

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL
April 21, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Dave Wright, Chauncy Young, Carol MacInnis, Barb Cole and Suzy Paquin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Kolchuk, Dawn Jenkins, Lisa Roberts and Doug Marrett

Meeting called to order by Dave Wright at 7:29p.m.

Introductions were made.

MINUTES of March 17th meeting, **Motion** to approve the minutes by Chauncy, seconded by Carol – **Approved**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barb Cole
Barb passed around the financials for March.
As of 3/31/16:

- ✓ Checking and savings - \$8,226
- ✓ Other assets - \$0
- ✓ Total assets - \$8,226

Barb went over the financials and covered the highlights. Barb also passed around the year end update for 2015.

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

MEMBERSHIP: Pete Ingalsbe - *Absent*
Dave did not receive any new numbers from Pete.

Chauncy reported that we now have 410 members on Meetup.

PUBLICITY & NEWSLETTER: Dave Wright
Dave updated the message line for the hike at Boughton Park on May 14th and sent out a press release. Meet at the Town Hall at 9:00am or at the Boughton Road entrance at 9:20am if you have a pass. The hike will be 2-3 hours and about 4-5 miles.

Dave stated that VHT has been getting a lot of press recently.

National Trails Day

This is our biggest event for the year - Saturday, June 4th, beginning at 8:30am with a Continental Breakfast (bagels, pastries, fruit, yogurt, juice, coffee, milk, tea)

Meet at the new home of the Victor P&R, 7891 Lehigh Crossing, Fishers NY

Hikes will begin at 9am:

- *Hike #1, head north to Fishers Park and traverse the many trails in the park, about 2 miles of hilly trails over boardwalks and bridges, stop at the proposed site of the Nat Fisher Memorial Bridge replacement, about 1 ½ hours.*
- *Hike #2, head east on the Lehigh Trail down to Phillips Road and make a stop at the new Pinnacle Sports Complex for a tour of the facility, then hike on the Auburn Trail back towards Main Street Fishers, cross over the creek and follow the Domine Trail back to the Lehigh and back to the P&R center.*
- *Lunch - Pizza & Drinks*
- *Hike #3, Head west on the Lehigh towards Mendon, view the improvements that the Mendon Foundation has made to the park and then return to the P&R Center. Approximately 4 miles round trip.*

Anyone who does all three hikes, will receive a year's membership.

This hike is now listed on the American Hiking Society's website.

EDUCATION: Ralph Weber - *Absent*

Ralph coordinated an educational hike for Mees Observatory in Bristol. They have regular scheduled tours on Friday and Saturday nights in June, July & August. There is a maximum of 25 people, there is no charge, and we have been penciled in for a night hike and tour. We need to pick a weekend with no moon and hopefully no clouds. Ralph suggested that we have dinner at Brew & Brats in Naples before the tour and a hike in the woods before it gets dark. The tour would be from approx 8-9:30pm. They do not formalize their schedule until March/April, and then we will have a date.

We need to pick a date. Ralph sent the following possible dates: Friday, June 3rd; Friday, July 8th; Friday July 29th; and Friday, August 5th.

After some discussion **Friday, August 5th** was chosen.

The Victor Local Development Corp (VLDC) has chosen VHT to receive their Leader in Tourism Award at the Victor Business Awards luncheon on Thursday, May 5th. We need to take a picture of the officers and send it to Kathy Rayburn.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Wizzy Geno – *Absent*

We are still looking for someone to fill this position.

Dave noted that the EMS store in Pittsford Plaza was having a Spring Club Days Sale. It will be a three-day event on 4/29, 4/30 and 5/1. You get 10% off if you are a club member. We need volunteers to man a table. Dave, Chauncy and Suzy are unavailable.

TRAILMASTER: Carol MacInnis

No Report

Chauncy gave to Carol the contact information for a new loop trail off of Valentown Road near Falcons Point and the Genesee Land Trust Property. Chauncy will work with Carol on this.

Chauncy noted that we need to talk to the owners of the Domine Trail for an additional new loop trail.

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

The equipment is ready for the season.

The first maintenance is on Monday, 5/2. Trail Maintenance will take place on Monday & Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm and on Friday mornings at 7:30am. The first few maintenances will be mostly blazing & pounding stakes and checking for downed trees.

Jeff has the schedule up on the website. The first one will be Fishers Ridge at Willowbrook, the second will be Highpoint/Constellation Brands and the third will be at 100 Acre Woods/Yale Court.

The Blue Toad Cidery will be doing a trail cleanup on the Auburn Trail at 1:00pm on Earth Day, Friday April 22nd. They will provide garbage bags, gloves & grabbers. Then afterwards they will have half price on cider for the volunteers plus pizza later.

We will also be participating in the Village Tree Board's Arbor Day event on Saturday, April 23rd at 9:00am. We will be planting trees.

Chauncy noted that he will be attending a seminar on underground excavation by Dig Safely New York on Friday, April 22nd.

Scout Projects

- Niles Masoon – He wishes to do a short boardwalk and a short bridge near the Apple Farm with the possibility of shorter ramps on the existing bridge.
 - Chauncy will meet with him and his father on Saturday afternoon. The Boardwalk will be 60' long and the bridge will be 10'. Chauncy will sign off on the papers.

- *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.
- *Lori Buggie –Her project is a boardwalk on the yellow trail behind Monroe Muffler off Route 96.*
 - Chauncy met with her and her dad this evening. She will do a 150' Boardwalk on the yellow trail plus some stone/chips just before it.
- *George Heltz - a 40' bridge project at Fishbrook/East Victor. He has a much bigger project and is need of more funds than most. George noted that he has raised \$4,700 so far. His goal is \$6,000. George is seeking additional funding from other organizations. Joe Logan is working on the Fishcreek Bridge design.*
 - Chauncy is meeting with him tomorrow at 3:00pm with Alan Benedict, Town Building Inspector (if available). George's narrative is done.
- *Spencer Kull – Dave contacted him and he has decided to do another project.*

Fisher Memorial Bridge: Update

Chauncy has drawn a sketch, written the narrative and filled out the application for the permit. It has gone to the Building Department and the State for permits. VHT has applied for a grant from the American Hiking Society towards the Nat Fisher Bridge.

- Chauncy is waiting for George to be done – looking at August to complete the project.

LAST HIKE:

We had an educational hike at Ganondagan along with a group tour of the new Seneca Art & Culture Center on March 26th. This was an additional hike. Peter Jemison gave us a tour through the Seneca Art & Culture Center and then led a hike over to Fort Hill. There were 22 hikers and the hike was approximately 4 miles. Peter gave us lots of history along the way.

The monthly hike was on April 9th at MaryFrances Bluebird Haven/Monkey Run Trails. There were 8 hikers. It was a very nice day and very muddy.

OLD BUSINESS:

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 has been 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.

- The Presentation will be made to the Town Board on May 9th under Privilege of the Floor. We encourage all VHT Board Members to attend to show their support.
- After that we will be complete for the grant. Chauncy will gather all the information together and submit it to PTNY. Then we will start implementing the plan. The first things to look at will be updating the website and the brochure. We have approx. 150 brochures left.

Networking Opportunities

Dave noted last month that Chris Parsons is a contact for troop 61. Dave sent him an email.

Dave also sent Advanced Interconnect Manufacturing (AIM) an email saying that we would like to be considered for their employee can collection fund.

American Hiking Society Grant

Dave sent in the application for the Grant by February 19th. If received, we would use the funds for the Fishers Park Bridge.

- Notification will be in May.

National Trails Day

We have received the kits and shirts. Dave has talked to Pinnacle about a visit and they were enthusiastic about it. We need to give them an approx count a day or two before the hike.

Farmington – Auburn Trail Connector Project

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

- Nothing new

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave passed around the following:

- Backpacker magazine – April & May
- Finger Lakes Trail Quarterly Newsletter
- Daily Messenger article on the Arbor Day tree planting event

Last Saturday Dave went with Bob Lasher to Letchworth looking at ash trees for the emerald ash borer. They hiked 6 miles and all the trees they saw looked healthy.

The lower section of the Eagle Trail at Fort Hill has been rerouted higher to be more dry and it has been blazed blue.

Dave said there is a steep section in Dryer Road Park that could be rerouted also. We need to go and take a look with GROC to see what could be done.

NEXT HIKE:

The next monthly hike is on May 14th at Boughton Park, meet behind the Town Hall at 9:00am or at the Boughton Road entrance at 9:20am if you have a pass.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, May 19, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Dave at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Suzy Paquin

Schedule of 2016 Hikes/Outings:

- April 23rd – Arbor Day Celebration w/Village Tree Board (giving away pine trees)
- May 14th – Boughton Park
- June 4th – National Trails Day – P&R, 7891 Lehigh Crossing
- August 5th – Mees Observatory, Educational tour & hike
- June 11th – Mendon Ponds Hike / ADK Expo, 10am
- July 9th – Bike Ride – TBD
- July ? – Boughton Park Hike w/Genesee Land Trust
- August 13th – Conklin Gully
- September 3rd – Ring of Fire Hike
- September 10th – *HAVD* - Victor Municipal Park/Trolley/Auburn/Ganondagan, 11am
- September 25th – Challenge Hike - TBD
- October 8th – Finger Lakes Trail – Bristol Hills Branch
- November 12th – Valentown to Woodcliff & back
- December 10th – Meet at Lehigh Crossing Park - Lehigh/Auburn/Trolley