

**HISTORIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS OF INDIANAPOLIS (HUNI)
QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014, 5:30 P.M.
INDIANA LANDMARKS CENTER**

Attendees: Mark Reynold, Cumberland; Anna Pea, Cumberland; Jim Lingenfelter, Fletcher Place; Richard E. Campi, Fountain Square and Irish Hill; Chris Maroldo, Irvington; Lorraine Vavul, Meridian Park; Julia Pratt, Old Speedway City; David Parkhurst, Old Speedway City; Paula Brooks, Ransom Place; Garry Chilluffo, St. Joseph; Ben Langenbartels, St. Joseph; Kent Schwob, Watson Park; Duane Palmer, Woodruff Place; Sharon Butsch Freeland, Individual; Marjorie Kienle, Individual; and Brad Beaubien, Planning Administrator for the City of Indianapolis.

President Marjorie Kienle called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Before introducing the guest speaker, Marjorie announced that HUNI will partner with Indiana Landmarks again in 2015 to sponsor walking tours during National Preservation Month. Next year's tours will include Ransom Place, Fountain Square, New Augusta, and St. Joseph.

Marjorie then introduced Brad Beaubien, Planning Administrator for the Department of Metropolitan Development of the City of Indianapolis. Brad's responsibilities include leading the long-range planning functions of the department. He pointed out that he is not responsible for Zoning matters, as Maury Plambeck oversees that department.

Brad explained that the City conducted a survey to see what kind of an area people want to live in. There is an obvious preference shift from earlier times. Whereas in the past people wanted to live in strictly residential, suburban-feeling areas, people now want to live in mixed-use neighborhoods. They want to be able to walk, bike, or take public transportation to work, services, and activities.

Brad compared the size of Indianapolis to other cities that might be consider somewhat comparable to Indianapolis. Upon the adoption of UniGov 45 years ago, the geographical area of the City of Indianapolis became 400 square miles. The City-County of Indianapolis-Marion County is equivalent to 3 Atlantas, 2.8 Detroits, 5 Cincinnati, 5 Clevelands, and 2 Chicagos. It is a huge area to serve.

Brad related that the last city plan was devised in 1979, so we needed a new game plan as we approached Indianapolis's 200th birthday. Plan 2020 is the Bicentennial Plan for Indianapolis. It is a strategic planning initiative that seeks to forge a compelling future for Indianapolis. It's a collaboration that includes the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee (GIPC), the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD), and a variety of community leaders. The Plan consists of five committees: Choose Indy, Connect Indy, Love Indy, Serve Indy, and Work Indy.

Plan 2020 has offices in Indianapolis' former City Hall, which served as the site of municipal government from 1910 to 1962. "The Hall" (as it is now being called) is located at 202 North Alabama Street, a block north of the City-County Building and City Market. The Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Indy Rezone is an effort to update Indianapolis' ordinances, regulations, and design practices to be more sustainable and to improve residents' quality of life. It still has not come before the City-County Council.

An ordinance regarding digital billboards has been put on hold. If you haven't talked to your neighborhood associations, please do so. Call or write your City-County Councillor and take a stand.

The new Landlord Registry ordinance passed and will be up and running by January 1, 2015. All owners of residential rental units will be required to register their properties with the City of Indianapolis Department of Code Enforcement (DCE), unless the property has shared sleeping quarters. Carriage houses and owner-occupied doubles are exempt.

Following Brad's presentation, meeting attendees reported on recent events and upcoming activities. Lorraine Vavul reported on the HUNI website, which the Editorial Board has been upgrading over the past several months. Information on digital billboards now appears on the site. There's also an article about Indy Downtown (formerly known as IDI), which as part of its rebranding is now linking back to many HUNI neighborhood websites. The HUNI site will also continue a

feature on people in preservation. Donations are gratefully accepted to help keep the HUNI website going. Jay van Santen has volunteered countless hours creating the HUNI website, and we would like to offer him some compensation.

Lockerbie is having a cleanup in November. There is a controversy among Lockerbie residents concerning the former Amici's Restaurant. The new owner wants to demolish it and build a new facility, claiming the building's structural deficiencies would make renovations challenging.

The Broad Ripple Historic Home Tour, which was held on the last Saturday of September, had about 800 tour goers. The big issue for the Broad Ripple neighborhood at the moment is crime.

Meridian Park will have a home tour again in 2015, after a few years' hiatus. Dates will be May 30th and 31st. St. Richard's Episcopal School and Trinity Episcopal Church have recently acquired several properties south of them. The apartment building on the corner of 32nd and Meridian Streets and the Atkinson Building north of it have been demolished. The Montgomery residence remains. Meridian Park is planning a progressive dinner for residents. On April 25th, Indiana Landmarks will hold its annual Rescue Party benefitting its Endangered Places program.

Old Speedway announced that the new Town Manager is Ian Nicolini. New commercial tenants on Main Street include A J Foyt Racing Team and Daredevil Brewing. Events like Monsters on Main, Trunk or Treat, and a Progressive Dinner were all recently held. IPL recently gave a presentation on trees in wires. The big Main Street roundabout connecting to 16th Street and Crawfordsville Road will officially open on November 17th.

The Fountain Square Annual Meeting was moved from August to October some years ago, due to the heat. About 150 people attended. Richard Campi will be playing Santa Claus at the Christmas party again this year.

Fletcher Place had its annual picnic in September, which about 150 people attended. Most rewarding was the fact that there were 45-50 children who accompanied their parents, which was not always the case. Jim would like to see some legislation compelling Realtors to disclose to buyers when a home is in a historic neighborhood. Fletcher Place has been mentioned in the Zagat Guide, due to the many great new restaurants. Hotel Tango Whiskey has recently opened.

Cumberland will host its 4th Annual Vynox Market with Clydesdale horse-drawn carriage rides, 10 food trucks, farmers market, pictures with Santa, etc. on Saturday, December 6th, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., ending with tree lighting. St John's German Church is still wanting to sell. Giant Eagle wants to built Get 'n Go Convenience Store.

Irvington held its 68th Annual Hallowe'en Festival. An estimated 30,000 people attended. There were 190 vendors, 15-20 food trucks, and a parade. In December, luminaria will be lit on the Sundays leading up to Christmas. On December 5th, there will be an evening event. On December 6, a fundraiser at St. Bernadette Catholic Church will benefit the PourHouse. The Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission (IHPC) has approved the Coal Factory plan, a redevelopment project that will house restaurants, retail, art, and entertainment. Jockamo Pizza was recently named Best Pizza in Indiana.

St. Joseph noted that the Recorder's Office recently finished entering the addresses of all properties located in historic districts. IHPC is noodling the designation process. City recently completed a drainage project at 10th and Alabama, so now they can complete its 10th Street brick project that started a decade ago. Gary introduced new president. Three murals are going in on Interstate underpasses. St. Joe held three cleanups in recent weeks.

Watson Park recently completed an alley cleanup. Two dumpsters went over by the Bird Preserve and one by the park, and lots of stuff was collected. The annual Christmas party will be on December 6th at the home of Jackie Nytes and Michael O'Brien's on Washington Boulevard. A new gateway into Mapleton-Fall Creek is going to be created.

Woodruff Place has had a variety of issues with trees. The Town Hall has new acoustic panels on the walls. A brand new house is being built on West Drive. The neighborhood has a progressive dinner planned for the holidays. Woodruff Place Historic Foundation received the Sandi Servaas Memorial Award for nonprofit organizations.

Ransom Place had a cleanup on October 25th that focused on MLK Street. 100 volunteers showed up to help. The neighborhood recently received a grant from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful for a pocket park. A developer wanted to build a 22-unit building that requires seven zoning variances. Two two-family homes are currently under construction.

The next quarterly gathering of HUNI will be the organization's annual meeting. It will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. in the new James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home's Visitors Center, at 428 Lockerbie Street.

President Kienle adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Butsch Freeland, Secretary