

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
VICTOR MUNICIPAL PARK

MARCH 21, 2024

PARTICIPANTS: Dave Wright, Lisa Roberts, Chauncy Young, Larry Fisher, Barb Starr, Ruth Rugaber, Scott Reinhart (remote), Jeff Miller (remote), Karen Junker (remote), Beverly Whalen (guest)

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Dave

Discussion was facilitated by Lisa

MINUTES: **MOTION:** Lisa made a motion to approve the February minutes, Chauncy seconded, approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth Rugaber

Bank balances:

Checking \$18,627.73

Savings \$1,024.91

PayPal \$0.00

Total \$19,652.64

There are 24 neck gaiters left. Donations in boxes up: Fishers Main St. \$25; \$26 Old Dutch; & \$7 Maple Ave

MOTION: Larry made motion to approve Treasurer's Report, Dave seconded, motion passed

MEMBERSHIP: Larry Fisher

- The database indicates 289 members compared to 286 last month.

Of the 289, just 170 are paid up members as of 3/19/24.

That means 119 are overdue on dues payment.

Of these 119 there are 81 that are a year or more overdue

Another 16 are Lifetime members.

- Larry is unaware of a designated cut off time for dropping members.

Is it a year? Once a cutoff time is decided upon, Larry will mark these members as dropped. Lengthy discussion of how to revise program to more accurately determine active vs members overdue for annual dues. Larry will discuss with Jeff Henick how best to do this since the program was set up by Jeff. Larry feels it would not be helpful to have entire process of keeping membership up to date totally automatic. Need clear cut-off date for members who have not paid their annual dues.

MOTION: Dave made motion that Membership should drop from the active list members whose membership renewal is 1 year overdue . Seconded by Chauncy, motion approved.

Should be added to by-laws.

If member is paying monthly, annual date will be one year from last paid renewal. May need subcommittee to determine which members should be removed from active list to archive. After first pass, should not be so cumbersome.

- Membership form being revised. Has too much information. Needs to be as simple as possible for member to use.
- Possible business card proposed to hand to persons who express an interest in joining VHT with logo and address to find form for joining. Might be fashioned after an old one that Dave has. Chauncy will mock one up.
- Paypal is a convenient way to pay dues, but part of that amount goes to paypal and not VHT. A few are paying \$5 per month, through paypal.
- Will plan to do a survey of members for questions like why they joined what benefits mean the most to them.

PUBLICITY & NEWSLETTER: Dave Wright

Hike for March took place 3/9/24 at Fishers Park with 6 hikers joining.

Next monthly hike is 4/13/24 at 9 am. Meet at 7000 County Rd 41 in main parking lot for Ganondagan State Historic Park

Next Newsletter will be the summer issue to be released 6/21/24. Submissions are welcome and need to be submitted by 6/14/24.

EDUCATION: Jeff Miller, remote

March 2024

Sunday 3/24/24

Oxbow and Hart's Woods (Perinton)

Bill Poray - Perinton Town Historian 20 people signed up

April 2024

Saturday 4/27/24 Invasive Species (Naples)

Bruce Gilman

May 2024

Sunday 5/26/24

Bird Watching Liz Maganti

Washington Grove Park (Cobb's Hill old growth forest)

Sunday 2/18/24

Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society

There were 15 participants

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Paul Knerr, absent

Paul will not participate for next 8-12 weeks

Need to add Volunteer Coordinator as position in the by-laws-By-Law Committee will review

Upcoming Events:

- Arbor Day Tree Planting at Harlan Fisher Park April 20, 10 AM hosted by Parks & Rec and Victor Tree Board (Lisa)
- April 21 9:00 AM Cleanup at Seneca Trail (TJ Max). Lisa will lead
- June 1 National Trails Day at Victor P&R - Dave will put notice out for help in planning for Trails Day. Will check if GROC would participate for bike ride

TRAIL MASTER Scott Reinhart

- Silverton Glenn - Reached out to HOA president, asked if they would be interested in discussing a relationship with VHT. The president of the HOA, Bill Rhinehart, responded that they would be interested in a relationship with VHT and would meet after March. New group levels of membership? What would membership for an entire HOA look like? Scott will work on the package.
- VHT Hall of Fame - Nomination forms will be sent to existing members of the HOF. Nomination process: In 2023, the nominations were due May 16th, Scott would like to move that date to May 1st. With nomination forms going out to current HOF membership in April. Inductee(s) announced on National Trails Day; Formal induction at Fall dinner; Any thoughts on a home for the HOF? Discussion of potential cost, where to locate, could be a specific fundraiser for specific year. Corner of Maple and Auburn trail near RR tracks, have kiosk with cement pad
DECISION-the tentative physical location of the VHT HOF is the Auburn Trail, east side of Maple Ave
NEXT STEPS - Scott will contact the village to request permission to utilize the area
- Friend to VHT - Discuss; Nominate: Jack Marron agreed upon by board
- National Trails Day 2025 - Fundraising event?

DECISION-National Trails Day (2025) will not be used as a fundraiser, but a separate TBD date in the fall of 2025 will be designated a VHT fundraiser event.

- Prospective Trail Map - Wes Pettee (Town engineer) have not heard back about map-Dave will check
- Reimagine Victor Update

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young

- Quit claim property ??
- Helen's Way property looking for help with invasives around the pond; DEC has checked; looking for grants to assist
- Regular work parties for trail maintenance will be Monday and Friday mornings beginning at 8 am and lasting 3-4 hours followed by a visit to a local cafe. Will be announced on Meetup
- Ready to order Billy Goat, takes about 2 weeks for order to be delivered
- VHT member Ann Wright is exploring other grants that might be used for a building to permanently house VHT trail equipment.
- Tools and other items need to be organized at the current rented storage site. Trailer plus all equipment for trail maintenance is covered but some items are difficult to retrieve and more shelving needed. Discussion about what type of shelving to purchase. Some thoughts of looking for second hand or donations from members through Facebook, or MarketPlace or Meetup.

MOTION: Dave moved that Chauncy be approved to purchase shelving at a cost up to \$500 for the storage shed. Motion seconded by Lisa, motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Additional discussion about fund raising. Perhaps should focus on specific goals for fundraising each year, e.g. Billy Goat funds were raised in 1 month. Members want specifics. However, it was also pointed out that we don't have the funding to do many of the things that would move VHT forward.
- By-laws committee. Consideration of a position of Development Chair who would do fund related work with businesses, plan fundraising events. Had one many years ago with most successful Trails Day celebration in funds raised. Unfortunately, that volunteer moved out of the area. Chauncy will work on a job description and then it can be posted as a position.
- Photos passed around members present from Larry. They are digital and will be printed on glossy paper and placed in Kiosks that have a back side with glass covered protection from weather. Are not vandal proof but able to replace inexpensively, to give it a try.
- A new development at 7200 Rawson (Jeff Morell Blue Stone) is moving forward. They will need to put in a pump station and cement pad. Has been offered as a place for a building for VHT equipment. Has met with Conservation Board.

- Lehigh Crossing Park, 3 work parties so far this year, continue to work on Phragmites removal and clearing area to plant shrubs coming in April.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Should form a subcommittee for updating VHT website.
- Lunar Eclipse-no plans for VHT
- Paypal is now tax free. Chauncy has submitted a grant to PayPal to use the service for no charge for 2 years. No response so far.
- Some discussion of items to sell at Trails Day, probably not. May sell rest of Gators. Will try to engage more members or to participate in planning for Trails Day.

NEXT MONTHLY HIKE

2024 VHT MONTHLY HIKES & EVENTS

- March – Fishers Park
- April - Ganondagan
- May-Mertensia Park
- June 1- National Trails Day
- June 8 -ADK Outdoor Expo
- July 13 - Naples Trails by the creek

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Starr