



Lawrence, Kansas
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Indian Hills Neighborhood Association (IHNA)

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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 6, 2026, | 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Billy Mills Middle School Cafeteria, 2734 Louisiana St., Lawrence, KS

Sign-in and introductions

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 by Angie West. There were 41 Indian Hills residents signed in for attendance. Maps, agendas, and name tags were provided to attendees.

Ms. West welcomed the neighborhood and introduced herself and Laura Gloeckner as the organizing members for the meeting.

Principal of Billy Mills Middle School, Dr. Andrew Taylor, welcomed the group and expressed support for the group and the neighborhood and a willingness to partner with the group in any way he can help.

Land recognition

Ms. West spoke to the group about the history of the land and suggested that time be taken in every meeting to acknowledge our neighborhood's Native American ties and continue to learn more about that history. The land recognition may be viewed on the IHNA website.

Why an association? Our purpose and mission

Ms. West reviewed a brief history of the association. Established in 1974, the Indian Hills Neighborhood Association was the first association formed in Lawrence. It was active until 1977, was restarted in 1981, and remained active until 2012. Ms. West suggested to the group that establishing a legitimate board would help the sustainability of the organization going forward, provide a bigger voice for the neighborhood, and open opportunities for revitalization.

Ms. West asked the group whether anyone had any information on the history of the neighborhood.

- A resident shared that they moved here in 1986 and really liked the community. The resident shared that the group used to put out bags with candles all down the street during the Christmas season and expressed what a joy that was for her at Christmas time. Additionally, the resident attended Haskell before it became a four-year institution.

Membership and neighborhood boundaries

Attendees were provided with a map of the neighborhood; there were no questions.

Ms. West informed the group that the city has the following requirements for neighborhood associations:

- Membership must be open to all neighbors and define neighbors as residents or entities that own or occupy property.
- Associations may charge membership fees from willing members, but a fee cannot be required for membership.

Board positions, nominations, and voting

Ms. West proposed that the group set board positions. She reviewed the positions available and asked that volunteers be willing to commit at least a year to that position. Ms. West informed the group that the nomination form is on the website; nominations will be accepted until November 1, and voting will take place November 3 through the 10th. In addition to the nomination form, Ms. West also asked residents to complete a Neighborhood Survey. Residents may complete the survey and submit nominations online through the IHNA website.

A resident requested confirmation that there has been no board structure and asked that it be investigated as to whether board members have any legal liabilities.

- Ms. West responded that she would contact Courtney Shipley from the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN) group to ask and will follow up about this at the November meeting.
 - Follow up from that question: Notes from discussion with Courtney Shipley, co-chair of the Lawrence Assoc. Of Neighborhoods:
 - Bylaws should be written to clearly define that board members are devoid of liability.
 - She did have an example of something that has happened in other neighborhoods. Old West Lawrence: The neighborhood asked the city to investigate traffic slowing measures. The city followed through with a 3rd party consultant who gave many options. The city chose the highest level intervention, a roundabout and the neighborhood ended up not liking it and started some neighbor-to-neighbor tension. While a difficult situation, there was no liability to any group of people because in the end we're all tax payers and the city chose.

Ms. West requested that the group consider whether they would like to request a voluntary annual membership fee from members to help pay for printing and supply costs for the meetings.

- A resident shared that when the association was active in the 1980s, the annual fee was \$5.
- Ms. Gloeckner shared that one of the founding members, Julia Radley, has been paying the domain fee to retain the website.

How we'll meet: guidelines, location, future dates

Ms. West proposed that the group meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at least initially as the group works through technical aspects of reviving the association.

Ms. West asked the group to consider connecting with other groups such as LAN, Mayday, and Collaborative Governance.

Ms. West encouraged the group to be active and get involved so the neighborhood could have a bigger voice and input on what happens in the neighborhood such as the closing of Broken Arrow Elementary.

- A resident asked whether Broken Arrow Elementary will be closed forever.
 - Ms. West answered that she was informed by the USD 497 Board that the percentage of schools that reopen after being closed is less than one percent.
 - Ms. Gloeckner suggested that perhaps more families with children will come from all the housing developments on the south side of 31st and maybe it could be reopened then, she also expressed frustration that substantial money was spent recently to update the buildings and put in the new playground.
 - A resident reported that USD 497 stated that they would need \$8 million to get it up to par for an elementary school. Additionally, they are discussing having it opened as a secondary location to expand Billy Mills Middle School.

Best ways to communicate: email, Facebook (FB), website

Ms. West asked the group generally how they knew about the meeting by raising their hands.

- The yard signs, hand-delivered flyers, and the Nextdoor app appeared to be the most effective communication methods for attending residents.
- A resident reminded neighbors that some people do not engage in social media or get online so only sending notices electronically may not get to all residents.

Ms. West asked if anyone knew who was running the IHNA FB page.

- A resident assisted in reviewing the FB page finding that a neighbor who moved started the page. The resident still had contact with the neighbor and volunteered to contact her and work on getting the group access to the page.

Ms. West thanked Ms. Gloeckner for updating the website and asked her to share the new email and listserv information.

- Ms. Gloeckner shared that the new email for the association is indianhillslawrence@gmail.com and the new listserv is active. She informed the group that they can remove themselves from the old Listserv and go to the website to sign up for the new Listserv. Additionally, Ms. Gloeckner assured the group that the new listserv will be monitored and only official announcements and notices, approved by the association moderators, will be sent out going forward.
- A resident shared that they are still in contact with a neighbor who moved and wrote newsletters for the IHNA when it was active. They offered to reach out to see if she still had copies of the newsletters for IHNA to archive and reference.
 - Ms. West thanked the resident and asked the group what kind of information they would like to see in the newsletters.

- Suggestions included information on any laws, regulations or policies proposed that impact the neighborhood. Traffic updates, community events and community group information.
- Ms. West proposed that she also reach out to LAN to see what other neighborhoods are doing to engage their communities as well.

A resident asked about how the districts are split up now and where they sent the kids that were going to Broken Arrow Elementary.

- Residents shared that the kids were split into at least 4 different elementary schools.
- Ms. West lamented losing really good teachers, the hardship on the community, and the lack of support the teachers at Broken Arrow felt from our neighborhood during the closure of the school.

Association focus and establishing priorities

Ms. West shared with the group that LAN has taken on the responsibility of distributing block grants for neighborhoods. Other neighborhood groups are using the money for things like mailings, social media, and printing. Additionally, the money could be used to address neighborhood needs, and priorities need to be set. Some examples of priorities she gave were neighborhood safety, infrastructure improvements, neighborhood group projects such as neighbors helping neighbors who are unable to maintain their yards or have crumbling, unsafe sidewalks and driveways, community events, and helping with the local school.

- A resident suggested that the association reach out to members who own related businesses or possess the needed skills for group projects, such as neighbors helping neighbors, before hiring outside the neighborhood.
- Residents asked for more information regarding the road construction in Indian Hills.
 - Ms. West offered to reach out to the city and follow up with the group.

Regarding community events, an elder member of the South Side Church of Christ, located at 25th Missouri, shared with the group that the church will be hosting a neighborhood fall festival on October 17th starting at 4PM. They also told the group that they are happy to be a part of the neighborhood and would like to help serve and bless the neighborhood.

A resident asked for clarification on what authority the association would have and requested more information about fees.

- Ms. West explained that requesting fees would be up to the members, but a discussion would need to take place about what goals the group has and how much that would cost. Beautification, updating the neighborhood entry signs and other entry points to the neighborhood were some examples she provided.
- Ms. West explained that the scope of the board members' duties and authority would need to be clearly defined in the bylaws and approved by membership. She stated that the board's positions are mainly to ensure the sustainability of the group. Ms. West assured the group that the board will not be telling residents what color to paint their house and clarified that the association is not an HOA. She explained that the association is for residents to come to and discuss concerns, and the board's job is to advocate on their behalf in an ethical and civil way.

A resident reported concerns about the maintenance of the sidewalk on 27th at Naismith Park and who is responsible for it.

- Ms. West stated that it is the city's responsibility and reminded the group that these are things we can address together, as an association.

A resident asked whether all Billy Mills Middle School students go to LHS.

- Ms. West explained that yes, they should, but the State of Kansas recently passed a new law, effective this past June, allowing students to apply to attend other schools if room is available.

A resident expressed that it would be helpful to know who is homeschooling in the neighborhood to plan meetups for socialization.

- Ms. West responded that having active membership will help with those things as well and asked residents to raise their hand if they are homeschooling, another neighbor was identified for connection.

In closing, Ms. West reminded the group of the following:

- The next meeting will be November 3 at the Billy Mills Middle School Cafeteria at 5:30 PM.
- Complete the Neighborhood Survey available on the IHNA website, if a paper copy is needed contact Angie West and one will be provided.
- Nominations for board positions open now until November 1. Voting runs November 3–10. You can nominate yourself or a neighbor using the nomination form on the IHNA website.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30PM.

If you were unable to make it to the meeting, we still want to hear from you. Watch our Facebook page and www.indianhillslawrence.us for the meeting notes, neighborhood survey and the nomination form.