

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Zoom
Feb 6, 2024 6:00 PM-6:45 PM

Present via Zoom: Anne Riendl, Mike Graham, John McCarthy, Jim Marschalek, Rich Marusinec, Mike Koester, Charlie Ritter, and Colton Kelly

Next meetings: February 27, 2024, will be virtual from 6:00 to 7:00PM. Future meeting dates and formats to be discussed at the February meeting.

Meeting Objective: The meeting was called as a pop-up meeting to discuss a few topics which needed approval or review.

New Gator: Colton had previously reported that the DNR's 2014 gator no longer works and would need such extensive repairs that replacing it is a better option. He has done some research and determined that the John Deere model XUV835M Gator would have enough towing power to move snow guns. Rich Marusinec reviewed all the specifications of the 3 UTV options and created a detailed summary with review and input from Colton and Mike Koester. Rich, Colton, and Mike agreed that a new John Deere Gator XUV835M would be the best option for snowmaking and that a 75% DNR funded/25% Snowmaking funded approach is recommended. All the details of the agreement have been documented in Rich Marusinec's 2/3/2024 email on this topic (note Rich will transfer this information into a Word Document for future reference). Snowmaking would provide funds of \$5,573 towards the purchase. The meeting attendees all agreed to approve this funding.

Discussion and Approval of Making more snow in February during slight cooldown around Feb 15: Rich and Mike Koester wanted input from the committee if they supported making snow starting around Feb 15 if temps are cold enough for a few nights to cover low or bare spots to be able to continue skiing into March. After discussion the decision was approved to do this if temperatures were cool enough and we could get volunteers. It will likely be about 20 to 30 hours of work. Mike and Rich and Colton plan to meet Sunday Feb 11 to review the trail and forecast and hopefully plan a starting night later in the week. Since temperatures will be moderate, we may only need two volunteers per shift. The plan will be dependent on getting enough volunteers for the evening shifts.

Short Update on Well output and possible 2024 project: Colton mentioned that we should finish our Well repair project summary and estimate for submittal into the DNR emergency funding project list for 2024 in the next few weeks. John McCarthy will review the initial project draft created by Rich M and provide input. Rich is getting a repair proposal and cost estimate from a second well driller in the next week and we will discuss this at our Feb 27 meeting in more detail.

Respectfully Submitted: Rich Marusinec