

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee  
Web meeting via Zoom  
July 14, 2020, 6:05 PM-8:20 PM

**Present via Zoom:** Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Mike Graham, Rich Marusinec, Rick Bjodstrup, Mark Herr, Colton Kelly (advisor).

**Next meetings:** July 28, August 11, August 25 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom until further notice.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of June 30 approved. Joanne Z. will notify John Hillmer to distribute and post to the website as appropriate.

**Winter Recreation Storage Building Update:** Anne R. spoke with Anne Korman last week. Some progress has occurred toward getting approval from DNR officials in Madison. Anne K. strongly encouraged us to wait for approval from Madison officials before trusses are ordered. Colton K. clarified that the Natural Heritage Inventory and the Archeologist's reports have been done. John M. requested that brush and grass be mowed in some of the building site areas prior to stake placement. There are also some high tree branches that need trimming at the site. John M., Rich M. and Colton will meet on July 20 to discuss these two issues. Rich M. will coordinate use of rental equipment for tree trimming at other areas on the ski trails in the fall. The plan will be to make snow to cover the gravel on the path from the ski trail to the building for the snowcat to travel. John showed the slightly revised site plan with the building moved 3 feet forward based on the recommendation of Mark H. Mark's son Brian Herr works for Boldt Construction and has access to a surveying laser that will help John stake out the site for the building and the driveway. This will enable Beattle to excavate and grade the site and the building pad. Rich M. is expecting a quote from Bliffert Lumber this week as well as the electrical cost estimate from All County Electric in a few weeks. The service door is being ordered through Jeff Loss. It was also noted that the cost of wood is increasing in the current construction climate due to the pandemic and high demand for construction materials.

**Promotional Sign about WRSB and Snowcat:** Mark H. shared a prototype view of the proposed sign to advertise the building and snowcat coming this fall. He proposed either a 4x8 ft. sign or a 3x6 ft banner in two separate locations for the most optimum viewing by the largest number of people: on the road across from the shop and on the trail near marker E37. Colton will get approval from Anne Korman after she returns next week. For now, the 3 main sponsors will be listed and Rich M. will keep track of additional sponsors/donors for future recognition.

**Update from WI DNR:** Per an e-mail sent 6/19/2020, volunteers can work if no DNR instruction is needed and if DNR staff will not be using the same equipment after being used by volunteers. Colton explained that special events will be reviewed on a case by case basis with a maximum of 50 people allowed per event at this time. There is still no date set for opening of the office but the open-air shelters can now be reserved.

**New Kiosk:** The DNR knows of some scouts who are working to reach Eagle Scout status and may wish to do this work. The plans from WinMan are being put into a usable format by Mark H. for building the structure and to determine materials needed. Colton will check on possible DNR funding. It may be possible to build this off site and then install it at a later date when small groups can work on site. Rich M. is also contacting a scout group about their possible interest in this project.

**Chip Spreading:** Rich M. reported that about 10 loads of wood chips have been dumped and spread by Jay and Rich the past month on the back east black trail near subdivision hill and to the north. DNR will dump 3 more loads there in the next week to finish this area. Jay will then dump wood chips per the John McCarthy map, likely starting on the north - south trail by the butterfly garden. Jay plans to get more woodchips as needed

**Electrical Report:** Rich M. reported that a good meeting was held with Chuck Smith who is helping with electrical design. The design has been sent to All County Electric for material details and pricing which may take a few weeks. Rich will follow up with All County in a week or so. He is also trying to complete the layout of the equipment in the corner of the building and identify the entrance point of the power cable from the pedestal. Rich is finalizing the incoming power cable length and will have John McCarthy double check it.

**Ski Trail Signage:** Rich M met with Colton to review the proposed snowmaking signs for this year. Edits were made and Rich is asking Jim Bostrom to create digital files for each using standard OSHA and ANSI guidelines for color. They will get prices after that.

**Sale of LMC Snowcat:** Colton will look into sites to advertise this machine. Rich M. will assist with snowcat description details and pricing suggestions based on what is typical for similar snowcats for sale on various websites and Face Book sites.

**Special Events Guidelines (at this time):** Colton noted that the WI-DNR is not holding any WI-DNR sponsored events but is allowing special events by "Friends of the Park" type groups and others of up to 50 people using a maximum of 75% of available parking spaces for attendees. A special event form with a detailed mitigation plan must be submitted along with a special event fee. He will provide this form to John Hillmer when needed.

**Harvest Hike Proposal:** John Hillmer submitted a detailed report after meeting with Colton on July 9 to discuss an alternative fall event now that Fright Hike has been canceled. They discussed the many parameters that we would have in place for an alternative event including limiting the number of attendees, no buses, no concessions, no skits, spacing out groups along a lit guided path, and charging a nominal fund-raising fee. It is hoped that the set up for such an event would be similar to that for a candle light hike and could be accomplished using all volunteers with no need to pay a hired coordinator. Fright Hike has been postponed to October of 2021.

**Delafield Tourism Meeting:** Anne R. and Charlie R. attended the July 14 meeting. Charlie gave a short presentation about the new Pisten Bully and the enhanced trail grooming which should increase tourism and help fill the area hotels. He requested their support for snowmaking. The

Tourism committee expressed their welcome and hope for a partnership. Anne and Charlie plan to attend the August meeting.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Reminder that Rick B. has offered to match the fifth largest donation from anyone who considers themselves a snowmaker up to \$5000 to help pay for the Pisten Bully 100. This is for any donations after April of 2020 and for the next fiscal year.
- Anne R. noted that the WI DNR Natural Resources Board website still says that they plan to meet on August 12, 2020, in Madison, though their acceptance of our donation is not required before we begin construction on the building.
- Rick B. presented suggested art work for this year's holiday card and will bring more details to a future meeting.
- It was noted that training will be needed for those who will be operating the new Pisten Bully
- Anne R. is continuing to work on clarifying how snowmaking can receive funds through volunteering at the Birkie.
- Anne R. will work with Sam Edwards and the Friends of Lapham Peak Board to assess the feasibility of using Face Book as a conduit for donations to the Friends.
- Reminder to notify Will Edwards when heavy equipment will be used so that appropriate insurance coverage can be activated.

**Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek**