

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Hausmann Nature Center
October 22, 2019, 6:05 PM-8:15 PM

Present: Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Rick Bjodstrup, Mike Graham, Will Edwards, Charlie Ritter, Chris Peske, Rich Marusinec, and guest Angie Lorbach.

Next meetings: November 19, December 17, and January 21 at 6PM at Hausmann Nature Center.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of October 8 approved. Joanne Z. 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.

Fright Hike: Angie L. reported that it was a huge success and read some comments from social media and e-mails that were very positive. She thanked the volunteers for all their help and will give a financial report at the Friends annual meeting on November 6, 2019. An official follow up meeting will be held in the next two weeks with Angie, Anne R. and other key volunteer captains.

Snowcat: Rich M. and Beattle A. have been working with the Pisten Bully representative to arrange for a free demo the end of December or early January. They hope to confirm the date and other details by the first week of December. Rick B. presented information about an alternative brand of snowcat by Favero, an Italian company. They have two models, the Snow Rabbit 3 and 3X that are about half the size of the Pisten Bully and about half the price. They are currently sold by the Track company in Monico, WI. Rick will do more research to compare the capabilities of this brand with Pisten Bully. He will also try to obtain names of ski areas that use this type of snowcat along with contact information.

Snowcat Financing: Charlie R. and Will E. plan to contact Waukesha State Bank and Ixonia Bank for their recommendations for financing options and for possible donations.

Insurance Coverage: John M. will clarify with West Bend Mutual about our relationship to trail maintenance and snowmaking coverage. He will also provide them with a copy of the LUA. In addition, he will initiate insurance coverage on the heavy equipment we need for trail improvement requested by the DNR.

Delafield Tourism Commission: This group meets the second Tuesday of each month. Charlie R. and Will E. plan to attend and make a request for funding for snowmaking as it benefits the whole community in so many ways.

Radio Show WISN: News talk 1130 WISN Ellenbecker Investment Group made a recording with Anne R. and Charlie R. This 20minute segment was aired along with a 20minute segment by Luke Kloberdanz about the Ice Age Trail Alliance on October 20, 2019. The podcast is available for use by anyone. Here is the link to the podcast: <https://www.ellenbecker.com/milwaukee philanthropic community>.

Fundraising: Charlie R. and Will E. will continue working with the ABSF to send an e-mail to all skiers in southeastern Wisconsin and northern Illinois who likely ski at Lapham based on zip codes. This will be to highlight our fundraising needs for a new snowcat and a building to house it.

Outdoor Wisconsin: They are planning to do a show with the focus on snowmaking with filming on December 18, 2019. Anne R. has sent out multiple requests for help with this segment.

Snowmaking Expenses: Rich M. showed a very detailed spreadsheet listing expenses paid by snowmaking funds over the years with % and amount in each category for each fiscal year of operations.

Park Revenue: Anne R. showed a chart with total park revenue for the past 4 years.

Misc. Snowmaking Topics: John M. will give the annual snowmaking report to the Friends at the annual meeting on November 6, 2019. He has also submitted a report to Ben Popp for the Trail Council meeting and has been communicating with other areas interested in snowmaking. He will follow up on an inquiry from veterans' groups interested in skiing at Lapham. He will submit an application for some possible funding for the snowcat building from the DNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant.

State Friends Meeting: The annual state meeting for the Friends of the parks is November 9, 2019, in Mosinee. Lapham Peak is receiving 3 awards: Best Friends Group, Best Accessible Trail, and John M. will receive the award for "Best Volunteer in the State of Wisconsin". Several people are planning to attend.

"Out Wi Go": It was noted that January 11, 2020, is the date for a DNR-sponsored winter recreation activities day at Lapham Peak as part of their "Out Wi Go" campaign.

Season Preparations: Rich M. reported that pump house maintenance and training has been completed. Hose testing for 400psi will be done in the next week with the Delafield fire department. Tree trimming will be done in early November. One leaky snow gun is being repaired. The week of November 4 all hydrants & snow guns will be tested with snow gun training scheduled for October 29 at 6PM and again in a couple of weeks. Beattle A. will move the snowcat up to the maintenance shop.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek