

Minutes of the Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee
Web meeting via Webex
April 15, 2024, 6:05 PM-7:55 PM

Present via Webex: Anne Riendl, John McCarthy, Jim Marschalek, Rich Marusinec, Charlie Ritter, Mark Herr, Joanne Ziarek, Mike Graham, Rick Bjodstrup, and Rob Hermann, guest.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 14th at 6pm via Webex.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from February 6th and March 4th, 2024 meeting approved. Joanne Z. will send to John Hillmer to post as usual.

Video Presentation by Rob Hermann: Rob is a volunteer snowmaker and also a videographer who attended as a guest at the request of Anne R. He showed the committee a 5minute video composite of snowmaking that he made during January night time snowmaking. The committee was very appreciative of Rob's skills and discussed adding some text at the end about the hours it takes to make snow and the need for volunteers and donations to continue. Rob accepted an invitation to join the snowmaking committee and will provide the completed video to the group with plans to post it on the FLP website with a link to it on the Snowmaking site and any other places it might be useful. There was further discussion about making a training video in the future, and some uses for something like this for publicity. Welcome, Rob!

Update on Well output and possible 2024 projects Rich M:

- 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 if we want to try to get DNR funds for part of the project.
- John McCarthy will review the initial project draft created by Rich M and provide input with Rich to review and provide to Collin and Colton.
- Rich received 2nd quote from D&D Well. May have him add on the well clean out option.
- Pentair reviewed our well needs & recommended the best pump for the job.
- Rich will contact the well contractor for the new Lodge in a few weeks relative to timing of both projects together with input from John M.
- Need to determine and staff project team for this if we go forward this year.
- Rich will provide a summary at the May meeting about possible projects.
- Beattle will provide an update on grooming in mid-May.

Stick Gun Demo. Both demo stick guns performed well. The larger stick gun (SMI Grizzly) worked better than expected. The frame on the Grizzly is not the option we would want, and we are waiting to hear from Wes at SMI if we will send the Grizzly back or get a new frame if we elect to purchase it. The proposal is to purchase one Grizzley stick gun but with a different base. Rich is waiting for Wes from SMI to get back to him on options for purchase (either send entire stick gun back or SMI send a new base). We will terminate insurance once returned.

Upgrade Main Power Panel Report from Rich:

Equipment for the conversion to a Grounded Delta was delivered the week of 4/8 to Elect-Tech. Elect-tech reviewing materials Monday 4/15. Rich to discuss project steps with them on 4/16.

- We-Energies documents and check mailed 2/13, but We Energies has not seen payment yet. (since our meeting they have found the payment and adjusted it to our project). Rich contacted both Lisa and Doug on 4/12 from We Energies regarding timing, steps and what's needed to release the project. Rich also plans to contact Summer Stage relative to power outage and duration.
- Lisa from We Energies confirmed that shutting down the 3-phase Transformer for this project has no impact to the Lodge for either temp power for 3-phase power. The outage will only affect trail lights and pond aerator, WRSB power, and power to Summer Stage.

Two Leaky Hydrants. One capped and work on the 2nd one will likely happen in May or June once Mike K. gets back. John M. reported that he removed all hydrant handles on April 14th and found two open in the upper system.

Snow Gun Maintenance: Rich will check if any materials are needed from SMI and will do maintenance once Mike K. is back.

Key Manpower Needs for next Season: #2 and #3 Head Snowmakers to support Mike K., two more shift coordinators, assess DNR staff replacements/availability.

Fright Hike Future Plans: There was a lengthy discussion of how to split future Friends profits from this event in response to an email from John Hillmer proposing a 75%/25% split between Habitat and Snowmaking for the 2025 event. Many ideas were discussed ranging from having Angie take it over completely and having her "hire" Friends volunteers for perhaps parking or security for a % of the profit as we had done when it was a Town of Delafield event to having Habitat provide the majority of the needed help if snowmaking no longer had the need nor the volunteers to participate, and various options in between.

Treasurer's Report: Anne R. briefly summarized the snowmaking funds as of March that included \$15,000 in donations.

Colton has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent of the South Kettle Moraine as of April 8th.

Miscellaneous

The new Gator was delivered on March 7th.

Jim M. proposed sending an end of season survey to various groups of skiers and will send a sample to the committee members.

The paver for the patio at the new Lodge has been ordered from Snowmaking engraved "Friends of Lapham Peak, Snowmaking Project."

A QR code is needed for easier donating and Mike K. has been looking into this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Ziarek