

HISTORIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS OF INDIANAPOLIS (HUNI)
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 7th, 2025
Indiana Landmarks

Attendees: Tom Abeel, President; Paula Brooks, Vice President, Ransom Place & Editorial Board; Jordan Ryan, Secretary & North Square; Lorraine Vavul, Historic Meridian Park & Editorial Board; Garry Chilluffo, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Marjorie Kienle, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Julia Pratt, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Sharon Butsch Freeland, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Scotty Wilson, Editorial Board & Individual Member; Jill White, Cole-Noble; George Hanlin, Emerson Heights; Chris Mize, James Whitcomb Riley House & Lockerbie Square; Stephen Allen, Mapleton-Fall Creek; Riley Spelman, Prospect Falls; Mike Leland, Old Northside; Judith Essex, Old Southside; Barb Hellyer, Old Speedway City; Phyllis Hackett, Riverside; Charlie Richardson, Rethink 65/70 Coalition; Calvin Nguyen, Indiana Landmarks; Jim Schellinger & Isaac Becker-Chamberlin, Indy Economic Development; Andrew Bochnicka, Congressman Carson Representative

President Tom Abeel called the meeting to order at 5:39pm.

Secretary's Report: Jordan Ryan

-Highlight of May meeting was Taylor Schaffer of Downtown Indy Inc discussed initiatives such as the Economic Enhancement District and downtown redevelopments

Treasurer's Report: Calvin Nguyen, Indiana Landmarks

-\$1,530 in the account

Guest Speaker: Jim Schellinger & Isaac Becker-Chamberlin, Indy Economic Development

- President & Ceo of Indy Economic Development: <https://www.indyecondev.com/>
- Discusses his background in architecture with his architectural firm, public service (State of Indiana), and Butler University
- How do we embrace West Street and fix the complications of the street?
- Studying circulation patterns and parking
- Quality of Place grant programs - enhancing neighborhoods with parks, trails, bike lanes, economic development
- Incentives: tax abatements on property taxes, personal tax abatements, and tax incremental financing (TIFs)
- Gold Building and West Plaza renovations underway soon

- Significance of the volume of sporting, tourism, and convention events
- Place-based development/historic resources/main streets - we need to communicate and market our resources better
- Everyone should have access to nearby pharmacies and grocery stores
- Communicating and promoting neighborhoods, resources, attractions

Neighborhood Updates:

Cole-Noble/Market East [<https://www.cnn-association.org/>]: Cole Motor Car (Jail 2) project progressing; City Market project signed today; new dog park; cultural district funding

Prospect Falls: Making greenway usable, looking at tactical urbanism grants

Lockerbie Square [<https://lockerbieneighborhood.org/>]: Wine Down Wednesdays (bring your own wine, there's a food truck; Fall Garage Sale 9/20

James Whitcomb Riley Home [<https://rileymuseumhome.org/>]: 9/20 Lockerbie Market Place (30 vendors)

Emerson Heights [<https://emersonheights.org/>]: Michigan and New York streets two-way conversion project

Old Speedway [<https://oldspeedwayneighbor.wixsite.com/oscna>]: Council demolished one of the neighborhood's historic homes; setting up a historic preservation commission in response; Garage sale 9/12-9/13

Indiana Landmarks [<https://www.indianalandmarks.org/>]: Annual meeting 9/6

Historic Meridian Park [<https://www.historicmeridianpark.org/>]: Washington Boulevard infrastructure has been renovated; Board retreat

Old Northside [<https://www.oldnorthside.org/>]: Comprehensive membership/engagement survey; Park fundraiser on 9/13

Congressman Andre Carson's Office: Gun violence concerns - Congressman Carson is working on a gun storage safety bill; Re-introduced food deserts bill; Job fair - 89 employers came out, 557 people attended

Rethink 65/70 [<https://www.rethink65-70.org/>]: Historic Fletcher-Wagner home open house 9/27 and descendants of Calvin Fletcher will be in attendance

Ransom Place [<https://www.ransom.place/>]: Construction projects - resurfacing of MLK, the Indiana Avenue block that's blocked off, IU Health, Purdue; New apartment building; Working on connectivity; Need housing for older folks to stay in the neighborhood

Mapleton-Fall Creek [<https://www.mfcna.org/>]: Helping bring resources to renovation projects

North Square [<https://fountainfletcher.com/events/>]: Chreece Fest 8/23; Art Squared 9/20; Tonic Ball tickets on sale 11/21

Woodruff Place [<https://www.woodruffplace.org/>]: Fountain Ball 9/13; Walking Tour 9/20; Spooky themed walking tours every Friday in October; Fountains are on through

11/1; Currently repairing 1 fountain, 2 complete, working on 3rd; Working on streetlight preservation; Forming a traffic and safety committee

Marjorie: St. Mary Catholic Church 5:00 Mass 8/23 will celebrate the German heritage of the church

Riverside: 9/6 Riverside Civic League annual parade

Adjourned at 7:20pm.

The next HUNI Quarterly Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 5:30pm at Indiana Landmarks.