

**HISTORIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS OF INDIANAPOLIS (HUNI)**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, May 2nd, 2024**  
**Indiana Landmarks**

**Attendees:** Tom Abeel, President, Editorial Board, & Woodruff Place; Paula Brooks, Vice President, Ransom Place & Editorial Board; Jordan Ryan, Secretary, Editorial Board, & North Square; Lorraine Vavul, Editorial Board & Historic Meridian Park; Garry Chilluffo, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Sharon Butsch Freeland, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Scotty Wilson, Ex-Officio & Individual Member; Kelly de Waal, Herron Morton Place; Cornelis de Waal, Herron Morton Place; John Carmer, Historic Meridian Park; Jen Higginbotham, Holy Cross; Bryce Mosey, Lockerbie; Rob Measel, Old Northside; Barb Hellyer, Speedway; Mark Sprout, St. Joseph; Calvin Nguyen, Indiana Landmarks; Charlie Richardson, Rethink 65/70 Coalition; State Senator Andrea Hunley; Andrew Bochnicka, Office of Congressman Andre Carson

President Tom Abeel called the Annual Meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

**Secretary's Report: Jordan Ryan**

**Minutes Approval**

-Sharon motioned, Bryce seconded

**Treasurer's Report: Calvin Nguyen, Indiana Landmarks**

-HUNI's balance is \$2,018.01

-Scotty motioned, Bryce seconded

**Congressman Andre Carson's Office: Andrew Bochnicka**

-Federal budget passed - investments in neighborhoods, youth services, crime prevention, public transit, housing, infrastructure

-Annual job fair at Ivy Tech Culinary Center

-Youth phone app competition

**State Senator Andrea Hunley**

-Focused on protecting funding for low barrier shelter - shifts in the economic enhancement district

-Moving into more supportive housing programming

-Professional Sports Development Area - council on May 13th

-Lead water line replacements - put more funding behind it

### **IHPC Emergency Designation for Holy Cross: Calvin Nguyen**

- In March the neighborhood found out the church was going to be demolished
- Indiana Landmarks requested the emergency designation through IHPC - church, school, and gym
- Approved by both the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission & Metropolitan Development Commission
- Next step: reaching out to archdiocese to talk about the future of the site
- After the emergency designation, the archdiocese pulled the St. Rita (nomination in process) and Sacred Heart (in discussion) National Register nominations

### **Rethink 65/70: Charlie Richardson**

- Federal planning grant on the southeast gateway - community engagement underway
- ProPEL - mid-May the consultants will file - we will have 45 days to respond with comments - mark your calendar for the end of June for a public hearing
- ProPEL committee meetings June 3rd
- I-65 SAFE - public hearing this summer - check in with Bruce Colville and Storrow Kinsella
- I-65 SAFE - Rethink Coalition worked with 9 neighborhoods on a quality of life report
- Neighborhoods need to speak about impacts/quality of life issues
- Northsplit Post-Section 106 on 5/3
- Check out website: <https://www.rethink65-70.org/>
- Saturday 5/11 11am-12pm - 435 Virginia Ave, Villaggio Parking lot - re-dedication of the Calvin Fletcher marker

### **Short Term Rentals Update: Judith Essex**

- Report issues with short term rentals in your neighborhood at this portal: [www.ShortTermRentalReport.com](http://www.ShortTermRentalReport.com)
- Meeting with Council for ordinance language edits
- Edits included things like impacts on authenticity and stability of neighborhoods; impact/welfare on economy; changes to parking because of permeable surfaces; zoning changes-added ADUs, mixed use buildings, etc
- State law is so restrictive in terms of what we can do
- Short term rental has a strong lobbying arm
- Council and mayoral policymakers have been receptive

### **Billboards Update: Tom Abeel**

- Billboard relocation variance request outside of I-465, in the Greater Allisonville Community Council area - working with Marion County Association of Neighborhood Associations

- 75ft billboard proposed - the ordinance is for 40ft - but the billboard company said they would decrease to 65ft - moved further back from 465
- BZA Meeting moved to 5/21 at 1pm - special exception to locate a new billboard on Chief Lane inside of I-465 (not allowed by ordinance)

### **Editorial Board Update: Scotty Wilson & Lorraine Vavul**

- Does everyone know their editorial board member - check in with Lorraine
- Meeting 5/10 @ noon
- Getting neighborhood map and search features added: <https://huniindy.org/>
- 5/7 talk @ Indiana Landmarks, Ben Ross talking about Booth Tarkington's Indianapolis

### **Neighborhood Reports:**

**Lockerbie** [<https://lockerbieneighborhood.org/>]: Yard sale 9/14; Riley house outdoor concert 9/17; Home tours - 7 houses, 3 businesses, 2 gardens - 9/21-9/22

**Ransom Place** [<https://www.ransom.place/>]: Mr. Ridley Profiles in Preservation interview complete, 101-year-old man who grew up on Indiana Avenue

**Holy Cross** [<https://www.indyholycross.org/>]: Wine and cheese festival 7/20 4pm-9pm; Foundation projects with food/restaurants for beautification

**St. Joseph** [<https://stjoeneighborhood.org/>]: Just finished a digital picture project with the Public Library; launched website

**Old Northside** [<https://www.oldnorthside.org/>]: Annual plunder in the park street fest 9/14; Winterlights luminary 12/6; some new construction

**Homecroft** [<https://www.townofhomecroftin.gov/history.html>]: Yard sale 6/22

**Old Speedway** [<https://oldspeedwayneighbor.wixsite.com/oscna>]: Open house 5/3; Rockin on Main 5/24; Historical Society just started - balloon rides on 5/24; New art shop for May; Annual picnic 6/3; 2026 - 100 year anniversary - doing oral histories; 1976 book on the history of Speedway, updating it

**Herron Morton Place** [<https://herron-morton.com/>]: New Greatrarch writeup in Urban Times; couple of apartment buildings being constructed on Central Ave and Meridian St; Council signed resolution on affordable housing; Talbott St Art Fair 6/15-6/16; Fighting to preserve a church on 1800 block of Alabama St

**Historic Meridian Park** [<https://www.historicmeridianpark.org/>]: Cajun brunch 5/5; IHPC conservation district work;

**North Square** [<https://fountainfletcher.com/events/>]: Neighborhood & district clean-ups success; we received a heritage preservation & education grant from Indiana Landmarks & Indiana Humanities, working on research; Summer Kick-Off District Party is 5/11; free music on the fountain plaza 5/3, most Fridays

**Woodruff Place** [<https://www.woodruffplace.org/>]: Neighborhood Tours (in conjunction with Booth Tarkington programs) on 5/9; Fountain Frenzy fundraiser on 5/24; Flea Market 6/1-6/2; Home & Garden Tour 6/29-6/30

Adjourned at 6:45 pm.

The next HUNI Quarterly Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 5:30 pm at Indiana Landmarks.