

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Hausmann Nature Center
March 13, 2018
6:15-8:30 PM

Present: Anne Riendl, Charlie Ritter, Rich Marusinec, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Rick Bjodstrup, Chris Peske, Joe Stuber.

Next meetings reminder: March 27, April 10 and 24, May 15 and 29, June 12 and 26. Anne will check into holding future meetings at the Delafield Library where less set up is required and we must finish by 7:45 due to the library closing. **Note the new starting time of 6:00PM.**

Minutes of February 27, 2018, meeting approved. Anne R. to notify Mary Ellen B. to distribute and post to website.

DNR Regional Partnership Meeting, February 28, 2018: John M. and Anne R. attended and reported that the MOU next steps were discussed with Missy. Ben Bergey announced that due to good stewardship after the reorganization of the DNR and despite having their funds cut the department has about \$2 million available to match funds with Friends groups. The majority of those funds will be going to Peninsula and Devils Lake parks for installation of electric service in their campgrounds. That leaves about \$250,000 to be divided for small projects among as many parks as possible. Friends groups are encouraged to submit requests for project funds. Anne R. showed the group the form and several ideas were proposed: relocate/repair several of the electrical receptacles for improved skier/hiker safety, drainage improvements, trail head ski rack, payment of one year's electrical costs for snow making.

Fundraising awareness: Charlie R. noted that all PayPal donors have received thank-you acknowledgements for their contributions. Many have responded with very positive comments about the snow and the grooming this season and are planning to donate again next season. Anne R. has been contacted by a reporter named Kelly Smith requesting information for an article that he is writing about snow making. She has put together a file of pertinent information with input from John M. from which anyone can draw to answer general questions for future articles and will post it in the Google Drive Snowmaking Fundraising folder for easy access.

End of ski season newsletter: Rich M. presented the end of season snow making newsletter for final consideration. After review and some revisions, it was approved for publication. Besides posting it on the website it will be sent to donors who have e-mail addresses on file, Lapham Peak Ski Club, Wednesday night ski league and Lapham Loppet participants, Friends of Lapham peak members, Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee, and Peak Nordic families.

Budget Planning: This item will be on the agenda for March 27. Joe S., Rich M., and Anne R. will be meeting with DNR staff on March 26 to go over plans and ideas for next season. In April they plan to walk the trail along with Beattle to discuss more ideas for those plans.

Used Snowcats: Jim Bostrom found a lead on a used snowcat in Burlington WI that we may check into in April (a 1986 Pisten Bully 200 for sale from Wilmot ski area). Rick Straka obtained a lead from St. Cloud Minnesota on a used Pisten Bully that Rich M. is following up on to get more details.

Penguin Pal signs and stickers: Charlie R. will remove from the trail the large wooden penguins with the corporate donor signs and store them in his basement. He will also keep the stickers.

Local Legislators: Charlie R. suggested that they should meet with Cindi Duchow after the committee has completed the season summary and planned the budget for the 2018-2019 ski season.

Meeting with Missy VanLanduyt.: John M. proposed that he and a few members of the committee arrange a meeting in Madison with Missy to discuss the region's ROA results, the resolution of the campground issue from original park plans, the business plan for snowmaking needed for the MOU, and the possibility/ramifications of the Friends running snowmaking as a concession.

Google Sheet for Volunteer hours: Anne R. and Cole R. have created a spreadsheet under Google Sheets where volunteers can easily document hours for meetings and other Friends snowmaking projects. It may be more efficient to designate someone from each activity/event to record the information for everyone present once the system is working smoothly.

Miscellaneous: Charlie R. said he would contact the Potawatomi Council of Scouts to see if there would be any interest in having scouts build a ski rack for the trail head.

Issues Remaining for Future Meetings: Fright Hike, Bike Swap, Holiday Card coordinator, Ornaments, Trail Grant Response, Sale of old pump, Barb Schueler's connection for pipe resources, ROA results, outdoor brochure holder, Updating snowmaking committee member lists, Recruiting volunteers to help with some of these needs.

Respectfully submitted by Joanne Ziarek