



## Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

### Meeting Minutes, April 28, 1992

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Chairperson Marcia Bryan asked for any revisions or additions to last month's minutes. The attendees accepted the minutes as written. We introduced ourselves around the table. Twelve people were in attendance.

Margaret Nugent, membership chairperson reported that we have recently received 5 new membership checks and our total has reached 28 paid members. Allen Johnson reported that the treasury sits at \$294.38 as of April 14th. He reminded us that we need to turn in receipts to him for any expense reimbursement.

Ruth Nellis, Ron Czadzeck, Marcia Bryan, and Carol MacInnes reported that they have produced some maps marked with potential trail routes. They've been out scouting sites several times and have found wonderfully varied terrain, nice views, and potential trails to appeal to everyone's tastes. Ron has spoken to several people in Fairport about the right of way from Boughton Park to Fairport. Fairport is trying to sell the land to the town of Victor. Part of it was sold to Eastview Mall. So far, Victor doesn't want to pay for the land. Ron will pursue talking to the Village Engineer to see if he can get more details on status and asking price.

Marcia Bryan reported that Harry Lloyd (while still recuperating) is continuing to look into the Auburn railroad bed easements. He now has the name of the appropriate person to talk to and is attempting to contact him.

Marcia Bryan reported that the executive board met on April 14th to compose the revokable permit, based on a draft which was supplied by Alan Lockwood. At the meeting three officers signed our incorporation papers. Ken Wilson, the Town Supervisor visited the meeting. He reported that there will be a Victor Land Trust but without financial support from the town. Someone is attempting to donate 35 acres specified for a bluebird sanctuary. The town has received a grant letter for \$50K to make improvements in Fishers Park. This is the culmination of 4 years of applying for the grant. He may approach us later for our assistance in developing the park. The plans call for a fishing dock, a bridge over the stream, and lights for the tennis courts. The town is interested in trying to connect Fishers Park to Boughton Park via the Fairport watershed easement. Another possibility for a trail exists along Ganarga Creek. The NY Corps of Engineers is looking into changing the route of the creek to reduce an erosion problem. Ken stated that the town board is supportive of what we're doing. They are committed to open spaces and the land trust but can offer no financial support. They are willing to supply heavy equipment when we need it and will work to get prisoners involved when we need more labor. He stated that Jane Luce, the Director of Development did ask for easements in the last few developments such as Wiley Estates and Cobblestone Creek. (at this session, Allen Johnson agreed to follow-up to see how these easement rights are worded and if they will be of use to us).

Marcia Bryan reported that she sent a thank-you to Dave Schaeffer for his assistance. She read a reply letter from Mr. Baird of the US Park Service. Mr. Baird agreed that landowner liability is a

potential problem and suggested that the Green Umbrella Option may be a source of inexpensive insurance for land trust property.

Carol MacInnes passed around a notice of planning workshops for the Genessee Valley Greenway. They'll be held May 13 at 6:45 PM in Mt. Morris Central School, Bonadonna Ave., Mt. Morris and on May 14 at 6:45 PM at Wheatland Chili School, 940 North Rd., Scottsville. Everyone is welcome to attend. They will discuss greenway issues and opportunities. Also, on May 16 they will hike part of the potential trail. They will leave from the Nunda Village Hall. Anyone interested in attending, call Marcia Bryan (924-2936) to car pool.

Marcia passed around the LOON Book (Lake Ontario Organizing Network) which is a reference source of organizations around the Lake Ontario watershed. It can be a handy reference for us in the future and the group agreed we should spend the \$10 to get our association registered in this book.

Marcia confirmed that we can have a box at the town hall and can use it as our mailing address (note the return address on this mailing).

It was discussed that we should follow Dave Schaeffer's recommendation and develop a master plan for Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. Marcia Bryan, Ron Czadzeck, Norm Smith, and Larry Fisher volunteered to work on a draft version in June. Marcia agreed to bring copies of the Crescent Trail's plan to the next meeting.

Marcia reminded us that June 5, 1993 is National Trails Day. We discussed a goal of having a trail open by then so we can sponsor a hike, have a ribbon cutting ceremony, and generate some publicity. Marcia also shared a clipping about a trip to explore the old trolley bed which mentioned areas in Victor. We discussed it's availability for possible future trails. A copy of the Crescent Trails newsletter was circulated. Victor Hiking Trails was mentioned in an article. It was noted that Crescent Trails posts signs announcing their hikes in local stores and that we might pursue similar advertising.

Norm Smith, the history and education chairperson asked for suggestions on sources of information and activities he should be involved in. Ken Wilson has agreed to write up some early history of our association. Norm asked to be kept posted about early trail development activities. We discussed trying to route trails near points of interest or special attractions. Things we might label or call attention to could include trees, flowers, connections to Indian history, connections to underground railroad, and area history via Sheldon Fisher.

Allen Johnson reported that the Planning Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The 4th Tuesday conflicts with our meetings so we'd like to have someone attend the meetings on the 2nd Tuesdays. Allen can attend some of them but WE NEED ANOTHER VOLUNTEER who could attend some of the Tuesday Planning Board meetings. If interested, please call Allen Johnson. Other representation we currently have is Roberta Lockwood on the Recreation Dept., and Marcia Bryan on the Conservation Board.

We are in need of storage space (before we start accumulating donations). Marcia will investigate a barn near her. Anyone else with ideas for storage space, please notify Marcia.

It was recommended that we leave a list of officers (such as the welcome letter) with the town clerk. Marcia agreed to take care of this. Also, Sue Freeman agreed to talk to Ila Gerew (Welcome Wagon) about distributing our welcome letter.

We agreed to continue mailing newsletters to specified non-members as part of our public relations endeavors.

We reviewed the preliminary trail design specifications which Larry Fisher passed out at our last meeting. Changes / recommendations included:

- discussed the use of paint vs plastic or metal circles. Generally thought paint (applied using a round stencil) was less destructive and more appropriate
- color coding of trail; Crescent Trail's method of associating meaning to each color leads to very confusing trails which results in people easily getting lost
- add signs with designated trail names
- add "protect flowers" to verbiage on trailhead signs
- signs should be laminated and covered with plexiglass rather than varnished
- discussed distance between blazes - concluded need to use common sense - keep each within sight of next blaze but not too many
- leaving large tree trunks in trail is good

We agreed that the Trail Design Specifications would be a starting guide and could be changed as we get more experience. Thanks to Larry for doing a great job in compiling it.

Our next meeting is May 26 at 7:30 PM at the town hall. Our hike will be May 9 at 9 AM. Meet at the Fishers fire hall for a 2 hour hike. We will hike the Nature Conservancy and the Auburn line to Fishers Park area.

The meeting adjourned by 9:30 PM.



Sue Freeman

Secretary

