

HISTORIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS OF INDIANAPOLIS (HUNI)

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, February 1, 2020

Indianapolis Propylaeum, 1410 N. Delaware St.

Attendees: Garry Chilluffo, Outgoing President and Editorial Board; Glenn Blackwood, President-Elect, Editorial Board and Fletcher Place; Jim Lingenfelter, Vice President and Fletcher Place; Jordan Ryan, Secretary, Editorial Board, North Square; Sharon Butsch Freeland, Editorial Board, and Individual Member; Marjorie Kienle, Editorial Board, Past President, and Individual Member; Julia Pratt, Editorial Board, Individual Member; Lorraine Vavul, Editorial Board, Historic Meridian Park, and Past President; Beth Whitaker, Bates-Hendricks; David Pflugh, Chatham Arch-Mass Ave; John White, Cole-Noble; Molly Jefford, Cottage Home; Janet Fry, Fayette Street; Jeff Miller, Fletcher Place; Jim Garrettson, Forest Hills; John Hornberger, Garfield Park; Katherine Carlton Robinson, Herron-Morton Place; David Hittle, Holy Cross; Bryce Mosey, Lockerbie Square; Chelsey Still, Meridian-Kessler; Jay Van Santen, Meridian Park; David Bartolett, Old Northside; Robert Hebbs, Old Northside; Judith Essex, Old Southside; Mark Godley, St. Joseph; Mark Sprout, St. Joseph; Tom Abeel, Woodruff Place; Chad Lethig, Indiana Landmarks; Guest Speaker, Vop Osili

Outgoing-President Garry Chilluffo called the Quarterly Meeting to order at 9:14 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves and the neighborhoods and/or other organizations they represented.

Introductions of the Propylaeum - Marjorie

Featured Speaker: Vop Osili - President of the City-County Council

Topic: The Future for Downtown Neighborhoods

-How does the council's work relate to historic urban neighborhoods?

-Bethel AME Church renovation; threat of demolition; city provided funding for the developer to incorporate the building into the development (adaptive reuse)

-If it takes a little bit of extra money to preserve history, it's worth it

-Considering a developer tax on construction in our urban core that goes to preservation of our historic alleys - needs neighborhood support

-Enforcing IHPC statutes; what funding would be necessary for IHPC-focused inspectors?

-How do we address sensitive topics like equity and race?

-How do we focus on representation on all of our boards and commissions?

- Adding Flanner House homes as the second African-American historic district
- Homeowner repair funding for elderly and low-income; we need to be intentional
- How does local government get empowered to mitigate tax burdens for rapid redevelopment? How do we preserve both the structures but also the people and culture? This has been a state bill in 5 years
- Renter's protections
- New design guidelines for areas around IHPC districts for continuity
- Open to affordable housing and community land trusts
- Riverside Park area redevelopment is extremely complicated, a lot of moving pieces and collaborators
- Rethink 65/70 - no update on moving railroad CSX tracks

Jim L. offers a motion to commend Garry Chilluffo for his leadership with HUNI

Glenn's Introduction as incoming President

Minutes Approval: Jim L. motioned, Marjorie seconded

Editorial Board Report - Lorraine

- Editorial board reps
- Look at the website and check out your neighborhood info page
- City bicentennial project - digitize historic neighborhood walking tours and funding

Completed and Ongoing Business:

Digital Billboards

- Sign ordinance ban on billboards, voted through the council unanimously
- State Sen. Sandlin withdrew the SB on a digital billboard on the county fairgrounds
- Reagan Outdoor Advertising - purchased 85% of the static billboards
- Digital billboard issue will be coming back shortly - even with the ban, they can apply for variances and put up digital billboards on a case-by-case basis

Rethink 65/70: <https://rethink65-70.org/>

- If we hadn't stood up to INDOT, we would have a much worse reconstruction of the interstate
- We are holding them accountable to the CSS process
- Section 106 comments due 2/29 - talking points going out soon
- Emphasize that we support the Rethink 65/70 Report

New Business:

-Neighborhood reports - bring issues to executive committee as soon as they come up rather than waiting until next HUNI meeting

HB1060

- Longstanding attack on historic districts in the State of Indiana; an attempt by a legislator to write a building code that would affect zoning ordinances;
- Took away the power of historic neighborhoods to have a prescriptive code that is aesthetically-driven
- The vinyl siding and window industry supported the bill
- Fire chief association and insurance industries came out against it
- Brick veneer is just as affordable as vinyl and safer

Neighborhood Concerns:

- Paula: 5G receivers; in Carmel there was a resolution passed to stop installation
- AT&T went to the state; they don't have to notify locally

Neighborhood Reports:

Lockerbie: Lockerbie "Square" as Neighborhood - fixing website; Development at North & Park has been sold to another developer; Moving forward on the Athenaeum apartment building

Historic Meridian Park: New board leadership; 85 people attended the last progressive dinner

Fletcher Place: New board leadership; Business growth; New construction on the southside in Holy Rosary

Woodruff Place: Successfully been treating the ash trees in our public spaces for ash borer; Restored a fountain on south Middle Drive - ceremony in the spring

St. Joseph: 50 people celebrated holidays at Kemper House; Possibly start a neighborhood garage sale/treasure hunt; 2/27 - Pointe on Penn, neighborhood meet and greet; working with KIB on spring cleaning

Old Northside: Progressive dinners and meet-and-greets; Focused on the Northsplit issues - recapturing some land at O'Bannon Park; Focused on cleaning up the parks;

Old Speedway: Main Street activities - chamber is hosting mardi gras pub crawl on 2/22

Old Southside: New board leadership; First year of Lift Indy grant; building 13 affordable homes; A lot of development going on in the neighborhood - 3 hotels have been approved; one apartment building breaking ground this spring with 107 units (market

rate); TWG is investing in property on Meridian; Ball State CAP students working on urban planning projects

Chatham Arch: New development - Chatham Park, BottleWorks, northsplit work; Annual wine tasting event; gearing up for second annual BrewFest in June

Cole Noble: Met with DMD to talk about cohesive development strategies with Market East; Looking at the Jail 2 campus; How does transit-oriented development play a role in CN

Herron-Morton Place: Progressive dinner coming up in Feb.; Working on updating the IHPC inventory, with 10 person committee, working on photo inventory and transcriptions; Getting new construction structures added to the inventory; Association sold a few properties and used the funds to create an endowment in conjunction with our foundation to fund the maintenance of our greenspaces

Ransom Place: Association has been inactive; owner-residents are dying or moving; new out-of-state owners are only interested in their investments; Walker Theater/Center grand opening in June 20th or 22nd; Attracting new investment of mixed-use apartment and retail; Vonnegut Museum on the avenue is open; new construction approved on Camp St.; two homes on 10th street being renovated

Holy Cross: Ford Factory will open in the spring; Ball State opened satellite office for Architecture & Planning on the former Angie's List campus; infill development increase in the last 5-6 years (looking into the former Angie's List diner)

Cottage Home: Old trolley building was purchased by Paramount Schools, to open in fall of this year; 3/7 and 3/8 they are hosting vision 2020 meeting

Fayette Street: 20 homes - paying \$150 a year for historic lighting; porch party; KIB clean up well attended; looking at the historic alleys for preservation purposes - did a survey about treatment; interest in getting a historic marker for the neighborhood

Bates-Hendricks: Raised \$35,000+ for a new park - new playground - opening in April; TKW development - 5 new single family homes; Fighting for an alley to exist behind the new development and some street parking provided; new leadership take over in April with the annual year in review; New businesses - esp off of East Street; Working on certified plan with the City and canvassing the neighborhood; Southside Turnverein is hosting the neighborhood's chili cookoff on 2/29; Committee meetings (QofL, land use, etc) - invited to come to learn more about the process

North Square: Grove Haus conversion to a hostel, won't be demolished but will be altered; IHPC's Fountain Square Commercial District updates; new GVAC and CDC leadership

Adjourned at 11:56 am.

The next HUNI Quarterly Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Indiana Landmarks Center, 1201 Central Avenue.

*Edit - due to covid-19, this meeting is moving it's format to a zoom video conference chat