

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
August 31, 2021, 6:00 PM-7:40 PM

Present via Zoom: Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Joanne Ziarek, Jim Marschalek, Rich Marusinec, Mark Herr, Mike Graham, Colton Kelly, advisor.

Next meetings: September 21, October 12 & 26, November 9 & 23, December 14 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom until further notice.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of August 10 approved. Joanne Z. will notify John Hillmer to distribute and post to the website as appropriate.

Winter Recreation Storage Building: The plan is now to add gutters to direct water away from the building doorway and then open the holding tank in the fall to check for water seepage. Rich M. has obtained a proposal for installing the gutters and will review it with Colton K. before confirming. Beattle has completed more grading around the building. John M. will complete the re-seeding of the areas. We are still awaiting the final \$10,000 payment from the WI-DNR Knowles Nelson Stewardship grant #FR3-20-14. Anne K. checked with the WI DNR to obtain a framed thank you certificate to the Friends for the donation of the building and they plan to send one.

Park Attendance: Anne R. noted that the Lapham Peak Park attendance for their fiscal year from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, was 731,362, an all-time record number.

Fundraising: No update for now on the possibility of \$300,000 for Lapham Peak from the federal COVID funds. Charlie R. reported that fundraising for the new building is on hold until the DNR gives their approval. Charlie has received permission from Colton K. and Anne Korman to list names of sponsors on the back of a proposed new snowmaking ski trail map. There will not be a DNR logo on the map to make it clear that this map is sponsored by the Friends with no DNR involvement.

Snowcat Operators (Groomers): Rich M. has had several meetings with members of the snowmaking team regarding compensation for some of the snowcat operators. Rich and Anne R. plan to have a proposal completed in the coming weeks to submit to the FLP Board in October.

Expenses: Rich M. noted he will be updating his spread sheet for current and expected expenses for the 2021-22 season to include the hose adapters, final snow gun payment in November, gutters for the garage, and tree trimming along some of the ski trails. He will check on the availability of the snowcutter for the PistenBully 100 based on current supply shortages.

A & B Pedestal Circuit Changes: Rich & Colton met with the DNR engineer to discuss project details and requirements. Rich is continuing to work with Colton on this project and will review the details with John McCarthy for input.

Pumphouse: Jim M. reported that, per the pump company Torrent, the ideal temperature to maintain in the building for pump operation is 50 degrees. He has purchased a 12-inch fan and the thermostat. He will arrange a meeting with Colton to install it when ready.

Ski Conditions Web Page: Jim M. continues to work with John Hillmer and Steve Davis to explore how to improve the ski conditions web page including adding the ability to upload photos of trail conditions. He will get input from the groomers on ease of use and is still working on the format. Anne R. noted that there should be a link to the trail conditions page on the Lapham Peak Friends web page too.

Tuesday Race Event: Jim M. will explore the possibility of running the Tuesday afternoon flexible timing race event for the coming season and report at a later meeting.

Kiosk Update: Currently, the kiosk has Summer Stage events on the right panel, DNR in the center panel, and Friends & snowmaking on the left panel. Mark H. will get a key. Colton will look into getting a plaque with the Eagle Scout's name on it to attach to the completed project.

Snowmaking: Rich M. will reach out to his list of volunteers in mid-September to start preparations for the season. He is also finalizing the list of pre-ski season actions and identifying who is responsible for various tasks.

Lapham Lodge Update: John M. reported that there was a meeting on August 12 with Missy V. from the WI DNR, Anne K., Colton K., Paul & Rita Keber, Mark H., and John M. to discuss the steps needed for DNR approval to start fund raising. John will prepare and submit a business plan to the DNR for review that covers the proposal to fund construction of the building in 2023. This will allow for completion of all necessary steps and time to raise the needed funds. He also shared the key points of the presentation that he will make to the FLP Board for their approval.

Volunteer Hours: Everyone was reminded to keep track of all volunteer hours during 2021. Hours can be documented on the Google docs snowmaking volunteers spread sheet.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek