

Minutes of the Friends of Laham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
December 13, 2022 6:05 PM-7:10 PM

Present via Zoom: Anne Riendl, Joanne Ziarek, Mike Graham, John McCarthy, Rich Marusinec, Rick Bjodstrup, Jim Marschalek, Charlie Ritter, Mike Koester, Colton Kelly and Anne Korman, advisors.

Next meetings: January 17, February 14, March 14, April 18 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the November 29 meeting were approved. Joanne Z. will notify John Hillmer to distribute and post to the website as appropriate.

Fright Hike: Anne R. reported that the income to FLP Snowmaking committee will be shared with the Buckthorn Busters who helped a lot with the event this year. We are still awaiting the final numbers.

Park Attendance: November attendance at Lapham Peak was 34,580, likely lower due to poor weather that month.

FLP Snowmaking Funds: Anne presented a brief summary of snowmaking funds from the November treasurer's report.

Holiday Letter 2022: Rick B. and Anne R. mailed the fundraising letter last week.

Snowmaking preparations: Rich M. submitted a detailed report. Many more things have been completed: trail closure chains/signs in process, WRSB tools organized, tree trimming completed on 12/2, snow depth marking stakes placed by Rick B. & John M, Port-A-John placed next to WRSB. Tasks in process: replace 2 blown fuses on one pedestal, use more antifreeze in each hydrant (2 hydrants have a slight dribble and may freeze under pressure), one heater in the WRSB has a failed gas valve (replacement part under warranty has been received), GFCI outlet not working in playground demo light, need to establish who to call in case of emergency. Colton & Mike K. will discuss and possibly post this information.

Snowmaking Results Round 1: Snow was made for 9hrs on 12/1 and 15hrs on 12/3 with an average efficiency of 320gpm. A SW wind affected the process on 12/3. A temperature of 24 degrees and 65% humidity made for some moderately wet snow in the Summerstage area. The trail was well groomed. It was noted that one receptacle needs to be checked for blown fuses, and the middle hydrant checked for any accumulating water since suctioning and antifreeze added. Rick B. shared concerns about possible water in the pipes that can leak back into the hydrants causing freezing by diluting the antifreeze. He shared 2 documents with the committee and Rich M. & Mike K will follow up. Colton suggested using an inspection camera to check the hydrants and Mike K. has one that they will try.

Next Planned Snowmaking: This will be based on the weather forecast, hoping to start the next round Dec 18 or 19. The plan would be to make snow for nearly 5 days straight so will manage the pond level and make snow at the coldest times. The trail report may need to be updated as there

won't be any grooming for the next few days due to forecast of rain. Colton noted that the Lapham Trail hotline will refer callers to 4 different locations for current trail reports.

Snowmaking Volunteers: Rich M. and Mike K. met with Colton & Jay on Sunday to discuss the preliminary signup.com schedule for the week. They may do a training session on December 19.

Monitoring Pond Level: Jim M. has developed a system for monitoring the well depth in the pump house and will install a float this week. He has posted a chart in the pump house. They need to determine any impact the fill rate has on snowmaking. John M. will discuss possible issues with the pump manufacturer.

Donation Options: Charlie has placed the green donation sign and snowmaking trail map in the kiosk. The committee is still interested in finding someone qualified to work out the details of setting up various methods to process donations including Venmo, PayPal, and Cash App.

New RLUA: Anne K. reported that Taylor Foster from Missy VanLanduyt's office at the WI-DNR in Madison is ready to meet with her to start work on the draft. More to come by the middle of January.

New "Nickname" Signs: Colton announced that these new signs, funded by a private donor, are being posted on trails with common nicknames people are used to such as "Asthma Hill," "Magic Carpet," "Hoot Owl," and "Two Tier."

Travel Wisconsin Website: Charlie R. Will update the trail reports for Lapham Peak once or twice a week.

Fundraising: Charlie R. attended the Delafield Tourism meeting this morning where it was announced that they are pledging a \$50,000 donation toward the Lapham Lodge over the next 2 years. Various committee members have attended these meetings over the past year to request their support. After these first 2 years they may consider becoming a partner with the FLP in future years to assist with financial support.

Lapham Lodge Update: No new information at this meeting.

Volunteer Hours: Everyone is reminded to keep track of all volunteer hours during 2022. Hours can be documented on the Google docs snowmaking volunteers spread sheet.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek