

Virginia Creeper Trail Club Meeting  
June 25, 2014  
Washington County Public Library

Present: Carolyn Barry, Charles Barry, Jane Caldwell, Myrl Dunham, Gerry Henninger, Bob Horsch, Bill Lawson, Sandy Lawson, Bunny Medeiros, Wayne Miller, Lisa Quigley, Sara Schell, Anna Sherrill, Jack Sklepowicz, Debbie Stern, Jeff VanCleaf, Lynda Warner

Guests: Kitty Henninger, Cathy Reynolds, Wayne Reynolds

VCTC President Wayne Miller called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**President's Report—Wayne Miller**

- Wayne welcomed our new lifetime member, Linda Warner.
- A proactive VDOT is reaching out to the VCTC regarding safety at SR 58/19 crossing. A representative will present a plan at the next VCTC meeting in August to remedy the VCT crossing safety issue.
- An article and picture of Lawrence "the Legend" Dye is in the latest Blue Ridge Magazine.
- Lawrence "the Legend" Dye has ridden over 181,800+ miles on the VCT.
- The June 12th Harvest Table restaurant event was well attended. The Club raised \$102 in merchandise sales and new memberships. The Harvest Table will share 10% of their dinner proceeds with the VCTC as part of their give-back-to-the-community endeavors.
- The use of electric assist bicycles on the VCT will be discussed at the next VCT Advisory Board meeting of July 9th.
- Wayne continually fields inquiries from various organizations on how to initiate and establish a successful trail such as the VCT. The latest inquiries were received from Brevard, North Carolina and the Adirondacks in New York.

**Treasure's Report—Gerry Henninger**

- The latest financial statements were emailed to the board members.
- The balance remains healthy with few financial transactions over the preceding month. We remain challenged for good sources of income.
- A big thanks to Lisa Quigley and Chris Lindeman for the in-depth and comprehensive merchandise inventory and worksheet. A step for the future is to consolidate the merchandise inventory in a single location; perhaps the Finley House once it is available as our Clubhouse.

**Construction—**

Four new memorial benches have been built. As agreed with the Town Of Abingdon, two benches will be installed near the pavilion at Alvarado Station.

**Events—**

- The next event is Ride with the Legend. It begins at 8:00AM on August 2nd at the trail head in Abingdon.
- Green Cove Station will celebrate its 100th Birthday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**State of the Trail—Lawrence "the Legend" Dye**

- The loose gravel and the grade at the south approach to/from Trestle #7 remains a challenge.
- Recently on a rain soaked and slick Trestle #10, a gentleman lost control of his bicycle and broke his hip. Trestles can be very slick when wet and riders must be careful.

**USFS—Sara Schell**

- Green Cove Station will celebrate its 100th birthday on August 3rd, 2:00PM to 4:00PM. Look for advertising to commence in local media.
- Review of the proposals to replace Trestle #35 and Trestle #36 is continuing.
- Three USFS bike patrollers (Doug, Bobby, Susan) provide coverage at least five days per week assisting trail users in need.

**Misc—**

- Myrl Dunham suggested that more signage be installed to assist riders in understanding their location on the VCT. Some folks have a hard time understanding the mile markers and other location signage. This will be discussed at the next VCT Advisory Board meeting.

**Town of Abingdon—**

- The gate on the south side of the driveway to the Smith farm near Trestle #7 needs repair. It is very difficult to open, unlike the gate on the north side of the driveway. This will be discussed at the next VCT Advisory Board meeting.

**Program – Dr. Wayne Reynolds presentation: "Obesity As Seen From Outer Space"**

Attendees were asked to time travel along with Dr. Reynolds as he presented an enlightening pictorial presentation regarding the ever challenging problem of obesity, especially in America. His random photographs encompassing the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, and today provided a reflection of how the obesity problem has evolved. He noted many societal and technological changes that contribute to the problem. A few world comparison graphs and related health and economic data rounded out his presentation (no pun intended). Dr. Reynolds agrees that obesity is the greatest threat to healthcare and the economy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff VanCleaf, VCTC secretary