

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS

MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL

March 21, 2013

ATTENDANCE: Dave Wright, Chauncy Young, Pete Ingalsbe, Wizzy Geno, Ralph Weber, Larry Fisher, Nat Fisher. Guests Cathy Fraser, Nelson Carman Jr..

Meeting called to order by Dave Wright at 7:34 p.m.

MINUTES of February 21 meeting:

Motion by Chauncy, seconded by Dave. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chauncy Young

As of 02/28/13:

Checking and savings - \$6,713

Other assets - \$1,869

Total assets - \$ 8,582

Motion by Larry. Seconded by Nat. Approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Pete reported 179 current members. He will continue to send renewal notifications using e-mail as the primary contact method.

PUBLICITY: The phone message has been updated and a press release made announcing the April 13 hike at Braddock's Bay. Ralph reported that a Hawk banding tour is scheduled for that morning, which we can join. He will notify them of our group's coming, and Dave will update the phone message to include that information. Our hikes and meetings are on the Victor Town calendar.

EDUCATION: Ralph is planning future educational hikes, with a focus on youth hikes. Anyone with ideas please see Ralph. He suggested that non-members who regularly join VHT on the monthly hikes should be added to our database, perhaps under a separate listing. Ralph will contact Jeff to discuss and set up.

VOLUNTEERS: EMS club days has been announced for May 3 and 4, at their store in Pittsford Plaza. Wizzy will be coordinating volunteers for this event. EMS will be the primary sponsor for VHT National Trails Day this year, to be on June 1. Plans for this major event have already started.

NEWSLETTER: The Spring Newsletter will be sent out soon after the March meeting. Newsletters now have limited print copies, available at the town hall and some sponsor locations. Anyone can access past and current newsletters on the VHT website.

TRAILMASTER: No report.

TRAIL BOSS: Larry submitted the 2013 trail maintenance schedule. The three trail crews set up several years ago is working fine and will be continued this year.

LAST HIKE: The hike in Fishers Park was enjoyed by 19 hikers on March 9. Many thanks to Chauncy for leading the hike and opening up his home to this group of hungry, thirsty hikers at the halfway point.

OLD BUSINESS:

Babette Huber, Town of Victor Historian, has published a new book on the history of Victor. She has agreed to sell a number of books to VHT at a discount, in order for VHT to raise money by re-selling them at the retail price of \$16. An initial purchase of 10 books was approved at the September meeting. VHT will offer the books for sale at functions throughout the year.

A new Eagle Scout project has been planned by Mark Krueger. He will build five (5) picnic tables and place them at specific locations on Victor trails. He will begin the project in the spring.

National Trails Day is June 1 and to celebrate the completion of the Auburn Trail through the town, we will walk the entire length, starting at Mertensia Park in Farmington at the south end, and finishing at Powder Mills Park. Transportation back to the start point will be arranged. Along with refreshments at the start point, there will be stop at Fishers House 1 for lunch. Pete has written to reserve the Mertensia pavilion for the morning of June 1. Chauncy will obtain permission from Fishers Fire Dept. for the use of the kitchen at House 1.

Four Victor non-profits; Victor Hiking Trails, Victor Historical Society, Friends of the Railroad, and Friends of Ganondagan, will support a program of web-based interpretative mobile tours at a cost of \$15/month per organization. Victor Parks and Rec will support and cover the remaining costs. Chauncy made a motion to have Dave write a letter to the Town that VHT will support its portion of the financial obligation to OnCell Systems. Seconded by Larry. Approved.

The half-marathon trail run scheduled for July 20th is progressing. Approvals are coming and the website www.roctherun.com will soon be updated with info about the race. VHT has been invited to have a display table at the start of the race. Also, they will be needing volunteers the day of the race.

VHT has been invited to give a talk on Victor trails as part of "The Talk of the Town" series, scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday in September.

Kathryn White, Victor Historical Society, is looking for information on what trees would be in a balanced woodlot found around Valentown. Larry suggested that a good starting point would be the plant listing put together by The Conservation Committee available on the town website.

Emily Waldman is doing research for the mural project on the Thruway underpass on the Auburn Trail in Fishers, planned for this summer.

NEW BUSINESS:

VHT has been invited to be a chartered organization for a new Boy Scouts of America Venture Crew planned in Victor. This program is designed for young men and women, ages 14 to 20, in the Victor-Farmington area, who would like to plan and participate in outdoor activities. They would need adults to help organize and conduct meetings during the beginning phases of the new group and to act as adult guides on outings going forward. Dave prepared a letter, which was sent to the VHT membership on 3/16 looking for interested adults. VHT's responsibilities as chartering organization would be a small annual fee and support of projects the group would be interested in doing involving our trail system.

The number of trail head brochure holders is increasing to the point that we need to systemize the locations and person responsible for maintaining. Dave will ask Jeff to map out the locations of all boxes and then we will make assignments for re-filling.

Dave gave a talk on VHT at the March 8th Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at Cole & Parks.

The Fishers Fire District approved at its March 19th meeting an application by The Victor Friends of the Railroad to locate the refurbished Trolley Station to a site closer to the Pump House on the west side of the Auburn Trail. FORR will be responsible for clearing and preparing the site.

NEXT HIKE:

The next outing will be April 13, an educational hike at Braddock Bay, to include a tour of the Hawk banding site. Details can be found on the VHT phone message, as well as in The Victor Post.

▯ NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry at 9:11.

Respectfully submitted,

Nat Fisher

Secretary

Schedule of '13 hikes/outings:

- Apr 13 - Braddock's Bay
- May 4 - Historic Victor walk (repeat of 10/13/2012 event)
- May 11 - White Brook Nature Trail
- May 17-19 Adirondack hike weekend
- Jun 1 - National Trails Day
- Jun 8 - Ontario Pathways
- Jun 8 - ADK Expo at Mendon Ponds Park
- Jul 13 - Griffis Sculpture Park, Zoar Valley
- Aug 10 - Letchworth Park
- Sep 7 - Hang Around Victor Days
- Sep 29 - Seneca Trail Challenge hike
- Oct 10 - Finger Lakes Trail, Prattsburg
- Nov 9 - Ganondagan / Dryer Rd. Pk (educational)
- Dec 14 - Seneca Park / El Camino trail