



AUDUBON FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2026

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 PM

Presiding: Don Carter, President

Location: Hoosier United Methodist Church Conference Room

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The presiding officer opened with a moment of silence and prayer.

II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Don Carter introduced himself, expressing gratitude to Dr. Daniel Whitner for his nomination, and acknowledged outgoing President Stephanie Fearrington for her service. The newly elected executive board officers were introduced as follows:

Position	Officer
President	Don Carter
Vice President	Frank Robinson
Secretary	Stacey Boyd
Assistant Secretary	Bria Brown
Treasurer	James Gordon
Parliamentarian	Walter Huntley
Community Safety Chair	Mario Wiley
Economic Development Chair	Don Carter
Membership Chair	Dr. Daniel Whitner
Newsletter Chair	Stacey Boyd
Street Captains Chair	Mario Wiley
History Chair	Joanne Huntley
Hospitality Chair	Mable Densler
Social Chair	Simone Bailey

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Balance: \$15,334.09

A brief financial update was provided, noting a recent \$50 deposit. The full Treasurer's Report was tabled and will be presented at the next meeting.

Banking Transition

President Carter announced that the Association is in the process of transitioning its banking from Citizens Trust Bank to Peach State Community Credit Union in order to secure better interest rates. A meeting with the Peach State Credit Union manager is scheduled to finalize the required paperwork. The transition is ongoing.

A member inquired whether dues could be paid in smaller installments. President Carter confirmed that Treasurer James Gordon is amenable to this arrangement.

IV. NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY & CRIME PREVENTION

Sergeant Starks and a newly assigned officer provided safety updates for the neighborhood.

Key Points from Sergeant Starks / APD

- Residents are encouraged to report all suspicious activities promptly to keep crime statistics accurate and ensure adequate police resources are allocated to the area.
- Officers regularly patrol the neighborhood, including vacant properties.
- The FIFA event is anticipated to have an impact on the neighborhood; officers are monitoring and planning accordingly.
- Sgt. Starks shared personal crime-prevention recommendations: install home cameras, use neighborhood watch apps, and report suspicious vehicles or individuals.
- Residents were advised to keep valuables out of sight and lock their vehicles (Clean Car campaign).
- Dog attack concerns were noted; residents should report incidents to animal control.
- The officer offered to assist with neighborhood cleanups and increased trail patrols.

License Plate Reader / Camera (Flamingo)

Concern was raised that the Flamingo Drive license-plate-reader/camera has been out of service for a year. Members agreed to follow up with Major Clay to request prompt repair or a status update.

Trail & Park Safety

Reports of dead animals found in the park were discussed. Sgt. Starks noted this may be related to activity at a known address in the area. A request was made to engage PATH Force (bike patrol) for regular trail patrols and increased officer walkthroughs.

Diversion / Outreach Program

Members requested clearer guidance on how to utilize the city's diversion and outreach program—an alternative to arrest for appropriate situations. Contact information (e.g., 311) and the engagement process will be compiled and distributed.

V. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Neighborhood Watch & Communication

- A proposal was made to create a one-stop directory of key contacts (police non-emergency, 311, animal control, diversion/outreach, trail maintenance, etc.) for distribution via the neighborhood newsletter.
- The use of neighborhood watch apps and group mapping tools to share real-time information about suspicious activity was discussed and encouraged.

Monthly Dinner Club

Kimberly Collings proposed launching a monthly dinner club to support local restaurants and foster community connections. The idea was enthusiastically received, and members discussed potential venues and logistics.

Neighborhood Cleanup

Members discussed organizing a trail and park cleanup event. Volunteers will be recruited, a date will be scheduled, and coordination with APD for assistance during the cleanup will be arranged.

Community Events

The possibility of hosting community fairs or gatherings in a neighborhood parking lot was raised and met with interest from attendees.

Community Cameras

A suggestion was made to evaluate and procure community-visible cameras or decoy cameras at key neighborhood entry points (e.g., Flamingo Drive) to deter criminal activity. The board agreed to research options and report back with recommendations and estimated costs.

Historical Notes

Dr. Daniel Whitner shared a historical account of a midnight community walk in Lionel Hampton Nature Preserve that demonstrated neighborhood solidarity and contributed to a reduction in crime—illustrating the impact of engaged visible community presence. The "broken windows" theory was referenced as a framework for understanding how maintaining the neighborhood environment deters further deterioration.

VI. MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Members in attendance introduced themselves and affirmed their commitment to the neighborhood and its ongoing activities. The new administration received expressions of support from the membership.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

The following action items were identified during the meeting:

1. Create a one-stop contact directory (police, 311, animal control, diversion/outreach, trail issues, etc.) and distribute via the neighborhood newsletter.
2. Organize a neighborhood trail and park cleanup: select a date, recruit volunteers, and coordinate with APD for assistance.
3. Meet with the Peach State Community Credit Union manager to complete required paperwork and finalize the banking transition from Citizens Trust.
4. Follow up with Major Play and Captain Barber (and city contacts) regarding the Flamingo license-plate-reader/camera that is out of service, push for repair or a status update.
5. Contact PATH Force (bike patrol) to arrange regular patrols on the trail and coordinate increased officer walkthroughs.
6. Provide residents with clear contact information and the process for engaging the diversion/outreach program.
7. Evaluate and procure community-visible or decoy cameras for key neighborhood entry points (e.g., Flamingo Drive); report back with options and costs.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.