



Friends of Lapham Peak

Board of Directors Meeting

March 8, 2018

Board members present: Louise Borzynski, John Hillmer, Rita Keber, Kris Maki, John McCarthy, Jackie Nicholson, Daya Pillay, Karl Timm, and Rick Von Haden

Absent: Dan Wiley (excused)

Also present: Anne Korman (DNR), Anne Riendl

Meeting called to order: 6:04 pm

Dates to remember: Next board meeting **Wednesday April 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm** at Hausmann Center

February Minutes: accepted as presented tonight (draft versions were emailed to attendees prior to tonight, and corrections to those working drafts were applied to the final version that was presented).

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was not available due to complications with reports from Waukesha State Bank with the change-over in FLP Treasurers (those are now resolved). Two reports will be provided in April.

- Income / donations were presented tonight from various members to the Treasurer for deposit/handling
- Bills and reimbursement requests were also presented to the Treasurer for handling
- Kris provided a summary of the Snowmaking Receipts, copy attached¹.

Running Agenda

Colorama: see below, **Bike Swap:** see below, **Lapham Loppet:** n.a., **Summer Solstice:** n.a., **Candlelight Ski:** n.a., **Fright Hike:** see below, **Wednesday Night Ski Series:** n.a., **Work Days:** see below, **Snowmaking:** see below, **Cross Country Skiing:** n.a., **Nature Center:** see below, **Endowment Fund:** see below, **Butterfly Garden Bricks/Memorial Bench:** see below, **Agreement Between DNR & Friends:** n.a

Old Business

1. Colorama, Kris reported:

- a. 2017's income & expenses (\$11,344.42 & \$4,523.84) netted to \$6,820.58, report attached².
- b. Planning for the 2018 event: Kris has lined up many people to help with the tasks and activities and is ready for a vote to sign the contract with Jon Krupa at Eclipse Timing. After discussion and with Kris providing the names of volunteers, it was moved by Kris to sign the contract, seconded by John H; the motion carried unanimously.
 - i. RaceWire will be used for registrations (online)
 - ii. John H will assist with registrations
 - iii. Jackie with artwork
 - iv. June K with brochures
 - v. Sandy S, Paul & Rita K providing support
 - vi. Wendy for shelter work
 - vii. Sherry and Ken/Green Alliance will provide help as needed
 - viii. Help manning Smokey the Bear is needed
- c. An organizational meeting is scheduled May 2, 5pm 4:45 (just prior to the May FLP Board Meeting)

2. Bike Swap, Louise reported:

Louise updated Theresa on permit needs and discussions; a single Special Event permit will be needed (not one for each vendor). Anne K said she can process/approve this (it does not need to go to the State level as this is a repeat event, and apparently the State is saying that local DNR can approve repeat events!). June 2nd is the date of the event; we recognize that a number of other things are happening within the State on this date so we might be competing with some of those for attendance.

3. Snowmaking, John M reported:

Two expenses (Insight – Diesel for Snowcat: \$642.75, We Energies - electricity: \$450.10) were approved. John also shared the attached report³ on behalf of the FLP Snowmaking Committee, summarized here:

- a. Online donations for snowmaking are now being handled through PayPal; income for the past period not yet available
- b. The snowmaking operations volunteers and the DNR maintained the quality of the snowmaking trail late into February, but then warm weather and rain resulted in the degradation of the trails and creation of icy, hard packed conditions. The last period of excellent skiing conditions was on the weekend of February 17-18. Grooming of the snowmaking trails by the DNR was stopped on about February 28th. A solid and substantial base of ice still remains that could allow for renewed grooming if sufficient natural snow were to occur.
- c. The snowmaking committee's fundraising efforts continue on several fronts. Businesses continue to be solicited for donations as 'sponsors'. Charlie Ritter is leading this effort. Several new committee members are actively engaged in the fundraising efforts.
- d. DNR-FLP Memorandum of Understanding for Snowmaking – An update was obtained on the progress of action items needed to occur in order to develop the MOU. A discussion with Missy V during the "networking" portion of the DNR's "Friends Partnership" presentation on February 28 provided the following updates on the DNR action items:
 - i. Provide a determination as to whether the issue with the potential campground, as noted in the 1989 Masterplan, conflicting with the snowmaking trail expansion, will be addressed via a Variance or an Amendment to the Masterplan. Following this determination with the initiation of the Variance or Amendment process. The public input portion of the ROA process showed the DNR that cross country skiing and snowmaking are very important to people in southeast Wisconsin. The results of the ROA for our region will be issued in preliminary form soon, for any further public comment. A determination of whether the campground issue will be addressed by an amendment, variance or no action (i.e. proceed towards MOU immediately) will be forthcoming soon.
 - ii. Provide example(s) of Strategic Plans, including the Maintenance and Operation Plan, and the Capital Development Plan. None have been provided, but we were told that additional detail on the labor and material expenses that the DNR devotes to snowmaking has been developed and will be provided to us shortly. It was stated that it was less than they expected.
 - iii. Provide new draft MOU document for FLP review. A meeting will be scheduled with Missy and her team for early April to discuss the ROA, campground, and strategic plan issues. It should be noted that DNR has a favorable view at the option of running the snowmaking system as a Concession, but is willing to consider the donation/volunteer model for option for the immediate future. John McCarthy to schedule the meeting through Anne Korman.

- iv. Provide examples of other parks and Friends groups that have Friends-funded staff, and how the funding works. No new information provided
- e. Recreational Opportunities Analysis (ROA) – The DNR is completing ROA for our region. John’s understanding is that there will be one more opportunity for public input, in the near future. Apparently our efforts to mobilize support for cross country skiing were successful.
- f. Data collected and analyzed by Rich M will be used to develop an updated Strategic & Business Plan (formerly the Snowmaking Implementation Plan, and before that, the Snowmaking Master Plan) for use in the MOU process. John McCarthy will lead this.
- g. Snowmaking Newsletter – A Spring edition of the Snowmaking Newsletter, sent to our donor base, is being assembled by Rich M and will be ready for distribution soon.

4. Fright Hike, Anne K reported:

- a. Information has been gathered from the Town of Delafield on prior Hikes, income & expenses, as well as a high level concept of the work involved in putting this event on. This information is provided so that the FLP can decide if we want to take this on ourselves in 2018 (and/or going forward); and do we want to see if the Ice Age Trail organization would like to be involved too?
- b. Financial summaries for the past 6 years was shared with the board, copies attached⁴
- c. Angie Lorbach says Sept – Oct pretty much requires 40 hours per week to run this event
- d. As for the props, originally Delafield owned these but they have been kept here at the Park
- e. The DNR would like to see this continue; it has great community awareness and involvement
- f. Anne Riendl says she is willing to organize a group of people to look into this, what it would take, etc., and Anne Korman will also help with this fact finding exploration
- g. The FLP Board was in favor of this investigation.

5. Nature Center, Louise reported:

June, July, and August – FLP would not have an issue with MPS renting out the top floor (Nature Center space) though ideally Sept and October should be reserved for the Nature Center. If the room is scheduled during those 2 months, the DNR would be asked to do all the moving of the displays for the events, and replacement afterwards. Anne K said that was their plan too.

6. Endowment Fund, Rick V reported:

Rick is investigating the calculation of the \$950 distribution from the GMF Endowment Fund; he would like the Board to understand that calculation

7. Butterfly Garden, Louise reported:

Several additional bricks are on order!

8. Memorial Benches, Louise reported:

Louise, Anne K, and DNR staff will continue to investigate and organize the list of benches, locations, and plaque matters (and then policy updates). They are moving in the direction to only allow one standard size plaque going forward (for ease of bench production, plaque cost management, uniformity, and to help keep the content of plaque memorial statements a bit more manageable). They are also looking to adjust the policy regarding adornments that some have added to benches, as well as focus the content of the memorial statements. They will get back to the Board with recommendations.

New Business

1. **Buckthorn Busters, Louise reported:**

- a. Additional Forestry Helmets will be purchased for Volunteers out of the Habitat Restoration Fund.
- b. John H suggested that Board Members check out the Buckthorn Buster work, especially around Nemahbin Springs (on the west side of Hwy C, close to the Interstate Eastbound off ramp for Hwy C). The area has been cleaned up nicely!

2. **Basket Stretcher, Louise reported:**

- a. DNR staff has requested that FLP consider help with a new Basket Stretcher (~\$900) and modifications to one of the ATV Mules (~\$4,000) to aid with medical emergency transportation within the Park.
- b. After much discussion, Anne K will investigate what other Parks use and come back with an updated recommendation

3. **Signs/Grants, Louise reported:**

From information recently obtained, grants totaling \$2million are available, \$250K for improvements including signage – updated/uniform Park signs with maps of the Park, for all WI State Parks. It sounded like more information was needed; Snowmaking Committee will pursue (including application for the signage).

4. **Volunteer/Work Days, Anne K reported:**

- a. Reminder, on Saturday May 12, we have a work day scheduled, and for that we have a commitment from St. John's that they will have Cadets here to help (see the Feb FLP Board Meeting Minutes).
- b. Anne K also reported that they were contacted by Lutheran High requesting a work day on Friday May 18; they will provide 13 kids to help clean up at Lapham Peak, see attachment⁵. John H will notify our Habitat Restoration Leaders (AKA Buckthorn Busters) to contact Lutheran High and create a plan.

5. **2017 Volunteer Hours, Louise reported:**

Louise shared that the total hours logged in 2017 by FLP Volunteers was **7,049.5!**

At 8:15 pm, the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Kris and a second by John M; the motion passed.

Next meeting Wednesday, April 4, 6 pm, Hausmann Nature Center

Respectfully submitted, with corrections, April 4, 2018,

John Hillmer, Secretary

Attachments (not available in the online PDF):

1. Snowmaking Receipts



3. Snowmaking Report



5. May 18 Work Day Request



2. 2017 Colorama Report



4. Fright Hike Summaries

