

**VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
VICTOR TOWN HALL
JANUARY 16, 2025
ANNUAL MEETING**

Participants: Lisa Robert; Scott Reinhart; Dave Wright; Larry Fisher; Nancy Fisher; Tanner Ritz; Chauncy Young; Ruth Rugaber; Barb Starr

Prior to regular agenda, Lisa thanked all board members for a year in which much progress was made, many goals set for 2024 were achieved or moved forward. All members thanked Lisa for her leadership in 2024 as Chair of VHT.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order for regular agenda by Lisa at 12:20 pm

MOTION to approve the December 2024 minutes made by Dave, seconded by Chauncy, motion approved

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth Rugaber

Bank balances:

Checking \$ 8,651.23

CDs \$10,105.61

Savings \$1,025.15

PayPal \$0.00

Total: \$19,781.99

Bills paid:

Credit card: \$408.68 - Storage Unit, Postage, Candy Canes, Equipment repair parts, Trailer Registration

Notable Donations:

\$2200 Victor Turkey Trot

\$1000 3 donors

\$300 1 donor

\$250 1 donor

\$125 1 donor

\$100 5 donors

Donation Boxes: no donations in Dec.

Misc. Donations: \$41 Jingle Mingle, \$87 Neck Gaiters

Frank Caroll Donations – suggestion for use of funds

Frank was member of Fishers Fire Department for 30 years. He designated VHT as where to donate after he passed.

A water fountain is planned outside the Fishers Fire Dept department. VHT will contribute to the installation of the water fountain

NEW BUSINESS:

- Thank you gifts for large donors and/or land owners, decide on level that defines 'large donor'
 - Discussion of how to thank donors.
 - Send thank you card for any donation \$250 and above (also required of nonprofits by law) before Jan 30, 2025 to these donors as well as to town officials
 - All renewals continue to get a thank you email

MOTION by Lisa to make up cards with 2024 donor's name and town officials to be delivered before January 30 for donors from 2024; seconded by Larry, motion approved

- Monroe County Winterfest participation-will not participate this year
- Discussion about purchase of electric chain saw, batteries, weight, hours batteries last, company to purchase from
Larry willing to loan his chain saw for trial. Both he and Todd Beverly very satisfied with their own battery powered chainsaws, large enough to handle typical trail work

MOTION by Chauncy to purchase one electric chainsaw plus 2 batteries not to exceed \$1,000.00. Seconded by Lisa, motion approved.

- Need to purchase 2nd Billy Goat. Still available at \$5,000, purchase price for Billy Goat bought early 2024.
- Old equipment needs frequent repairs, may find new home for them or dispose of **MOTION** by Chauncy to purchase 2nd Billy Goat, same machine, for \$5,000.00. Motion seconded by Lisa. Motion approved.

Chauncy will proceed with purchasing Billy Goat

- Budget will be reviewed at February meeting.
Discussion of how to renew current Certificates of Deposit. Suggestion made to collapse Savings Acct into CDs. Savings get minimal interest. Need to build reserves, not spend all of income every year

MOTION by Dave to purchase 4 CDs, which would include money from savings account: # 1CD & #2CD at \$3,000.00 each; #3 at \$4,000.00 and #4 at \$4,000.00 seconded by Ruth, motion carried. Chauncy will make the changes.

- Review of 2025 priorities – may need sub-committees to move forward
- Set new goals for 2025, keep on agenda each month
- Discussion of several possible goals. 4 achievable and measurable goals were set for 2025

Goal #1: ID property for site of new storage shed

There are some options for property where shed could be built. Chances of getting a grant for cost of building shed improve if VHT has a property confirmed.

Find land where can build new shed for VHT trail equipment

1. Discussion: RG&E said no to use of property by Fishers FD. Original agreement that gave permission for building has expired. Should approach Town of Victor to pursue 2. Have offer of pad on Rawson Rd, but proposed development has not yet begun 3. Possibility of site on Brace Rd. across from Serenity House owned by Town of Victor.

Action: Form subcommittee to rate and pursue property for use. Members of subcommittee: Dave, Chauncy, Tanner, Scott and, Bruce (Fisher)

Goal #2: Create a Destination Trail e.g. Create a unique user experience on a trail e.g. Geocache on Helen's Way Trail (Lisa, Nancy, Scott)

Goal #3: Complete 3 improvement projects

1. Clear brush near the spring in Fisher's Park (Larry and work party)
2. Possible rerouting portion of Monkey Run or hill on Auburn on portion between Maple Ave and Rowland St.

Goal # 4. Update by-laws.

OLD BUSINESS

Public input meeting on connectivity went well, survey active through January 19th. Results will be shared with Parks and Rec, VHT for publication

New trail signs in process, Brian Emelson

By-law sub-committee meeting in February (Lisa and Scott)

Community Engagement Director position vacant

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

Beaver Bridge repaired, lots of downed tree removals

TRAIL BLAZER: Scott Reinhart

Scott will follow up with possible corporate sponsorships and with students from Simon Vision

Consultants to see if they have written plan for VHT

PUBLICITY: Dave Wright

Sample Annual Report for local government & others

Hike Participation

◦ Jan 1, 2025 10 attendees; (divided into slower and faster group at halfway point) ◦

Jan 11 Ganondagan 7 attendees

◦ Dec Education event

◦ Trail Counter Data

2 new counters will be installed. Counters will be located:

2 on Auburn Trail; 2 on Seneca Trail, North and South; 2 on Lehigh Trail

Also now have access to the information from Boughton Park counters*

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	A pr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT	ADTx36 5	Day
2024	Auburn & Seneca Junction near stairs	773	1,649	2,064	2,324	3,749	7	7	3,114	2,954	6	3	775	0	28,105	366
	Auburn at Fishers Fire Hall	1,458	2,187	2,686	2,939	3,977	4	7	6,241	4,135	6	5	1,660	64	41,345	366
	Proximity Auburn & Seneca Junction near stairs	2,265	3,712	4,276	4,743	6,800	9	7	6,024	5,788	1	7	1,970	72	59,062	366
2025	Auburn at Fishers Fire Hall	0												0.000	0	1
	Lehigh Crossing Park Parking Lot	1,191												38.42	14,026	14
	Proximity	1,496												9	17,611	12
	Proximity	1,851												48.25	21,796	14

Saturday February 8, 2025 9 am Boughton Park at Boughton Rd Saturday March 8, 2025 9 am
Mendon Ponds at Hundred Acre Pond Parking lot Saturday April 12, 2025 9 am Powder Mills
Park meet at Fish Hatchery

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL EVENTS: Jeff Miller

Sunday January 26 2 pm at Communication Technologies Museum

Sunday February 23 Wizard of Clay

Saturday March 15 Hoffman Clock Museum

Sunday April 27 Rush Oak Openings

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Starr, Secretary