

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
October 27, 2020, 6:00 PM-8:15 PM

Present via Zoom: Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Mike Graham, Rich Marusinec, Rick Bjodstrup, Will Edwards, Charlie Ritter, Beattle Adelmeyer, Anne Korman & Colton Kelly (advisors).

Next meetings: November 10, November 24, December 15 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom until further notice.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of October 13 approved. Joanne Z. will notify John Hillmer to distribute and post to the website as appropriate.

Promotional Sign about “Home Stretch”: The sign about the “Home Stretch” fund raising is now posted on the Summer Stage sign near the Evergreen shelter. The sign includes a QR code for ease of donation from cell phones that have the QR reader or App. The plan is to update the sign as the funds come in.

Winter Recreation Storage Building (WRSB) Update: Rich M. reported that Steve Joda has been managing the crew along with Beattle & himself. Rich noted that they have already logged over 650 volunteer hours. This greatly exceeds the 300-hour requirement for the Stewardship grant match. The garage doors were delayed and are now expected to be delivered next week from Hartland Overhead Garage Door company. The holding tank has been installed and insulated. John M. will cover the cost of this item by making a donation to snowmaking in that amount. The exhaust/ventilation system is expected to be delivered on November 17 at which time the remainder of the siding can be installed. Charlie, Paul, Theo and Rich plan to paint the ceiling later this week prior to hanging the lights and heaters. Insulation will be blown into the ceiling rafters in a few weeks. Rich is getting electrical inspection approval for this. The electrical lines are in place and the electrical wall panels will be installed around November 23. A question was raised about the need for bollards near the doorways as barriers to prevent anyone from driving into the sides of the building. Will E. and John M. will check with Scott Jackson whose company Ace Metals can make them with specifications provided by John. At a recent Zoom meeting John M., Rich M., and Anne R. reviewed expected expenses and concluded that the building will cost between \$65,000 and \$70,000 with the FLP snowmaking funds paying around \$45,000 and \$20,000 expected from the Stewardship Grant #FR3-20-14.

Current Snow Cat Status: Arrival is expected at Lapham around 2PM on November 4 with Paul Scanlon. Beattle will help with the final assembly. A check for the \$200,000 balance will be given to Paul after inspection of the machine. Beattle will sign the delivery paperwork after final inspection. He will check with Paul about the need for an optional 5yr warranty on the engine, which would cost an extra \$1500.

Fund Raising “Home Stretch” & Finance Report: Anne R. sent an e-mail fund raising request to all donors on October 21 with the “Home Stretch” flyer attached. There has been a big response to the personal contacts, e-mails, and the publicity for the “Home Stretch” fundraising

campaign toward raising the needed funds. An extra boost came from the promotional video by Ben Popp of the ABSF encouraging FLP-Snowmaking donations. It can be seen at <https://youtu.be/xPzszoCOAQM>. We thank Will E. for arranging this.

Open House Planning: Will and Charlie will complete a special event form for holding an open house for the new PistenBully and the WRSB. The plan will include a COVID mitigation plan. Charlie will check with Kris Maki who has submitted one for the Wednesday night ski races to get detailed information of what is needed. Currently any event is limited to a maximum of 50 people including any volunteers. Consideration is being given to invite groups of people for different dates and times. The dates chosen are November 20, 21, & 22 with John Hillmer setting up a registration page on the website to limit the number of participants each day. This will be done in conjunction with input from Anne K. and Colton K. and obtaining the needed approval from Madison to hold the event.

Possibility of Virtual Birkie at Lapham: The snowmaking trails at Lapham Peak could be a viable location now that the ABSF has said that they will offer the option of a virtual Birkie for 2021. Colton will contact Ben Popp to clarify if an event at Lapham could be held on dates that differ from the live Birkie February 24-28. Many ideas were proposed during the discussion.

Snowmaking Preparations: Rich M. presented a spread sheet showing the preparation action plan and where people are needed to complete some of the tasks. He will request that volunteer snowmakers commit to at least 4 shifts each of 4hrs in length. Rick B. and John M. will work on placing the depth marking tape and stakes on the sides of the trails. Jim Bostrom is coordinating weed whacking around all the pedestals and hydrants.

Sale of LMC Snowcat: The machine sold around 10AM on October 20, 2020, with heavy bidding in the last hours. The final price was \$18,000 purchased by Nub's Nob ski area in Michigan. The money will be used by the DNR to purchase new grooming equipment such as a UTV to replace the old one. Colton noted that the WI DNR has offered to help pay for the remainder needed for the new machine.

Insurance Coverage: The new WRSB is now insured, thanks to Dan Wiley's suggestion. Will E. expressed his thanks for being able to work with a very accommodating insurance agent to cover all of our needs. He and Anne R. will work out which of the FLP funds will pay for the various coverages.

FLP Annual Meeting: The Zoom meeting will be held November 11, 2020, with a report on snowmaking by John M. as the central theme. He would also like to show a list of the various vendor donations and the many dedicated volunteers who helped to build the WRSB. Anne R. suggested it would be good to have a large presence of the FLP snowmaking volunteers at the Zoom meeting. Minutes and reports from past annual meetings are published at <https://laphampeakfriends.org/about>.

Corporate Donors Subcommittee: Will E., Charlie R., Mark H. and Anne R. plan to meet to develop a new approach to advertising for our corporate donors including whether or not to

continue to use the Penguin signs. Will E. and Charlie R. continue to investigate ideas for premiums for our larger donors.

Trail Work: Colton stated that there are many new piles of chips by the shop as well as some on the purple loop and the Big Slide area. It was noted that Rita & Paul Keber had spread chips on October 25. With so many more chips to spread it was suggested that a notice be placed on Facebook asking for volunteers to contact the park office to offer to help. Options were discussed for making the Volunteer Hours form available to the chip spreaders for recording hours. It was also noted that some restoration is needed at the WRSB site yet this fall. The suggestion was to plant a cover crop of rye grass, perhaps mixed with wild flower seeds. Colton will follow up.

Lapham Peak Ski Club Fall Newsletter: The LPSC will print 62 more copies of this well-designed newsletter for use in our fundraising. Charlie, R., Will E., and Anne R. will be using the majority of these copies for their contacts.

Additional Evening Ski Race Option: Since only 46 adults can race on the usual Wednesday night races due to current COVID restrictions Anne R. has proposed an additional option of Tuesday at 6PM. She is looking for volunteers to help and is working with Colton K. on the COVID mitigation plan and special event form.

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 PistenBully 100. This is for any donations after April of 2020. As of October 25, 2020, we are at \$4,000.
- Anne R. noted that there has been a request to add an additional category for donors of \$50,000 and up to our original categories as listed on the website. These donors would be recognized with plaques in the Evergreen shelter similar to the other levels. Suggestions were received from Joanne Z. for consideration with more ideas welcomed.
- The WI DNR Natural Resources Board website shows that meetings are planned for October 28 and December 9 in Madison. Anne K. needs the total value of the WRSB including cost and volunteer hours to submit the request for donation of the building to the DNR at the December 9, 2020 meeting. John M. will submit this information to Anne K. by Nov. 15.
- Sam Edwards continues to work on the details for using Facebook as a conduit for donations to the FLP snowmaking project. He reported that Facebook requires that the address on the FLP bank statement match the one listed with the US Charity Registry. One or the other needs to be updated if we wish to pursue this.
- Rick B. plans to work on the holiday card in the next week. It will include 10 questions to ponder by the skiers on the front as well as a donation flyer and envelope.
- Charlie R. is finalizing his submission to the Delafield Promotion and Tourism Commission and is requesting \$10,000 per year starting in 2021.
- The site for fundraising via Birkie volunteer hours is not open yet and it is unknown how many volunteers will be needed for this year's event. Charlie R. and Anne R. will follow.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek