

# Friends of Lapham Peak

Board of Directors Meeting

March 7, 2017

**Board members present:** Louise Borzynski, Kris Maki, Karl Timm, Rick Von Haden, Jackie Nicholson, Daya Pillay, and John McCarthy, Dan Wiley

Absent: Mike Fort, Rita Keber, Mary Benson

**Also present:** Brett Johanan, Anne Korman

**Meeting called to order:** 7:00 pm, Adjourned 9:25 pm

**Dates to remember:** next board meeting on **Wednesday April 5, 2017** at **6:00 pm** at Hausmann Lodge

**February Minutes:** accepted after corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** see separate report for details

## **Disbursements:**

- 68 awards Wednesday Ski League: \$342.02
- 75 mugs: two hundred something dollars (\$50 shipping)

**Receipts:** Kris \$8900 (\$7500 for snowmaking)

## **Running Agenda**

- **Colorama:** see below
- **Bike Swap:** handled by snowmaking committee
- **Lapham Loppet:** see below
- **Summer Solstice:** see below
- **Candlelight Ski:** see below
- **Fright Hike:** n.a.
- **Wednesday Night Ski Series:** Ski banquet went well, appreciation for the rangers work
- **Work Days:** see below
- **Snowmaking:** see below
- **Nature Center:** see below

## **Old Business**

- **Snowmaking**
  - Appreciation for the efforts of the DNR staff
  - Early end of the season
  - Volunteer involvement: increase from last year, hope to have more involvement next year,
    - i. Note grooming is a skill that will need to be develop before volunteers can do
    - ii. Note: Greenbush grooms with volunteers only
  - John and Brett to review this past year
  - Issues:
    - i. \$72,000 available in the bank

- ii. No trail expansion allowed but equipment maintenance and purchase is an option, e.g. new snow gun
- **MOU:** some agreements have been made with other Friends groups around the state, 6-12 months wait for Lapham Peak
- **Realignment** is currently the focus of the state
- **Master Plans:** state is changing specificity to be less detailed
- **Snowmaking Master Plan:** would like to take “Master Plan” out of the title
- **Over the Peak:** event at Trecker Lodge on March 18<sup>th</sup>
- **Donation Acceptance:** Donations of less than \$5000 are accepted by Anne Korman with a letter of acknowledgement. \$5000-\$15,000 are accepted by the Parks Bureau Director (Ben D Bergey), and anything over \$15,000 is accepted by the Natural Resources Board.
  - i. Technically all purchases need to be approved by the state first
- **Colorama**
  - We have a timer now. 2 staff coming
  - 26 years, never were charged for a special event fee \$5 per car, 2016 had multiple events and it was waved, asking for a few hour waiver
    - i. Ann Duffer from MPS wants to hold an outdoor event, will have it the same day as Colorama
    - ii. Anne Korman might talk to the park naturalist come and talk
    - iii. Must be a free all day and have multiple activities
- **Summer Solstice**
  - July 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Summer Stage is having loud rock band, Summer Solstice will start about 5:00
  - Bike Doctor’s band will play
  - Reserve closer to real solstice in the future, i.e. reserve early
  - Rita to contact Bike Doctor about insurance
- **Candlelight Ski**
  - Committee will be meeting 3/20
  - Insurance needed for free Friends events?
- **Bike Swap**
  - Sound system needed
  - Cash boxes, Kris to bring
  - White tables: how many can we take? Wants more than 5.
- **Work Day: April 22nd**
  - Butterfly Garden
  - Misc cleanup of brush piles
  - Memorial Bench installation
  - Not tree planting, will be done by an Eagle Scout

- **Dan & Melissa Jarecki Invasive Species Fund**
  - Stock transaction has occurred to fund costs
- **Grants**
  - We were turn down for all 3 of our grants.
  - State provided 250K in funds; there were 370K in requests.
  - State Priority: new outdoor trails, safety
  - Options?
    - i. Apply for a new developmental grant?
    - ii. John will apply for a Recreational Trail grant.
  - Friends have been spending on maintenance of the park, e.g. Trecker fireplace and heating.
  - **Evergreen:** skiers might be interested in the helping for maintain the building (roof, windows are good)
    - i. Brett: there is project on the plan for Evergreen, amount is \$300,000 (not likely)
    - ii. John: there are few trades people that would help with the work.
    - iii. Brett has an estimate from Jay Straka: \$18,000
      - 1. Cut bottom half and replace, seal
      - 2. Look at the rest of the building
      - 3. Would power wash the outside
    - iv. Optional Additional Enhances
      - 1. Replace concrete at the front
      - 2. Firewood holder in back
      - 3. Replace counters, drinking fountain
      - 4. Add interior door
      - 5. 2 exterior doors
    - v. Missy VanLanduyt: will work with us next year for grant wording

## New Business

1. **MPS (Milwaukee Pubic School) Outdoor Activities**
  1. 2 representatives met with the board
  2. Discussion about the Nature Center
  3. Want to make Lapham Peak as accessible as possible, but it is 45 minutes away (issue with Palmyra also)
  4. Issues with the lack of rentals, e.g. weddings
    - i. Layout of the building
    - ii. Changing fee structure, e.g. from \$100/hour 4 hour min to \$70/hour 2 hour min
    - iii. Note: MPS has been staffing during rentals
    - iv. \$22,000 - \$25,000 deficit each year, mainly utilities
    - v. Field Trips: MPS \$50, non-MPS charged per pupil
    - vi. Updating the kitchen to allow simple cooking
    - vii. Per car entrance permit required in addition to the rental cost

viii. Suggestion that more promotion is needed

**2. Eagle Scout Project:**

1. **Will be planting trees**, who will be paying? Friends not paying.

**3. Greater Milwaukee Foundation – Endowment**

1. Well managed
2. \$39K of 750 million dollars
3. Fees are high: 1.6%
4. Should change to index fund to save on fees.
5. The foundation will not give our current money back.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Timm: Secretary