

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL
September 15, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Jeff Hennick, Chauncy Young, and Suzy Paquin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bonnie Wolff

Meeting called to order by Jeff Hennick at 7:31pm.

Bonnie Wolff would like to make a donation in her husband's name. He had passed away at the end of December. He loved to hike around the trails and they would often participate at National Trails Day. She had mentioned this to Chauncy at HAVD and asked him for ideas on what to do. She would like to have a plaque.

Chauncy suggested at Lehigh Crossing Park there is a nice spot that observes the beaver pond where you could put a small boardwalk to a platform for a small observation deck and we could attach a plaque to that.

Bonnie liked that idea. She wrote a check for \$300 and wrote down her contact information and what she would like on the plaque. Chauncy asked her if it was ok to wait until spring to do the work. We will need permits from the Town and also the DEC. She was ok with that and asked to be notified when the work was done.

Chauncy noted that he would send her a picture of the design and also arrange a time to take a walk over to the site, probably in June.

MINUTES of August 18th meeting, **Motion** to approve the minutes by Chauncy, seconded by Jeff – **Approved**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barb Cole - *Absent*
Chauncy passed around the financials for August.
As of 8/31/16:

- ✓ Checking and savings - \$9,380
- ✓ Other assets - \$0
- ✓ Total assets - \$9,380

Chauncy reviewed the statements.

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

MEMBERSHIP: Pete Ingalsbe -*Absent*

Jeff noted that according to the website we are at 262 with 49 due to renew.

Chauncy reported that we now have 491 members on Meetup.

PUBLICITY & NEWSLETTER: Dave Wright - *Absent*

Dave has not done a press release for the next hike yet.

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

EDUCATION: Ralph Weber - *Absent*

It was noted that Ralph has set up a tour of the Valentown Museum at the November hike which is from Valentown to Woodcliff and back. It will be for an hour and cost \$4/per person.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Suzy Paquin

Twisted Branch Trail Run – August 20th: We had 13 volunteers signed up to man an aide station. We prepared grilled cheese sandwiches, cooked bacon, cut up fruit, poured water or a special drink mix, and had volunteers on the route directing the runners. We were done by 9:30/10:00 AM. It was a good morning and the volunteers went out for breakfast afterwards in Naples.

Family Fun Festival – August 27th: This was at the Farmington Town Hall Park from 11am to 6pm. Dave W was the only one to sign up. He was there the whole day. It was a good turnout for a first time event. The weather was great and Dave said he got to see a few former neighbors of his.

Hang Around Victor Day – September 10th: We had 11 people signed up. It was a good day, no rain. We had 5 hikers for the hike around town.

Kettlefest – September 17th: So far we have four people signed up for this weekend, Chauncy, Jeff, Suzy & Lisa. The event is from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. They will have chicken races and music and many vendors.

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.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

It will be either October 19th or 26th, which are both Wednesdays. Suzy will check with Finn's Tap Room to see if both dates are available and then send out an email.

TRAILMASTER: Carol MacInnes - *Absent*
No Report

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

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

Chauncy has talked to the Elder's and they have ok'd a proposed trail across the west edge of their property off of Cork Road. Brian Emelson and Chauncy will be meeting with the Kingsley's on Monday, 9/19, to look at a trail across their property on Dryer Road near the Dryer Road Park entrance.

Scout Projects

- Nyle Masoom – *His project was 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
 - Chauncy has sent him an email. He had attended our meeting in July. He owes VHT some money. Chauncy will not be signing off on his project.

- 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 and we have received \$430 so far
 - A bank account has been opened and is accepting donations
 - We need to send out an email blast to all our members with the link as the GoFundMe account was set up as 'by invitation only'
 - The project may get been pushed back until spring if enough money is not raised soon

Mural

The mural is close to being finished. Emily has been working on finishing touches to the landscape. Chauncy posted some pictures on Facebook. A border will be done around the whole mural and a coating to protect the work.

Proposed East Victor Road Subdivision

They have started earth moving and the trail has been closed temporarily. This needs to be posted to the website.

Challenge Hike

If all goes well with the Kingsley's and a trail is blazed through the Auburn Hills subdivision, we should be able to do the Challenge Hike as proposed. We are looking at late October or early November.

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.

- The letter was received back from the Army Corp of Engineers (ACE).
- The material is being delivered tomorrow for the foundations.
- It is expected to work on the west bank and take down the west part of the existing bridge this weekend.

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

We need to submit final report PTNY. Chauncy compiling the publicity for the grant for the final report. Then will start the implementation.

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

Equipment

- The same Billy Goat needed more repair and the total cost of both repairs will be about \$600
- He purchased a new helmet (like Jeff's) with ear protection and face guard
- He has not bought a new hedge trimmer yet, probably postpone until next year

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.

- Nothing new to update

LAST HIKE:

We had a special Ring of Fire Hike on September 3rd. We had 18 people. It was a nice night with lots of stars.

The monthly hike was at Hang Around Victor Day on September 10th. There were five hikers. We had a nice hike around the town.

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
- Nothing new

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. Reordered 1,000 copies of the 2014 version to have some on hand.

- Received invoice for brochures, \$220, will give to Barb for payment.

Website

Jeff is continuing to work on updating the website. He has been updating the trail descriptions as he goes along.

- Please go to: victorhikingtrails.org/test

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

Dave suggested taking out the photo at the masthead. Jeff will see about putting a photo on the home page only.

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. It was suggested to post the position on Meetup. We could also post it on Facebook.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jeff passed around the following:

- Backpacker magazine
- Trailworks - Twilights

Ganondagan

Chauncy noted that he met with Carter, maintenance person, at Ganondagan and took a tour. Past the long house they have added a new trail that goes along Route 444, behind the homes, down to the parking lot. It was established to be able to get their mowing equipment down to the other end without driving it along Route 444.

They also discussed another trail near Fort Hill along the blue trail. Also they discussed possibly replacing the bridge from Route 444 to the Apple Farm. It was a productive hour and a half.

NEXT HIKE:

The next monthly hike will be on the Finger Lakes Trail, Bristol Hills Branch, on October 8th. David Coleman will be leading the hike.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Suzy at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by Suzy Paquin

Schedule of 2016 Hikes/Outings:

- October 8th – Finger Lakes Trail – Bristol Hills Branch
- November 12th – Valentown to Woodcliff & back w/tour of Valentown Museum
- November ? – Challenge Hike - TBD
- December 10th – Meet at Lehigh Crossing Park - Lehigh/Auburn/Trolley