



MILLERSVILLE at FALL CREEK VALLEY, INC.

Annual Meeting

Minutes

March 31, 2025

Cathedral High School – Shiel Student Life Center

Board Present: Catharine (Cac) Diehr, Interim President; Tom Graham, Vice President; Melinda Hall, Secretary; Brad Schrader, Treasurer
Directors: Matt Benson; Debbie Black

Board Absent: Herb Treen

Board Ad hoc: Stephanie Marshall

Committee Leads: Anti-litter & Beautification: Matt Benson; Quick-Hitter Litter Cleanups: Phyllis Starks; Schools: Debbie Black & Kim Haldrup; Village Business: Matt Voynovich; Website manager: Mollie Benson

Guest Speakers: Brendon Park President and Devington Redevelopment Task Force Chair: Stephanie Marshall
Indianapolis City-County Councilors: Dist. 3: Dan Boots; Dist. 8: Ron Gibson; Dist. 9: Keith Graves

Guests: Binford Redevelopment & Growth: Kevin Senninger, Pres.
Friends of Skiles Test: Nancy Whitmore, Pres.
Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center: Danae Freeman, Engagement Mgr.
Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District: John Hazlett, District Mgr.
Government: IMPD-East District Crime Watch Specialist and Lawrence Twp. Trustee: Steve Talley
Office of U.S. Rep. Andre Carson, Dist.7: Andrew Bochnicka, Field Representative

Called to Order: At 7:00 p.m. by President Diehr, who welcomed all, recognized government guests and introduced Board members.
MFCV handouts and postings: 3/31/25 Agenda; Anti-litter Campaign; Awards/Grants/Honors; Comment Cards; Contributors, 2024-25; Financial Statement; Great Millersville Cleanup; Volunteer Needs and Sign-up; Volunteer Thank-you; Website guide
Other handouts: U.S. Congressional Art Competition; U.S. Congressional App Challenge

Cathedral High School: Rolly Landeros, COO

- The city’s 56th St drainage work near the CHS entrance is expected to be complete by the end of April. CHS has requested that the project’s extensive tree removal be offset by replanting bushes and trees in this 56th St area, not at an alternate site as the city planned.
- Arlington H.S.’s July 2025 football facility upgrade will not include CHS investment, so it may be another 5 yrs before CHS returns there.
- Lilly is offering \$150 Million in grants to private schools, and CHS will apply to fund a health & wellness center on their campus.

Secretary’s Report: Melinda Hall

The 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes are available for review on the “News” page of MFCV’s website, and 2025’s will be posted there.

Treasurer’s Report: Brad Schrader

The 2024 Year-End Financial Statement, its system and restricted funds were reviewed, and it will be attached to these Minutes. Contributors were thanked, the need for donations of all sizes highlighted, and special recognition made for a \$5,000 individual donation.

Special Recognitions

Tom Eggers: Honored for 15 years of Board and community service: Establishing and managing Millersville’s Café Market; working with city engineers to create the 56th Street Pathway Project, safe connections to the Fall Creek trail, and traffic-calming Emerson Way bike lanes; managing Village business contacts to facilitate a MFCV website business directory; and funding place-making Millersville Village signage.

Sheila Roumpf: Thanked for visualizing, creating and managing the wonderful 2024 Millersville Fall Festival.

Beautification and Anti-litter: Matt Benson

Special thanks to:

- MFCV’s volunteers: Year-round work to create and sustain beautification projects that enhance and identify Millersville, and to keep the Village, Fall Creek trail and roadways presentable through Phyllis Starks’ monthly Quick-hitter litter cleanups.
 - **Volunteers are needed and requested to sign up to assist with beautification projects and anti-litter efforts.**
- MFCV’s city and county supporters:
 - John Hazlett, Director of the Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District, for his partnership on invasives removals and native plantings along the Fall Creek greenway, and for obtaining \$1,500 in CISMA and SICIM support.
 - Former Indy Land Stewardship Mgr Don Miller, for his support of MFCV’s Fall Creek greenway projects and visions.
- MFCV’s donors: Grantors and personal supporters who make Beautification projects possible.
 - The Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center: \$10,000 2024 Neighborhood Grant for multiple greenspace enhancements
 - MFCV resident William Witchger: \$5,000 donation providing professional maintenance at five greenspaces for two years
 - Reconnecting to Our Waterways: \$500 grant for the Emerson Way prairie raingarden
 - Indy Native Plant Society and Indy Urban Acres: \$300 in-kind for native plants and materials

Greenspace projects and litter abatement

Six sites and their ongoing care and maintenance were reviewed. Breakout sessions followed to discuss details and explore new ideas.

Anti-litter events: Contact Phyllis Starks or Matt Benson

- April 19th, Great Millersville Cleanup with “Trashure Hunt” prizes: Meet at Lincoln Square at 9:30 a.m.
- Every 3rd Saturday of the month, 30 min Quick-hitter litter cleanups: Meet at Lincoln Square at 9:30 a.m.

Devington Shopping Center Redevelopment: Stephanie Marshall

Devington’s Redevelopment Task Force, formed in 2024, is comprised of area stakeholders and government officials opposed to rezoning the site to allow developer Skysoar to build 550 apartment units. The Task Force is investigating alternate plans for development.

- MFCV’s Board provided a letter of support for the Task Force’s remonstrance to the Devington Rezoning Petition.
- The Devington Rezoning Petition was denied at hearing on February 27th, 2025, and the Developer stopped for 90 days.
- The July 12th “Back to School Health & Wellness Fair” scheduled at Devington S.C. has been moved to Zion Hope Church.

Millersville Village: Matt Voynovich

- Matt is the new Business chair, and will maintain Village business contacts and updates to the Village Directory on MFCV’s website.
- Attendees were encouraged to “shop local” to support Village businesses, and to discuss ideas and concerns during the business breakout.
- Cac Diehr announced that a Cupcake Shop will be opening in May in the Windridge Shops, per a message from the property manager.

Breakout Group Reports

Anti-litter & Beautification: Matt Benson for Phyllis Starks

Many action points to abate litter were developed, which will be listed and shared in the online Annual Meeting recap and Quick-hitter emails.

New Initiatives: Stephanie Marshall

Interest was expressed in designing more people-focused initiatives that celebrate lives and the MFCV community.

Schools: Debbie Black and Kim Haldrup

Identifying assistance needed at Robert Frost PS 106 will be the starting point for volunteers.

Appreciation and Transitions: Cac Diehr

- Mollie Benson was thanked for her time and talent in creating and maintaining MFCV’s exceptional website.
- Attendees and guests were thanked for their interest and encouraged to become involved with MFCV committees and the Board.
- Volunteers, donors and sponsors were thanked again for their remarkable efforts supporting positive change in the community.
- Cac reminded all that she is stepping down as President.

Reports and Q &A with Government Representatives

Council District 3: Dan Boots

- Poor IN roads: HB1461’s proposed infrastructure funding could provide Marion County with \$50 million for secondary streets in 2027.
- Indy curbside recycling: Scheduled to be in place for all residents in 2028, with reduced costs.
- Litter from vehicles and in parking lots: Ordinances exist to contain trash blowing from a vehicle, but are rarely enforced. Recommended bringing parking lot litter to the attention of the businesses to make them uncomfortable about their trash.
- Stay informed: Sign up for the Councilman’s e-newsletter and follow on his social media.

Council District 9: Keith Graves

- Mayor’s Action Center: Report Indy-area concerns online at Request Indy, or by phone to the MAC. Have patience with pothole repairs, as hundreds are being addressed.
- 46th & Arlington: Strengthening this Devington area will take time, but will build on the successful revitalization at 38th & Arlington.

Field Representative for U.S. Rep. Andre Carson, Dist.7: Andrew Bochnicka

- Rep. Carson welcomes input from the community, and shares concerns heard about a possible sale of the Minton-Capehart Federal Bldg downtown and the Bean Federal Bldg (Defense Finance Accounting Service) on the former Fort Harrison property.
- Encouraged students to participate in the “Congressional Art Competition” and the “Congressional App Challenge”, and provided flyers.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Melinda Hall, Secretary