

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Hausmann Nature Center
August 27, 2019, 6:05 PM-8:00 PM

Present: Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Rich Marusinec, Bruce Wydeven, Rick Bjodstrup, Mike Graham.

Next meetings: September 3 & 17, October 8 & 22 at 6PM at Hausmann Nature Center.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of August 13 approved. Anne R. will notify Mary Ellen B. to distribute and post the minutes to the website. Minutes of June 25 open listening session need final consolidation of input from all present that evening before being presented for approval. John M. working on this.

Building for Snowcat: Site prep of clearing trees and branches has been completed enough for John M. to do the site survey work, perhaps over Labor Day weekend. Mark Herr completed an initial architectural rendering of the building based on discussion/suggestions from the August 13 meeting and this was circulated. Mark will be asked to revise this after input from Bruce W. and others to change the roof to gray Galvalume and replace the cement pad in front of the building with gravel.

Next Steps for Snowcat Building: John M. gave his report from a phone conversation with Eyad Omari of the DNR Bureau of Facilities and Development noting what will be required for them to approve the building. Rich M. will solicit input from Elek Tech for a basic electrical quote in the next week. He would like to coordinate rewiring of circuits for a couple of pedestals along with the wiring and electrical needs of the building. Rick B. suggested the need for an exhaust port, perhaps in addition to the gable vents. Rick BJ also mentioned that if the roof was rotated 90 degrees it might be less expensive and more practical. It was also noted that there would be minimal power needs during the summer. When soliciting quotes from potential contractors, as noted in the previous minutes, it was suggested that we consider constructing the building in phases to make the best use of funds and volunteer labor. A meeting will be arranged with Anne Korman for her input. Anne R., John M., and Rich M. will arrange to attend.

Financing Option: Will E. sent an e-mail proposal in lieu of not being in attendance at this meeting. His research came up with a proposal from a local source to finance a loan if needed to purchase a new Pisten Bully. His example used 7% interest and a balloon payment after 5 years. The committee felt that, while the Friends may need to borrow at some point in the future to finance part of the purchase of a newer snowcat, we would plan to use the current machine for another year while plans move forward for the snowcat building to house it. Pisten Bully has also offered to provide us with a PB100 machine to demo in December/January to determine if it can handle the snow whales as well as the grooming.

Trail Improvement at Top of Tail End: John M. reported that the grading and stone placement was completed along with additional mulch spreading and seeding done with the help of volunteers from the Peak Nordic high school team, whose help was much appreciated. Remaining trail work to complete is moving the top soil to the east side of Magic Carpet, then seeding and covering with straw to finish.

Embezzlement Protection Policy for FLP Funds: This is still being investigated and discussed by the FLP board.

Preparations for 2019-2020 Snowmaking Season: Rich M. showed his spread sheet of all the tasks that need to be completed and the time line for each. Of note is the need for third shift snowmaking volunteers. He will be contacting his list of volunteers from last season for help in many areas.

Holiday mailing: Anne R. asked Rick B. to look at the proposed wording of the fundraising campaign as circulated at the August 13 meeting titled "All I Want for Christmas" to consider how best to present it on our annual holiday mailing.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek