

Minutes of the Snowmaking Committee of the Friends of Lapham Peak
Hausmann Nature Center
February 27, 2018
6:30-8:00 PM

Present: Anne Riendl, Charlie Ritter, Rich Marusinec, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Cris Rosario, Rick Bjodstrup, Cole Roecker, Chris Peske, Jim Bostrom, Joe Stuber, Barbara and Bob Schueler.

Next meetings reminder: March 13 & 27. Location will either be Delafield Library or Hausmann Nature Center with the **new starting time of 6:00PM**. Anne R. to notify committee members before March 13 meeting as to location of meeting.

Minutes of January 30 and February 6, 2018, meetings approved. Anne R. to notify Mary Ellen B. to distribute and post to website.

Introductions: All members present introduced themselves for the benefit of Barbara and Bob Schueler who have possible connections to obtain pipe for future expansion.

Future Expansion: John McCarthy reviewed specs and provided information to the Schuelers regarding past pipe costs and approximate footage needed for next phase of expansion. There was discussion of options to extend snow trail coverage without placing pipe into the ground such as pushing snow further up the hill. A future meeting will need to be held with DNR to set priorities for next season and to coordinate ideas for trail expansion and the snow making process. Drainage issues will need to be addressed before next season.

Budget Planning: It was suggested that we spend time at the March 27 meeting planning a budget for next season using master income and expense spread sheets and the detailed data Rich M. has documented this season

DNR Regional Partnership Meeting, February 28, 2018: Committee members were urged to attend this meeting to be held at the Hausmann Nature Center from 4:30-6:30 to learn about changes and opportunities with the state budget and efforts to enhance the operations of the state park system properties. It will also be a good opportunity to meet the Bureau of Parks and Recreation Management leadership team, key staff members from the Public Relations and Partnerships team and network with other groups in our region. Charlie R. will try to invite Cindy Duchow to attend as well.

Fundraising awareness: The Penguin Pal initiative has been a way to let the public know that donations are critical to snow making. Since November of 2017 there have been 91 donations recorded linked to the Penguin Pal sticker campaign. There have also been 50 new donors listed since that time. Mention was made to consider adding a second donation box inside the Evergreen shelter. Charlie R. noted in a conversation with Ben Popp that Lapham Peak is considered a "feeder group" for the Birkebeiner.

Use of volunteer crew and costs for snowmaking and grooming: Rich M. continues to tally the hours and will present a summary report at the end of the season. The electric bills for this season were: December= \$2700, January= \$1700, and February=\$450 while making 60% more snow with newer, more efficient equipment. Rich noted that the economic impact of snowmaking will be a combination of total volunteer hours, number of park visitors, private donations, and expenses.

Treasurer's Report for end of January, 2018 snow making:

Beginning Balance: \$60,208.63
Income: \$24,952.72
Expenses: \$23,716.65
Ending Balance: \$61,444.70

End of ski season newsletter: Rich M. has completed a draft of an end of season snow making newsletter and will circulate it for suggestions to have it ready for the March 13 meeting.

Miscellaneous: Cole R. suggested using a Google spreadsheet as an efficient tool to keep track of all volunteer hours. He will work with a few committee members to set this up.

Respectfully submitted by Joanne Ziarek