

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
July 28, 2020, 6:05 PM-7:55 PM

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

Next meetings: August 11, August 25, September 8, September 22 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom until further notice.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of July 14 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 on Monday, July 27. She stated that Missy VanLanduyt is likely to visit the WRSB site on Thursday of this week. John M. has volunteered to attend this site visit. Anne Korman sent an e-mail last week to Madison emphasizing the need to order the special-order trusses soon. Approval is still needed from the Wisconsin DOA and DNR before the trusses can be ordered. John M. and helpers placed some initial stakes at the site on July 25 to show the location of the building and other key features, in advance of the DNR's visit to the site. DNR staff has been clearing the buckthorn and mowing at the site as requested. Rich M has been working on getting a quote from Bliffert Lumber for the building materials. Schedule for the work was discussed, with the hope to do the concrete pad for the building in mid-August.

Promotional Sign about WRSB and Snowcat: Colton indicated that Anne Korman had some comments about the sign, which would be provided soon. Mark H indicated that it will take about three days to get the signs printed, when approved. Signs should not be placed at the site until there is an official approval of the building. It was suggested and accepted that the finalized sign graphic could be sent out to donors and posted on Facebook and our website.

Insurance Coverage Update: Beattle is getting an excavator (Link Belt) from Herr Construction. It is currently at the park. Insurance coverage on the machine (inland marine) is in place. Beattle has also made arrangements for a skid loader from the Gehl Corporation for use on the WRSB project. It will also be covered under the inland marine insurance. (Note: inland marine is a type of insurance, similar to comprehensive on a car). Beattle has arranged for transportation of this equipment to the park at a reduced cost.

Trail Work: Beattle will also use the above noted equipment to perform trail restoration work. There will also be some tree trimming using a lift along some of the snowmaking trails and within the WRSB site. Rich M is coordinating this effort with Colton and Jay.

New Kiosk: The plans from WinMan have been put into a usable format by Mark H. for building the structure and to determine materials needed. He has finished the construction drawing and will obtain prices for materials. Colton will check on possible DNR funding and the group suggested looking for grant money to help fund this project for the Friends group. It may be possible to build this off site and then install it at a later date when small groups can work on

site. Colton reported that his scout source has another project so will not be available. Rich M. and Jay both have possible scout contacts but there was some concern expressed that building this kiosk might be too complicated for an Eagle Scout project. It was suggested that there might be some experienced carpenters among the Friends or our donors who might volunteer to build it. After more discussion it was decided to wait until spring with this project giving the Friends time to apply for grants, confirm the exact location, and time for publicity asking for volunteers to build it in the spring.

Chip Spreading: Rich M. reported that 3 more loads of wood chips have been dumped and spread to finish the back east black trail near subdivision hill and to the north. 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.

Holiday Card: Rick B. would like suggestions from committee members for questions that the “thinker” skiers on the card could be pondering. The card and mailing list should be finalized in mid-November to be ready for distribution/mailing the first week of December.

Sale of LMC Snowcat: Colton has checked into two web sites to advertise this machine. Rich M. contacted Paul Scanlon from Pisten Bully to verify that they would have us covered with a back up machine if something unforeseen should happen in the delivery process of the new machine. Knowing there is a back up we can proceed with selling the LMC machine at any time. Rich M. suggested posting a link on face book. John Hillmer has a video of the LMC in action that can also be used to advertise the old machine.

Harvest Hike Proposal: With Fright Hike being postponed until 2021 Anne R. had requested that Angie and John Hillmer discuss alternative ideas. There were several creative ideas proposed including drive by skits, a simple lighted hike, using other venues. With the current fluctuating COVID situation it has become impossible to plan anything. At the current park limit of 50 people per event there would be no incentive to try to put on a fund-raising event with no real opportunity to raise any money. It was also felt that it would be difficult to get people to volunteer with so much uncertainty so the committee decided we would not pursue this any further for 2020.

Bike Doc Appreciation Event for Snowmakers: This event was postponed from May and they are now looking to have an outdoor beer garden event in the fall. First choice of dates was September 15 or 29, with second choices being September 17 or October 1. Anne R. will contact them and wait for their confirmation and subsequent invitation via e-mail to the groups.

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.

- The fundraising campaign will likely start right after Labor Day. Will E. and Charlie R. will provide updates.
- Anne R. is continuing to work on clarifying how snowmaking can receive funds through volunteering at the Birkie. She plans to send the W-9 as soon as needed.
- It was noted that the 2021 DNR WI park sticker features a cross-country skier.
- Anne R. is working 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 that both the Lapham Peak Snowmaking and the Lapham Peak Friends websites have been updated. Please review and send comments/suggestions to John Hillmer.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek