

# VICTOR HIKING TRAILS

MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL

August 15, 2013

**ATTENDANCE:** Dave Wright, Wizzy Geno, Chauncy Young, Ralph Weber, Dave Coleman, Jeff Hennick, Nat Fisher. Guest Bob Lasher.

Meeting called to order by Dave Wright at 7:30 p.m.

**MINUTES** of June 20 meeting:

Motion by Wizzy; seconded by Ralph. Approved. NOTE- July meeting was cancelled.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Chauncy Young

As of 6/30/13:

Checking and savings - \$6,404

Other assets - \$1,869

Total assets - \$8,272

As of 7/31/13:

Checking and savings - \$7,662

Other assets - \$1,869

Total assets - \$9,530

Motion by Jeff, seconded by Wizzy. Approved

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** No report.

**PUBLICITY:** September 7<sup>th</sup> is Hang Around Victor Day. VHT will again have a booth in Mead Square Park during the day. The following weekend (9/13-9/15) will be the fall Adirondack Park outing. Please contact Dave Coleman if you are interested in going, and if you have a climb you would like to suggest for the group. A press release has been sent out announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Seneca Trail Challenge Hike on 9/29. Our hikes and meetings are on the Victor Town calendar.

**EDUCATION:** Ralph had nothing to report at this time.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Wizzy passed around thank you cards written by 1<sup>st</sup> graders who participated in an educational hike at Victor Municipal Park on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to the VHT volunteers who helped out. Wizzy will be soon contacting VHT members to get volunteers to work the booth during Hang Around Victor Day on 9/07.

**NEWSLETTER:** Please submit articles and pictures to Dave by September 19<sup>th</sup> for the Fall newsletter. Newsletters now have limited print copies, available at the library and some sponsor locations. Anyone can access past and current newsletters on the VHT website.

**TRAILMASTER:** Carol had nothing to report. Chauncy has marked an alternate route for the Seneca Trail to avoid the steep hill under the power lines descending from Constellation Brands hill to Turk Hill Rd. Dave will ask Carol to follow up with the owners of the affected property to request permission to blaze a trail.

**TRAIL BOSS:** The maintenance crews would benefit on some trails if there was a 3<sup>rd</sup> working power trimmer available. Nat will ask Larry to make a determination if one or both of the currently broken trimmers is repairable to add to the two that we currently use. Because the peak of the growing season is past, we can get by with what we have for the remainder of this season, but we should be considering the purchase of a new trimmer for the 2014 season.

**LAST HIKE:** On August 10<sup>th</sup> 6 people hiked in Letchworth Park. Unfortunately, due to a late arrival by the hikers, they missed the person who had been contacted to guide the hike. Chauncy made a motion to send \$20 to the guide, Stephanie Spittal anyway. It was seconded by Ralph. Passed.

## **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. VHT will offer the books for sale at functions throughout the year.

Two Victor non-profits; Victor Hiking Trails and Victor Historical Society, have indicated their interest in supporting a program of web-based interpretative mobile tours, produced by OnCell Systems. The cost for each organization will be \$180/yr. We are waiting on feedback from Brian Emelson, VP&R, on his efforts to get the cost difference, approx.. \$300, from a member(s) of The Victor Chamber of Commerce.

VHT received a nice letter and a check for \$500 from the organizers of RocTheRun thanking us for our efforts to get the portion of their route in Victor ready for the race on 7/20. They look forward to working with VHT in future events, and have already announced next year's event for 7/19/14.

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

Emily Waldman will be available in September to begin working on the Thruway underpass mural in Fishers. A second coat of primer paint will be applied on 8/18 by Chauncy and Jeff.

Chauncy is still accepting redemption bottles and cans at his house in support of Harrison VanBork's Eagle Scout bridge building project in Fishers Park.

DiMarco Builders has responded to Chauncy's inquiry about excess building materials from last year's boardwalk project on the red trail behind Fisher's Landing. They would like to use the materials towards improving the yellow trail at the same location. Chauncy has met with them to discuss timing and desired outcomes for such a project, with no work date set.

Jeff will produce QR codes for the Seneca Trail at first and after assessing any feedback, possibly look to expand to other trails.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Chauncy started a discussion on possible places to put up left-over tree ID signs from the Domine Trail project. Fishers Park is one possible place, as is Monkey Run. Chauncy will bring an inventory of the signs to the next meeting.

It was decided at the June meeting that we would not have a baked food fund-raiser at Victor Fest this year. It was felt that we should attempt to use this activity to raise funds in some manner, and after discussion, it was felt a 50-50 raffle would be the best fit for VHT. Chauncy made a motion to hold 2 50-50 raffle drawings, at noon and at 4 p.m., and to sell tickets 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10. Seconded by Ralph. Passed.

Victor-Farmington Rotary has asked VHT to give a presentation at an upcoming luncheon meeting. Ralph expressed interest in accompanying Dave to this meeting.

Chauncy got quotes from four printing companies to print additional trail brochures. Since boxes were located at many trail heads this spring, we are not surprisingly going through supplies faster than in the past. Chauncy made a motion to have the low bidder Messenger-Post print 5,000 brochures at a cost of \$770. Seconded by Ralph. Passed. They should arrive in time for HAVD.

The Friends of the Railroad announced that they will be locating the restored trolley wait station on Fishers Fire District property along the Auburn Trail on 8/17.

Jeff sent a letter from VHT to the Farmington Town Supervisor, Ted Fafinski, in support of the Town of Farmington's application for Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) grant funding for work to begin on the Auburn Trail extension through the town of Farmington.

Bob Lasher spoke to the group prior to the end of the meeting, regarding his work with pale swallow wart. This invasive species is very aggressive in subduing native plants and is also harmful to native animals (ex. Monarch butterfly). He is leading a group of volunteers to eradicate this plant and is focusing this year in Ganondagan State Historic Site. He will be looking for volunteer help again next year, as he renews the battle. More about this plant and his efforts can be found at [bclasher@live.com](mailto:bclasher@live.com)

**NEXT HIKE:**

The next hike is 9/29, The Seneca Trail Challenge. See rack card attached.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn was made by Chauncy at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nat Fisher

Secretary

## **Schedule of '13 hikes/outings:**

- Sep 7 - Hang Around Victor Days
- Sep 13-15 Adirondack weekend
- 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