



## ST. JOSEPH

HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Here's a glance at what's to follow:

- June board meeting notes
- Meet the Neighbors: Kevin & Beth
- What's Happening at Central Library
- Upcoming events
- Other news of note
- Membership

### June Board Meeting Notes

The board met on Tues, June 1 with Mark S., Mark G., Jan, Eric and Garry in attendance. Here's what was discussed:

#### **St. Joseph Business Profiles** – *Eric*

- Proposal: Add a profile of business members to the SJHNA monthly newsletters to highlight local businesses and help inform neighbors about what services are available in the neighborhood
- A good way to reach out to non-member businesses to join
- Businesses can provide a written statement as well as logo, photos and website URL for their profile

#### **Surplus Street Repair Funds** – St. Joseph St. - *Mindy/Mark*

- About \$121k was allocated to a few near west and northwest neighborhoods in District 17 due to the city refinancing debt at a lower interest rate which allowed for the additional allocation.
- Three neighborhoods, Lockerbie, St. Joseph and Cole-Noble, responded to Councilman Adamson's request to identify priority repairs within that budget from a list of options compiled by DPW, stating the age and cost to repair for each stretch.
- A meeting with the three neighborhoods yielded the 200- or 300-block of St. Joseph St and a stretch of Park Ave as the priorities for the \$121k budget utilization.
- Timing for the resurfacing is unknown at this time but all signs point to *either* the 200- or 300-block of St. Joseph getting that work done later this year or sometime next year. Some pothole repair was recently completed so we hope those patches survive until the new work gets scheduled. Whichever block doesn't get completed will stay on the DPW consideration list for next year's funding. Both stretches of road are around 40 years old.

#### **DPW Neighborhood matching grant update** – *Mindy*

- Most recent communication with DPW is that they are working with the engineering team to gather timelines and more details about the sidewalk and median projects.
- We recently learned that Lockerbie neighborhood was awarded the same grant two years ago and that work is scheduled for 2022, with DPW not requesting the matching funds until this year, so based on that experience, it could be a long process.

### **Membership update** - Jan/Mark G.

- We now have about 44 individual members and 8 business members – the most members Jan can recall in recent history.
- As a thank you for hosting board and neighborhood meetings at no cost in previous years, the board agreed to extend complimentary business memberships to both The Point on Penn and Indianapolis Public Library.

### **Beautification Committee** - Ric/Jan

- A cleanup of the triangle median was organized at the end of May. The Hannon and Good households donated money for plants, dirt, and mulch. The median has been planted with native plants that will require less watering. However, they must transport about 8g of water to the median on weeks it doesn't rain. *(Have help, ideas or suggestions to share on this watering task?? Just reply to this email!)*

### **Hospitality Committee** - Mark S.

- The ice cream social was a success with nearly 30 people in attendance! At the event, suggestions were offered for future events ranging from book clubs to outdoor concerts/movies to wine tasting.
- Thanks to those who ventured to the Good household on Sunday. Several people were in attendance despite the afternoon rain showers!
- Next porch party will be hosted by the Hannons on June 26, 4-6pm

### **North Split Report** - Mark G./Garry

- These details were provided at the recent North Split meeting held by HTNB on behalf of INDOT.
- Reports of severe vibrations have been made in northern Chatham Arch and all are encouraged to report that issue and any others to [www.INDOT4U.com](http://www.INDOT4U.com) which is monitored daily.
- Neighborhoods will be invited to meet over the summer to give input on the landscaping plans and sculpted berms. The latter will affect ONS and Chatham Arch.
- The Alabama St underpass will get new lighting and sidewalk pavers, as well as signage incorporating our logo.
- The Monon Loop detour to College is complete and will be permanent. INDOT will maintain landscape work for the first year and KIB will be contracted for years 2 and 3 maintenance.
- Rethink has incorporated as a 501(c)3 in order to receive and administer planning and other grant funds as well as engage in organized activity on behalf of the 65/70 redesign planning efforts. It comes too late for the northsplit but will be helpful in east and south segments of 65/70.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Weeds growing through bricks in west part of 200 block on E 10th St need attention – Mark will file a report and also notify Fabio.
- St. Joe Flats Assoc – 134 E. St. Joseph needs some attention. - Mark will check and email IHPC with any details
- Garry suggested that St. Joseph should have a conversation with Ernest Malone, Chief of IFD. He recalls an agreement around the time of the relocation of IFD that St. Joseph Street would only rarely be used because it is narrow with street parking and two-way traffic. The neighborhood will collect some emergency vehicle utilization and then reach out to Chief Malone to discuss.

*As featured in the June issue of Urban Times. If you'd like to get introduced to the neighborhood, please email [stjoeboard@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeboard@gmail.com)*



## Meet Kevin & Beth!

### **Please introduce yourselves and tell us a little about your work+interests.**

We are Beth Kreitl and Kevin Espirito. Beth is from Indiana originally, and I am from Seattle, Washington. We met in Seattle and were married in 2015. We spent the first two years of our marriage volunteering in central Vietnam starting a drowning prevention program in Quang Binh province. When we moved back to the states, we decided to move to Indiana to be close to Beth's family and started a nonprofit ([www.Webloom.org](http://www.Webloom.org)) focused on co-creating healthy communities. Our largest project is the recovery café ([www.Recoverycafeindy.org](http://www.Recoverycafeindy.org)), and we have helped to open 5 cafes in the last two years (Indianapolis at Unity, Lafayette, Rochester, Muncie and Merrillville). To pay the bills, when not volunteering with the nonprofit, I am an insurance adjuster and real estate investor and Beth is leading We Bloom full time.

### **Where did you move from and what attracted you to St. Joseph?**

We were looking for a place centrally located and really liked downtown, Near North, Herron Morton and Irvington. When we saw our current house, we decided to stop in at Ivy's and call to find out more info. Our brief time at Ivy's sold us on the friendly environment. Walking the neighborhood made us realize the location was perfect for us.

### **What are your favorite local spots?**

We enjoy walking to the canal or anywhere downtown, as well as Bottleworks, now that it has opened. Biking the Monon, or exploring new restaurants now that things are opening again. Beth loves the yoga studio and walks to the nearby park called the Garden of Contemplation and Reflection

### **What are you most interested in doing/trying this summer?**

We are both excited to dine out again and try more restaurants downtown, while warming our seats at our favorites (Ivy's and Axum). We are also wanting to dust off the tennis rackets and hit the ball around in the next few months. Beth just bought a paddleboard and is looking forward to getting out on the water at Eagle Creek.

### **Anything else you want to share?**

There is an open invitation for all neighbors to come in and check out the Recovery Café Indy at Unity. Recovery Café is a peer run and led group of people in recovery. We believe we all are in recovery from something, whether substances, mental health challenges, trauma, divorce, grief, loss, loneliness, isolation, homelessness or whatever is in the way of someone becoming their best self. We believe connection and community can help each of us in our journey through life - all neighbors are welcome to come have a free meal and be a part of the recovery café community. Hours are Wednesday - Friday from 1-7pm and Saturday from 9-3. Membership is free.

*If you're interested in sharing your story, please contact [stjoeboard@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeboard@gmail.com). All St. Joseph neighbors are invited to participate.*



## Plenty of Reasons to Visit Central Library

We wanted to remind everyone about a wonderful resource in the neighborhood: Central Library (40 E St. Clair). Pre-pandemic, they graciously offered us their meeting rooms for neighborhood meetings and we hope to be back there soon! [Getting a library card](#) is free & easy and not only gets you access to a world of printed resources but they have an abundant collection of ebooks & online materials as well. Additionally, several in-person and online [classes and events](#) are offered. If you haven't stepped inside the library, it's also a beautiful space with a mix of traditional and modern architecture. A hidden gem downtown. Bike and auto parking are available. Robin Kelley is the area resource manager for this location and is almost always at our neighborhood meetings, so always willing to help where she can! Her contact details are on their [website](#). We hope you check it out for a little inspiration!

Visit Central Library

## Save The Date

### Upcoming Events

- Porch party at Burnham Cottage - 225 E 11th St - Sat, June 26, 4-6pm
- July Porch Parties TBD
- National Night Out Picnic - August 3

### Board Meetings Schedule

As a reminder, the St. Joseph Board will meet monthly on first Tuesdays via Zoom. Next meeting is scheduled for July 6. For any issues or concerns you'd like discussed, please email the board prior to the meeting. Email: [stjoeboard@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeboard@gmail.com)

## Other News of Note

- Downtown July 4 fireworks are returning this year and will be launching from 500 N Meridian. Enjoy the show but please be mindful that your four-legged friends are safe & secure, as the loud sounds can make them very anxious/escape-prone!
- Check the latest updates on [local road closures and detours](#) for the North Split project
- With the 10th street closure between College and Mass Ave, remember there is a [detour to access the Monon Trail](#). This will be a permanent route but is currently constructed with temporary pavement.

## Show Your Love

We still have St. Joseph Neighborhood window stickers available for all new members! Or you can purchase a sticker for \$5 (just reply to this email for info).

Join [online](#) or by mail (Checks payable to St. Joseph Historic Neighborhood Association. Mail to: 315 E 10th St, 46202)

Thanks to everyone who joined since our email last month :)

### New 2021 Memberships

Becky R.

Paul & Dana F.

[The Point on Penn](#)

[Indianapolis Public Library](#)

We are only **8 memberships** away from our goal of 60 in 2021!

Count Me In!

## Give Us Your Feedback

Have suggestions on news/info you'd like to see from the neighborhood? Reply to this email and send your suggestions!

This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }}  
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