

MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF LAPHAM PEAK SNOWMAKING COMMITTEE

February 28th, 2017 Tuesday - at Delafield Public Library Program Room

Members Present:

Anne Riendl, Joanne Ziarek, Charlie Ritter, Joe Stuber, John McCarthy, Jim Bostrom, Rich Marusinec, Karl Timm, Theresa McDonald

Advisor Present: Brett Johanan

Correction to 2017.2.14 Minutes:

Charlie learned that Aurora Hospital gave \$10,000 to the Noquemenon as a "life health benefit" should read Charlie learned that UP Health System gave \$10,000 to the Noquemenon as a "life health benefit". 2017.2.14 minutes were accepted with this change.

Items discussed:

Donation tube improvement: Location was briefly discussed with a suggestion to move nearer the trail. A daily contribution suggestion of \$5 was discussed. More discussion is needed on this. A proposal to hand out the most recent Snowmaking Brochure to anyone who purchases a state park sticker or trail pass was suggested. Brett agreed this could be done by park personnel with the only restriction being that personnel could not directly ask for donations. We need to be sure the office is stocked with enough brochures.

January/February Treasurers Report was reviewed: Upon review it was noted the need to obtain an **annual snowcat maintenance cost**. John McCarthy noted it will take some work to go through past treasurers reports to obtain this average. Proper snowcat maintenance was stressed. Snowcat maintenance has been paid for by The Friends of Lapham Peak – Snowmaking. (per emails after this meeting). Brett explained that past funding from the state is no longer available- the DNR has funded some repairs of the snowcat up until about 3 years ago. The Friends of Lapham Peak have funded the repair/maintenance costs associated with the snowcat for approximately the last 3 years.

The group expressed its appreciation for HD Supply for helping keep costs as low as possible when the **leaking underground valve was repaired** in early January 2017.

Snowmaking funds at end of February are approximately **\$72,000**.

WE Energies: Questions from last meetings meter discussion were answered by Brett. There are a few meters throughout the park. The Friends pays the bill on the meter on the snowmaking power circuits, and during the snowmaking season only. The state and SummerStage pay for the electricity going through that meter other times of the year. John is currently sorting out the data to come up with an annual average for WE Energies costs paid by Snowmaking. On a side note, all the trail lights themselves are very low cost to operate. Less than \$1 per hour by some calculations of an estimate.

Record Keeping of Donations:

Anne stated that in the past, individuals who donated money did not get personal credit when they donated for a memorial, as the concern was the money could mistakenly be counted twice. As of

March 2016 we are switching over to give personal credit to those who donated for a memorial. This will give those donors credit towards their total dollar amount donated. There were no objections by anyone. The new arrangement begins with the Paul Sandgren Memorial donations.

Bike Swap: Theresa presented her work on publicizing the Bike Swap Event. She has done a lot of work on social media sites promoting this event. The social media apps Theresa posted to include Facebook, Twitter, Google, Pinterest, Linked In, and Instagram, which covers just about all the major ones. The website has been updated to where vendors can now pay online using Paypal. We are having a speaker for the first time- Bob Perkins from Oconomowoc Walk + Bike. Delafield Wheel and Sprocket and Bike Dr. will likely both bring bikes for sale and will donate a percentage of sales.

Brett Johansen report:

Brett reviewed the last meetings minutes and clarified a couple issues. While he personally supported the **fat tire bikes** on the manmade snow, state statutes are clear and do not provide an exception for special events. Bikes are allowed west of Highway C only. However other events such as **snowshoeing or skijoring** would be welcome on assuming the weather cooperates next year.

Brett offered feedback on the **Standard Pole Cat Snow Gun Demo**- it provides two times the snow output of a Kid Pole Cat. The A-Frame carriages are ideal for handling and storage. We currently have 3 Kid Pole Cats, which may be enough Kid Pole Cats for our needs currently. Buying two Standard Pole Cats makes sense to him at this time. Joe supports the Standard Pole Cat version as well. Having one with an oscillator would be nice for areas such as the playground, the top of Tail End, and the end of the Magic Carpet. The **oscillator** moves a total of 40° which would be nice for broadcasting snow out further without having to move it as far. Brett is getting quotes and is happy to provide them to the committee upon receipt. Joe stressed that the committee needs to have access to testing and demonstrations that occur so the committee can make informed purchases.

Brett explained the **donation process**. Any equipment that the Friends of Lapham Peak choose to donate to the DNR must be approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board. Brett does not think there would be any problem getting new snow guns approved as donations.

Joe stated the need to properly store all equipment. Brett explained there simply is not room on site to **store the snowcat indoors**. Volunteer help to arrange storage of the snowcat on a dry platform and under a tarp or other sun protection is on the "Wish List" of the Snowmaking Committee.

Submitted by,
Jim Bostrom

Anne Riendl added some later input as of April 4, 2017

Next meetings Tuesdays Mar 14th and 28th, Apr 4 and 25, May 16 and 30, June 6 and 27