



MILLERSVILLE at FALL CREEK VALLEY, INC.

Annual Meeting

Minutes

March 28, 2019

St. Matthew's Church – Community Room

Board Present: Amy Schau Hammes, President; Melinda Hall, Secretary/Treasurer
Directors: Matt Benson; Catharine (Cac) Diehr; Tom Eggers; Kim Robertson

Committee Chairs: Beautification: Keith & Diane Gardner; Keep Millersville Beautiful: Matt Benson; Quick-Cleanups: Phyllis Starks; Millersville Village: Tom Eggers; Planning/Gateway Project: Cac Diehr, Co-chair

Guests & Speakers: City of Indianapolis: Dept. of Public Works: Todd Wilson, Asst. Administrator - Engineering
Mayor's Neighborhood Advocates: Mo McReynolds, Dist.1; Gregory Garrett, Dist.7
Keep Indianapolis Beautiful: Joe Jarzen, Vice President of Program Strategy
Government: Councillors: Christine Scales, Dist.3; Mike McQuillen, Dist.4; Lawrence Twp. Trustee Steve Talley
State Representatives: Carey Hamilton, H87; John Bartlett, H95
Council candidates: Dan Boots, Dist.3; Leigh Riley Evans, Dist.10; Keith Graves, Dist.13

Called to Order: At 6:35 p.m. by President Hammes, who welcomed all, recognized the Board, guests and representatives, and noted that this special, 10th anniversary year of 2019 has been named the "Year of Connecting", so many Millersville initiatives will reflect that goal of bringing neighbors and businesses together. Handouts were also noted as available for 2018's Fall Visioning Meeting Minutes and Year-End Financial Statement.

DPW: Connectivity, Drainage & Road Repairs in 2019 / Guest: Todd Wilson

Dr. Hammes and the community thanked DPW for their considerable area resurfacing work and the addition of bike lanes in Millersville. Mr. Wilson reported the City is investing \$126M in infrastructure and maintenance, with a neighborhood strip-patching program and over \$40M to improve drainage issues. He also noted the Indianapolis Neighborhood Infrastructure Partnership's 50-50 matching funds program is continuing, providing another option for neighborhoods to implement connectivity projects.

- **Fall Creek Trail Improvement Project, Keystone to north of 56th St**
 - Phase 1: North section, Fallwood Dr to north of 56th St, bids May 30th. Construction is expected to begin in 2019.
 - Phase 2: Estimated to bid in February 2020.
- **E. 56th St Pathway Project, Ph-III:** An application for federal funding through the Transportation Alternative Programs (TAP) for multi-modal projects was again made in late 2018, but again was unsuccessful. DPW will continue to seek funding for this project.
- **Road Repair/Resurfacing:** Allisonville Road, from 46th to 56th St.
- **Binford Blvd Corridor Safety Improvements, 38th to 75th St: Underway, with construction throughout 2019**

This project will provide improved signaling at all intersections; resurfacing; limited new pedestrian crossings, including at 62nd St; and bike lane crossings at 46th St.
- **Drainage Project:** A design to address Brendonridge issues is expected to be completed in 2020, with construction to follow.
- **Infrastructure issues:** Contact the MAC line at 317-327-4622, or the Mayor's Neighborhood Advocates, for assistance.
- **Infrastructure projects:** Warranties are for two years. DPW is examining this issue so as to improve project investment longevity.

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful / Guest: Joe Jarzen

KIB's website details multiple opportunities to volunteer for green projects and see how KIB assists in making visions happen. Millersville was commended for their creativity in providing greenspaces, first with the Gateway medians then the *Millersville at Fall Creek Preserve*, and for their dedication to maintenance. Below are particular areas of KIB focus and engagement:

- **Plant 10,000 trees by 2025:** Requires many volunteers at sites around the City. Submit KIB's Forestry application to request trees.
- **100 acres of biodiversity:** KIB is working with the City to remove invasives to preserve the tree canopy and native plant growth, and open waterway views. The Nina Mason Pulliam Trust supports improvements to the White River and to waterways like Fall Creek that impact it from upstream, so has provided KIB with funds to steward the Pkwy and pay Ecologic to oversee its maintenance.
- **Adopt-A-Block (AAB):** Captains are needed to lead neighbors in keeping their blocks clean.
 - Tools & supplies: Tools are provided to new captains, and all receive free gloves and bags annually.
 - Benefits: After one year, captains are eligible to receive native plants and trees, and attend the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.
 - Little BIG award: Three AAB captains may partner to request up to \$500 to fund plants, tools or an event for their blocks.
- **AAB schools and businesses:** Captains are needed to increase awareness and participation. Business sponsorships cost \$250.
- **April 20th Great Indy Cleanup in Millersville, 9am-Noon.** KIB will provide the trash bags, gloves and dumpsters. They hope to inspire 100,000 people to come out for the Great Indy Cleanups throughout the month of April, supported by DPW's trash haulers.

Keep Millersville Beautiful Anti-litter Campaign / Matt Benson

- Duvall Center: Councilor Scales was acknowledged for connecting with this program, whose men weekly cleaned trashed sections of Binford Blvd in 2018 and will continue attending to major area roads in 2019, and for generously donating \$1,000 to underwrite food & drinks for the weekly workers. These logistics are coordinated by Amy Hammes, and Millersville safety vests also provided.
- Community Service: DPW/Parks arranged a cleanup of Binford from 46th- I-465 in 2018 through this program. Binford was thoroughly cleaned this month, and it is hoped that will continue to be scheduled on a regular basis.
- To Help:
 - Recruit area schools, churches and businesses to participate in cleanups and in educating to change littering behavior.
 - Pick up litter on regular walks, as well as during Millersville monthly cleanups and the annual Great Indy Cleanup.
 - Discard illegal advertising signs in the rights-of-way.
 - Report illegal dumping to the MAC line.
 - Adopt and maintain a block as a KIB Adopt-A-Block captain.
- Thank you! Extended to all the unrecognized individuals working to improve the community by regularly picking up litter on their own, as well as to all who take the time to participate in anti-litter events.

Keep Millersville Beautiful Quick-hitter litter cleanups / Phyllis Starks

- Monthly cleanups: This new group with great turnouts started in December, making a difference through short, regular cleanups. They meet the 3rd Saturday of the month at 11am to pick up trash for 30 minutes, gathering at Starbucks to discuss where to focus. Come whenever time allows; work as long as desired. Provide Phyllis an email to receive monthly notices.
- Long-term goal: To change the culture of littering.
- Official assistance: Anti-litter signs and a public marketing campaign by the City are needed to drive change and foster awareness.
- April's cleanup: The Great Indy Cleanup in Millersville, April 20th, 9am-Noon. Meet in the White & Champagne bldg parking lot.

Beautification / Matt Benson for the Gardner's

- New Chair needed: Consider leading this fun, creative and hands-on group as it continues to bring beauty to Millersville.
- Volunteer: Help to plan projects, or to plant, weed, mulch or water the Gateway medians and Preserve from May through October.
- Donations: Defray costly greenspace stewardship, including for plants to renew spaces and seasonal weed control.

I-465 & E. 56th Street Gateway Project / Cac Diehr & Amy Hammes

This trashy, unkempt interchange reflects poorly on both the Millersville community to its west and the City of Lawrence to its east, but quality artwork and signage planned for the SE quadrant will change that, demonstrating a sense of pride and desirable communities. Updated designs with the City of Lawrence logo were displayed. The Corten steel artwork sections and way-finding signage will have cut-leaf patterns reflecting nature's art-in design, set on concrete bases, both materials requiring only minimal maintenance.

Assistance with hardy, aesthetic, low-maintenance landscaping to complement the artwork was discussed with Joe Jarzen of KIB.

➤ Mr. Jarzen recommends MFCV apply for an IPL Project GreenSpace award, and also consider applying to KIB's Forestry program.

Cac and Sallie Rowland met with and presented the Gateway designs to City of Lawrence Mayor Collier. He approves and is enthused about the Project, willing to assist with its funding and outreach. INDOT and the City of Indianapolis have also endorsed the project.

Obtaining the support of partners and sponsors is in progress.

Millersville Village – Business and Signage / Amy Hammes

A directory of the nearly 50 Millersville Village shops, services and leasable space is now easily accessible on MFCV's website.

A sign concept design, utilizing Millersville's round logo with "Village", was displayed. For best identification of Millersville, three signs are planned at the following entry points:

1. The SE corner of Emerson Way & Kessler Blvd.
2. The NW corner of Kessler Blvd. & E. 56th St.
3. The NE corner of Emerson Way & Fall Creek Pkwy.

This project is in the early fund-raising phase. Tom Eggers has solicited support from the business community, and received several pledges towards the \$14,000 cost. Neighbors are encouraged to discuss support for this placemaking project with their associations.

2018 & 2019 Contributors / Amy Hammes

The generosity of MFCV's donors was recognized, and all were thanked for providing this tremendous community support. Association donors Brendonridge, Kesslerwood East Lake, Mallard Lake and Windridge provided \$2,250, and individuals an additional \$1,430, including \$925 received from Brendonwood Common residents at this evening's meeting.

Volunteers are "People Power" / Amy Hammes

2019, the "Year of Connecting", will focus on:

- Neighborhood Outreach: Communicating and connecting with each neighborhood, determining how to strengthen one another.
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention: Identifying desired niches, and recognizing the efforts that make the whole work smoothly.

Committee chairs or assistants needed:

- Beautification: The Gardner's would like to pass the chair baton to a person or people who enjoy planning beautiful spaces.
- Events: Assistance is needed with planning fun community events.
- History: Millersville has fascinating history, first revealed in the 2010 "Treasures Tour". Lead a group to revisit it, and explore new.
- Recreation: Plan fit & fun activities, maybe yoga or exercises at the Preserve; biking/hiking the trail; or a Fall Creek paddle.
- Schools: Amy would like help developing the connections with area schools Brook Park, Cathedral, PS106 and St. Matthew's.

Government Reports

City and State Representatives highlighted Bills, programs and developments of interest to the community, and encouraged contacting their offices with concerns or requests.

State Representative Bartlett: Advised of Indy outreach to the homeless, and reminded of significant issues, like human trafficking, that are very real, too often ignored, and need to be vigorously addressed.

State Representative Hamilton

- Will assist with M@FCV's Anti-litter Campaign efforts, drawing on her experience on the Board of Directors of Keep America Beautiful, and from leading the Indiana Recycling Coalition.
- Reported that CICF will lend its support to a matching grant program for the Gateway Project.

Councillor Scales will not be seeking another term, after 12 years on the Council. She was honored by attendees for her service.

- Duvall Ctr cleanup schedule: The Councillor met with the Director today, and requested crews for MFCV every Friday morning.
- Indy street-sweeping: The City is initiating a program that will handle both small and large particulate, prioritized as follows:
 - 1) Areas with parking meter revenues (downtown; Broad Ripple) will be swept 4 times/week
 - 2) Snow-plowed roads, like Binford Blvd, will be swept every other month
 - 3) Residential streets will be swept two times/year

Comments to the City about this program, and the need to expand its frequency in high revenue taxing districts, were encouraged.

Councillor McQuillen noted a small greenspace at 82nd & Sargent Rd models the *Millersville at Fall Creek Preserve* initiative.

Dist.3 Candidate for Council Boots: Focus: economic revitalization; infrastructure improvements; Nickel Plate greenspace; safety

Dist.13 Candidate for Council Graves: Focus: reliably connecting IMPD & the community; revitalization & infrastructure improvements

Mayor's Advocates Greg Garrett and Mo McReynolds: Facilitate community requests to the City.

- Streetlight retrofits for this area are almost complete, but residents may still request a streetlight.
- Project Indy network is connecting 4,000 young adults with job-readiness skills and employment opportunities.

2019 M@FCV Business

Minutes: Upon a Motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Minutes of the October 18, 2018 Fall Visioning Meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: The FY2018 Financial Report was approved as distributed, which is attached to and a part of these Minutes.

2019 Directors

Slate for Election

Catharine Diehr	Melinda Hall
Kate Dydo	Kim Robertson
Tom Eggers	Sallie Rowland

(Continuing: Matt Benson; Amy Schau Hammes)

- **It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the Slate as presented..**

Adjournment: There being no further required business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Melinda Hall, Secretary