

West Central Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

January 19th, 2026, 7:00pm

Attendance: 15 people

Joel Sauer (President) welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced board members, and reviewed the mission and new vision of the WCNA:

To preserve and promote a unique, historic neighborhood defined by its connected community, rich architecture, and outstanding livability for all.

Welcome & Introductions.

Welcomed Chris Todd.

Will start to feature business members

Yesterday in West Central (Joel)

- Historic Hotels of West Central
- Special thanks to ?
- The presentation included photos and illustrations of historic hotels.
 - See slides on website
- Many of the hotels were demolished via implosion in the 1960s and 70s

2026 Neighborhood Spending Priorities

- Historic Preservation (always)
- Traffic calming
 - Speeding, noise, safety
- Leveraging investment through the Connected Neighborhoods grant (\$1 million)
 - Making West Central more walkable, bikeable, accessible
 - Connecting WC to contiguous neighborhoods
 - Connecting neighbors within WC
- Expanding current programs: We haven't increased the allowance for our programs in several years, and we are going to do so this year. All of the programs with instructions for applications are on the website!
 - Tree canopy restoration
 - Beautification
 - Security
 - Sidewalks & curbs
- Public Art Expansion
 - Recent examples: Amaryllis Sculpture, Box wraps

Treasurer's Report (Chris Todd)

- The draft of the 2026 budget was presented.
- We try to be conservative on budgeting the income from the Home & Garden Tour.
- Budgeted Income: \$68,256, budget expenses: \$68,200
- New expense: quarterly postcards mailed out to better distribute information
- Financial information will be on the website posted quarterly

Announcements

- 2026 Calendar of Events:
 - Feb 23rd: Winter Mixer
 - March 29th: Annual Egg Hunt (4pm Moody Park)
 - May 2nd: Neighborhood Cleanup/Tire & TV pickup
 - June 5-6: Yard Sale
 - July 25: Block Party (11am-2pm, Moody Park)
 - Sept 12-13: Home & Garden Tour & Artsfest
 - October 10: Movie Night (7pm, Moody Park)
 - December 7: Holiday Party (location TBD)
- Looking for someone to organize the block party!

January Gift Direction

- Every month we give \$250
- Giving guidelines: (from photo)
- Nominations: Forgotten Stones, Settlers, Community Harvest, Miss Virginia's
 - Vote supported Forgotten Stones

General Discussion:

- Question about getting trash cans for the neighborhood and maintenance. Do DID services cover this?
- Possible NE Indiana Casino: Has Electric Works been proposed as a location? Should we poll the membership to get a sense of the feelings about this? Greater Fort Wayne has a TV ad featuring West Central.
 - The Board can publish resources on the website for members to get educated

Concluded: 7:00 pm