

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL
August 18, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Dave Wright, Chauncy Young, Suzy Paquin, Lisa Roberts, David Coleman, Jeff Hennick and Peter Ingalsbe.

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

MINUTES of July 28th meeting, **Motion** to approve the minutes by Chauncy, seconded by Lisa – **Approved**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barb Cole - *Absent*
Chauncy passed around the financials for July.
As of 7/31/16:

- ✓ Checking and savings - \$11,373
- ✓ Other assets - \$92
- ✓ Total assets - \$11,465

Dave noted that we received a check from Dimarco for \$1,800 towards materials for a Girl Scout Gold Project. There was also a donation of \$175 from Travelers dated 7/29.

Chauncy reviewed the statements from the Treasurer and noted that they looked in the appropriate order.

Motion to approve the financials by Chauncy, seconded by Jeff - **Approved**

Jeff noted that with PayPal there is a monthly limit on how much we can withdraw to put in the bank. The limit is currently \$1,000. Our balance is currently at zero.

MEMBERSHIP: Pete Ingalsbe

Pete noted that he deleted 29 more members from 2014-early 2015, that haven't renewed. We are at 256 with 51 due to renew.

Chauncy reported that we now have 481 members on Meetup.

PUBLICITY & NEWSLETTER: Dave Wright

Dave updated the message line and sent out a press release for the next hike which is the special Ring of Fire hike on September 3rd at Bare Hill. Meet at 5:30pm behind the Town Hall to carpool to the trailhead or meet at Van Epps Road, Rushville at 6:30pm.

Dave is working on the next issue of the newsletter. The fall issue should be done after the meeting in September.

EDUCATION: Ralph Weber - *Absent*

Dave reported for Ralph - The Mees Observatory hike went well. Ralph liked how Meetup worked with the reservations. Can the limit and the number of guests be changed? Chauncy said yes, he set the maximum limit of attendees and how many guests they each could bring. Ralph noted that he has nothing more planned for right now.

Dave W had suggested a tour of the Valentown Museum at the November hike which is from Valentown to Woodcliff and back. He asked Ralph to contact Kathy White.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Suzy Paquin

Twisted Branch Trail Run – August 20th: We have 13 volunteers signed up to man an aide station.

Family Fun Festival – August 27th: This will be at the Farmington Town Hall Park from 11am to 6pm. So far we only have Dave W signed up. Dave will get with Chauncy

Hang Around Victor Day – September 10th: We have 7 signed up, would like a few more.

Kettlefest – September 17th: Chauncy will email Joe Hurley to see about VHT having a tent at the event.

Wellness Fair – October 13th: This is at the Victor Town Hall from 8:00 am to Noon. Suzy will send out an email with volunteer times needed.

TRAILMASTER: Carol MacInnes - *Absent*

Dave noted that Carol said she had no report, but that she asked if Chauncy was ready to talk to Polidori regarding the trail at Falcon's Ridge yet. Chauncy noted that maybe they would do this in October.

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

Scout Projects

- Nyle Masoom – *His project is a short boardwalk and a short bridge near the Apple Farm.*

- **This project was completed** on Saturday, July 30th – a 70' boardwalk and a 12' bridge
- Lori Buggie –*Her project is a boardwalk on the yellow trail behind Monroe Muffler off Route 96. A 150' Boardwalk on the yellow trail plus some stone/chips just before it.*
 - **This project was completed** with the help of DiMarco on July 15 & 16th
 - Received a check for \$1,800 from the DiMarco Group to cover the supplies
- George Heltz - *a 40' bridge project at Fishbrook/East Victor. His funding goal is \$6,000.*
 - **This project was completed** on Sunday, July 31st
 - He raised over \$6,000, the total cost was approx. \$7,500. The \$1,500 balance will be covered by P&R, for two thirds, and VHT, for one third. There was a GoFundMe balance of \$3,000 that will be transferred to VHT.
- Daniel Waldman - *He is looking to replace a boardwalk that was set too low at Lehigh Crossing Park. He proposes a dock-like Boardwalk which would be 154' / 168' in length. The Short Environmental Assessment form has been submitted to the DEC.*
 - A GoFundMe account has been started
 - The project has been pushed back until October

Fisher Memorial Bridge: Update

Chauncy has drawn a sketch, written the narrative and filled out the application for the permit. VHT has been awarded the grant from the American Hiking Society towards the Nat Fisher Bridge in the amount of \$2,500. Paperwork has been submitted to the DEC and Army Corp of Engineers.

- This is expected to be a three weekend project. (Hopefully it will be done before the construction of Daniel's project is started.)

New Trail through Auburn Hills (Modock Road to Dryer Road)

Chauncy hasn't talked to the Elder's or the Kinsley's yet regarding access for a new trail. This is to be part of the Challenge Hike.

Parks and Trails New York, Growing the Grassroots Capacity-Building Grant:

Awarded the grant in the amount of \$2,500. The kick-off meeting was in April 2015. We met with the consultant, Ed Flynn of LaBella Associates. The final report was received and the public meeting was held on March 10th at the Town Hall. Presentations have been made to the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Board and the P&R Citizens' Advisory Committee. Dave W made the presentation to the Town Board on May 9th. Need to submit final report PTNY. Chauncy needs to compile the publicity for the grant for the final report. Then will start the implementation. A special meeting was

held on June 9th to discuss updating the website and a new brochure plus revamping the newsletter to match.

- Chauncy is collecting the publicity documentation and will submit the final report so that we can get reimbursed for the last portion.

Equipment

- The Billy Goat repair cost \$318
- He was given permission to purchase a new hedge trimmer, he would like to purchase a 24" Bar hedge trimmer

Misc

- Tomorrow he will put in posts at Yale Court and hopefully next week move the bridge.
- They finished rerouting Lehigh Crossing trail, the Town needs to fix the ramp.
- He would like a 2017 budget line set up for 'after trail maintenance' refreshments
- Domine -Red Trail, nothing has changed, maybe finish in October

Proposed Sewer Line Along the Auburn Trail

Chauncy met with Steve Metzger, Town Engineer, at the RG&E substation to discuss the possible sewer line installation along the Auburn Trail near the Victor Insulators. The desire is to keep it straight along the trail and not reroute it out to Dryer Road to go around the Victor Insulator property. It is a great opportunity for the Village/Town to get the trail to go straight.

LAST HIKE:

The monthly hike was at Conklin Gully. There were five hikers. There was very little water. It was a nice hike up to Angel Falls and we came back down the North Rim Trail. We had lunch at Roots Café afterwards.

OLD BUSINESS:

Farmington – Auburn Trail Connector Project

Still under the engineering design and hope for a bid date this fall, winter at the latest.

- Doing final preparation to submit for the next phase of grant money
- Very close to agreements on the easements

Brochure Revision

A special meeting was held on June 9th to discuss updating the website and a new brochure plus revamping the newsletter to match.

- No progress.
- Need to reorder 1,000 copies of the 2014 version to have on hand for the upcoming events and trail boxes.

Motion by Dave W, to order 1,000 brochures, of the 2014 version, not to exceed \$400, from Messenger Post Newspapers to use for events and the trail boxes, seconded by Chauncy - **Approved**

Website

Jeff showed everyone his progress on the website updates. There are new horizontal menu items.

- Please go to: victorhikingtrails.org/test

Check it out and send him any feedback: Comments, Suggestions and Ideas

He also showed the mobile size on a cell phone. It is setup to take the event info from the Meetup calendar and sync it with the VHT website calendar. His plans are to put it out for a test version for resident's comments once things are stable.

Still need to fill the position of Secretary. Suzy would like to continue doing the Volunteer Coordinator position so we need to fill the spot of Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave passed around the following:

- Backpacker magazine

Social Media Position

Chauncy noted that we need another position just to do social media – it takes a lot of time to post everything on Meetup and Facebook on a timely basis.

- Lisa Roberts said that she would be willing to help post to the social media sites

NEXT HIKE:

September 3rd – special Ring of Fire hike. Meet at 5:30am behind the Town Hall to carpool or meet at the trailhead at 6:30pm on Van Epps Road.

The next monthly hike will be at Hang Around Victor Day on September 10th. This will be a hike around the Village. Meet at the VHT booth at 11:00am.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, September 15, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Pete at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Suzy Paquin

Schedule of 2016 Hikes/Outings:

- September 3rd – Ring of Fire Hike, 5:30pm
- September 10th – *HAVD* - Victor Municipal Park/Trolley/Auburn/Ganondagan, 11am
- October ? – Challenge Hike - TBD
- October 8th – Finger Lakes Trail – Bristol Hills Branch
- November 12th – Valentown to Woodcliff & back w/tour of Valentown Museum
- December 10th – Meet at Lehigh Crossing Park - Lehigh/Auburn/Trolley