback-IHC is a social club that comes together for the purpose of hiking. We refrain from activism e.g. letter writing etc.

Next Meeting: 18th December 2025 1:00 PM EST
John Knox Presbyterian Church

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Mervyn Cohen for Konnie Schlechte, Secretary