

Minutes of the Friends of Laham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
March 14, 2022 6:00 PM-7:15 PM

Present via Zoom: Anne Riendl, Joanne Ziarek, Mike Graham, John McCarthy, Rick Bjodstrup, Jim Marschalek, and Mark Herr.

Next meetings: April 18, May 16, June 13, August 15 from 6PM to 7:45PM via Zoom. July 11 to be in person potluck cookout with members of the FLP Board when the date is verified with them.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the February 14 meeting were approved. Joanne Z. will notify John Hillmer to distribute and post to the website as appropriate.

Fright Hike: Anne R. reported that \$8,099.58 has been transferred into Snowmaking from the 2022 Fright Hike proceeds. The Habitat project has received an equal amount. Plans are to split the profits evenly again in 2023. Planning for the 2023 event is ongoing with the dates to be October 27 & 28. John M. noted that lodge construction would be going on at that time, but should have minimal impact on the needs of the event except for overflow parking at the barn where construction will be staged in part of the area.

Park Attendance: February attendance at Lapham Peak was 49,000. Information provided by the DNR showed an increase in revenue and attendance for January-March for the past 3 ski seasons since we got the Pisten Bully.

FLP Snowmaking Funds: Anne presented a brief summary of snowmaking funds from the February 2023 treasurer's report.

Fundraising: Mark H. and Charlie R. met with District 99 Delafield area Representative Cindi Duchow to see if she can get a \$200,000 item into the budget for the Lapham Lodge. They provided her information showing that the Friends of Lapham Peak have donated nearly 4 million dollars in infrastructure to the DNR so far.

Frozen Hydrant Issues: Rick B. has been collecting data and doing research on antifreeze products that may offer better freeze protection at lower temperatures. He will present the results at the June meeting. John M. observed that hydrant H-12 may be leaking and likely needs to be replaced. Rich M. will have a snowmaking report at the April 18 meeting.

Donor Recognition: The listing on the screen in Evergreen shows the list of donors by category, but is outdated. Anne R. will provide Mike G. with the updated file.

Snowmaking: Mark H. commented that a 4th groomer may be needed to assure that someone is available for late season grooming who is trained to use the Pisten Bully. This will be discussed at Rich M's end of season meeting. Jim M. will meet with the sales rep from SnowMax to get more information about what would be needed to install this additive system for next season. Jim M. has been gathering information about using some stick guns for snowmaking. He talked with Sean Becker from the Ariens Center as they use stick guns. In their experience temperatures need to be in the single digits for them to work well. John M. suggested a possible place to try them for next season would be on H-13 or H-14 near the timing shed to see how they work.

John M. also noted that our March 14, 2023, meeting date is day 99 of skiing since the first parts of the trail were opened on December 6, 2022. That means that this season will provide more than 100 days of skiing.

New Gator: The Habitat group has been talking with Colton to possibly find money to purchase a new Gator to haul equipment and snowguns. Awaiting more news on funding.

Lapham Lodge Update: Mark H. reported that the 95% documents have been submitted to the DNR. They are still awaiting the signed site certificate from the DNR so it can be submitted to the EDA. The Delafield Tourism Commission has been asked for \$6,686.00 to be paid to the Lodge project in March, 2023, as the third installment of their \$50,000 pledge. The fund raising is approaching 2.2 million dollars including a recent Stewardship grant for \$20,000. Preliminary figures from the Ski Series/Lapham Loppet/Tuesday Time Trials records show that they have raised \$6,585.15 for the Lodge so far this season. John M. reported that brick donations are coming in. He proposed an agenda item to be discussed at the April 18 meeting that the snowmaking committee donate a \$500 brick from the snowmaking funds.

Volunteer Hours: Everyone is reminded to keep track of all volunteer hours during 2023. Hours can be documented on the Google docs snowmaking volunteers spread sheet.

Respectfully Submitted: Joanne Ziarek