

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS

VICTOR TOWN HALL

MAY 16, 2024

PARTICIPANTS: Dave Wright; Scott Reinhart; Chauncy Young; Lisa Roberts; Barb Starr; Karen Junker (remote)

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Lisa

Discussion was facilitated by Lisa

MINUTES: **MOTION** by Lisa to approve April minutes; seconded by Scott; motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth Rugaber

Bank balances:

Checking: \$15,222.25	Donation Boxes \$ 5.00 Maple Ave.
Savings \$ 1,024.99	\$22.00 Old Dutch
PayPal \$0.00	\$ 0.00 Fishers
Total \$ 16,247.24	

Notable Donations:

\$1000 Chauncy Young

MOTION to approve Treasurer's Report by Dave, Seconded by Chauncy, motion carried

Other Notes:

- Discussion about investing in CDs to take advantage of higher interest rates, would add to income. Could stagger (ladder) a few so mature at different times so available if needed quickly. Chauncy will check with Ruth about setting up Suggestion to set aside \$10,000 to earn interest.
 - **MOTION:** Dave made a motion to authorize Chauncy to put up to \$10,000 in Certificate of Deposit, short term high yield account. Seconded by Lisa, motion approved
- Suggestion to work on a list to determine approximately when various trail maintenance equipment may need replacement to insure that money has been set aside to meet those needs in a timely fashion.

- This month a few dollars only in donation boxes. Contacting persons using trails directly in person seems more effective and worth the time invested

MEMBERSHIP: Larry Fisher

- 5 new paid members
- 67 due to renew
- 2 overdue
- 208 paid members

Larry not available for this meeting to clarify these numbers. He is working on documentation of process for membership levels listed on website. New membership levels are:

\$20 Trail Explorer \$100 Trail Blazer \$250 Trail Builder

\$500 Trail Benefactor \$1000 Lifetime Membership

Elevator speech: Your membership dollars help fund the creation, improvement, and maintenance of our 70+ mile system of trails, bridges, boardwalks, benches and signs, providing a wide variety of outdoor recreational and educational opportunities for Victor and the surrounding communities.

Larry will send all new members an email with copy of most recent newsletter and info on trail work dates and times

From the Membership sub-committee recommendations:

- A business card mock-up was shared with board members. Suggestion to add zip code. To be handed out at events, when speaking **one-on-one** with people interested in VHT, as a possible volunteer, donor, or member. QR on card is link to membership/donate on VHT website
- New paper membership form (streamlined), to have at events for new members to complete during events. Dave will print out 20 copies for use at National Trails Day
- Potential members can also use their phones to access VHT website and join through form on donor page

MOTION: by Lisa to purchase enough business cards to qualify for free shipping, up to \$120.

Seconded by Chauncy. Motion approved

Revamping website

- Recommend consolidating and streamlining web pages, archiving some historical info
- Status on work with Mike Rice technical writer
 - Dave will contact Mike to clarify expectations for what zoom call with Mike and individual board members will accomplish

PUBLICITY, NEWSLETTER & NEXT MONTHLY HIKE: Dave Wright

Events:

June 1-National Trails Day at Victor Parks & Rec

3 Hikes planned: Morning Short Family Beginning Bird Walk (Barb); Medium faster walk through parts of Fishers (Dave); Quicker, more demanding walk (Chauncy) Afternoon walk from P&R to Lehigh talk about Lehigh Crossing Park as a special project of VHT.

June 7- Canandaigua Botanical Society 150th year celebration at Onanda Park

- VHT will have table at event

June 8- Mendon Ponds with ADK Expo

July 13 - Naples Trails monthly hike

Action: Add to Meet up June 7 Botanical Society Event at Onanda Park VHT (3-8 pm) VHT will have a table for VHT; June 8 ADK Expo at Mendon Ponds VHT will do a hike

Next newsletter submission is due by June 14

- Need to include new membership fees

Phone message has been updated for NTD; Dave has also left number so an urgent message can be texted to Dave

Last monthly hike: Mertensia Park: Chauncy led 11 people, most hiked 2.5 miles, 2 continued for 6 miles

Next monthly hike at NTD event

EDUCATION: Jeff Miller

Last Month (**April**): Invasive species in Naples Poor attendance due to inclement weather

May: Sunday, May 26 bird watching at Washington Grove with Liz M.

June: Muller Field Station; Gude Alli Esposito

July: Geology and Historic Iron Mining Casey Park, Ontario, NY

August: Lake Front Tour (Canandaigua City Peer and area) Ontario County Historical Society

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Lisa and Chauncy filling in since resignation of Paul **Knerr**.

Chauncy working on Volunteer Coordinator

Discussion: should name be changed to Special Event Coordinator

Action: will give more thought to position, who might be known to have the skills and personality; possibly someone who routinely joins Library Walkers. Reach out to some of the people who are active rather than just announce an opening exists.

TRAILMASTER Scott Rheinhart

- Silverton Glenn-Met with 2 reps from HOA (5/7). HOA looking for **safer** and more convenient pedestrian & biking to access to Village of Victor. They will approach Village of Victor. Also will talk to their HOA about the benefits of being members of VHT but rep says they have no money; explanation to rep that it could be a special arrangement with VHT, but individual members of HOA would still be paying for the membership.. Concern expressed for speed limit but little positive response from state that would need to be involved in any speed change above village limit.
- VHT HOF 2024 Inductees - 3 new inductees have been selected. Dave will notify inductees/family; Also Friend of VHT is Jack Marron will attend NTD June 1. Names to be announced on June 1; Formal induction at fall dinner.
- Home for the VHT HOF-Intersection of Maple and Auburn. Dave has proposed individualized paving stones. Possible east of cement pad right along side of trail. Possible few lights at the site. Process: 1. Create design/plan 2. Input from Brian 3. Submit to Village for approval. 4. Purchase & installation
- Future Trails- Met with Brian to review and improve the map of current/future trails. The results have been resubmitted to Labella. Once the map is completed, it will be given to the Town (Planning Board) as a reference for future development. Not ready to move forward to look for easements, should wait for developers to start process of looking for easement for trails, but don't always have the information to start process early enough.
- Reimagine Victor Update: **Some frustration over the Village's lack of support for the establishment of a Main St. LLC.**

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

- Billy Goat has arrived and has been used. Chauncy gave detailed description of function and comparison with Old Billy Goat.
- **MOTION:** Dave made motion that old Billy Goat (1997) now replaced with new brush hog be donated to TrailsRoc. Seconded by Chauncy, motion passed.
- 2 old chainsaws that were given to VHT currently not working. Old Echo chainsaw, 2007, currently getting things done.
- Time for VHT to determine what manufacturer should be used to standardize battery powered equipment
- Leaf blower and string trimmer (2020 & 2023) not needing replacement now, unless there is desire to replace gas power for battery powered
- Hedge Trimmers (2014 & 2017) should also look at new battery operated replacement

- Trailer: 2003 still working and passed inspection, but difficult to get into storage unit. Might consider new enclosed 6x12 single axle trailer. Could be stored outdoors with tools in the vehicle
- Tent: New top and bag for old tent arrived this week. Will schedule a time to get replaced before NTD
- Apple Farm Flooding: Scout Logan getting paper work done. Probably July start. Also scouted out temporary trail and bridge location-while waiting for scout project and response from owner of Apple Farm.
- Maintenance for May is scheduled. May move Monday time back to afternoon or evening-having less response from volunteers for early morning time.
- **Discussion**-should wood trail sign posts be changed to metal, **Action:** due to considerably higher cost in particular, posts will remain wood, that Chauncy can supply cutting up available wood.

NEW BUSINESS:

New grants available from USDOT & T-Mobile geared to help small towns across America thrive and grow; Lisa will send email with info to Scott to bring to Victor HUB - VHT has some ideas but need a grant writer

New hikes:

- Possible August 2, 1-3pm LSI Dave will recheck if there will be some sort of sponsorship for VHT in return to providing hike
- August 31 Ring of Fire-Bare Hill
- August 10 Chimney Bluffs hike with Chauncy
- September 14 Home Town Days & Climb Aboard Victor
 - VHT will have table and lead walk

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Starr