

# Friends of Lapham Peak

Board of Directors Meeting

June 6, 2018



**Board members present:** Louise Borzynski, John Hillmer, Rita Keber, Kris Maki, John McCarthy, Anne Riendl, Karl Timm, and Dan Wiley

**Also present:** Anne Korman (DNR)

**Absent:** Jackie Nicholson and Rick Von Haden (excused), Daya Pillay

**Dates to remember:** Next board meeting **Wednesday August 1, 2018 at 6:00 pm** at Hausmann Center

**Meeting called to order:** 6:05 pm

**May Minutes:** accepted as presented tonight (a draft version was previously emailed and corrected by members)

**Treasurer's Report:** May's report<sup>1</sup> was approved with notes as listed below. Some points of interest include:

**Total receipts:** \$5,426

**Total payments:** \$8,765

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| a) \$1,500: sold 3 snow guns      | a) \$ 282: web site domains (from Snowmaking) |
| b) \$2,322: snow making donations | b) \$ 150: Delafield Chamber of Commerce      |
| c) \$ 540: general fund donations | c) \$7,412: 1/3 down payment for new snow gun |
| d) \$ 100: habitat donations      | d) \$ 634: snow making equipment and services |
| e) \$ 75: member fees             | e) \$ 131: Jarecki habitat restoration        |
| f) \$ 875: engraved bricks        |   |

- 1) Discussion included a few typos and category corrections that will be reflected in next month's report (including: Ski League money in last month's minutes was to be transferred to SM....it is still in Ski League column)
- 2) Per Karl, FrightHike will be tracked separately in the Treasurer's report starting in August (like Colorama, Ski Series). After the event concludes and expenses have been paid, then the Board can move the money. SnowMaking took on the event so it would follow that SM would end up with the proceeds unless other decisions are made. For this month's FrightHike web hosting and domain expenses, the General Fund will not end up paying for those (they will reduce the overall profit of the event). The main FLP web site (laphampeakfriends) hosting and name registration fees will be funded by the General Fund.
- 3) Donations and bills were presented to Karl for handling, including:
  - a) Delafield Community Fund's grant for \$1,000 to the Habitat Restoration fund
  - b) Funds from the Friends of WI State Parks were received for a new sign; once we get the final quote for the sign we will probably end up splitting the balance: ½ from FLP and ½ from a WI DNR Enhancement grant
  - c) Friends of WI State Parks provided \$100 for flowers (to be placed in the area of the Entrance Office)
  - d) \$100 from Old Republic was received for Snowmaking
  - e) \$250 sponsorship for Colorama was received from Guthrie & Frey, Inc.
  - f) Various others with details that will be reflected in the next report were received via Louise.

## Running Agenda

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

## Old Business

### 1. **Summer Solstice:**

Publicity is in progress (newspapers, fliers, etc.); Special Events Application has been approved (by Anne K). Insurance is in place. Work continues on the Band for the evening. Food is planned. Paul Keber & John M have taken servers online training; they have their certificates. Rita is getting volunteers lined up.

### 2. **Bike Swap and Fun Fair, Anne R reported:**

It was a nice morning for the event with \$1,547 received to-date (see attachment<sup>2</sup>); Insurance costs were \$129 so a total profit once the dust settles is anticipated to be about \$1500! The Committee is looking to make this an "Expo" in 2019 that will include a Bike Corral for sales, more vendors and more food, other activities, etc. The Committee asked that their Bike Swap website and domain name be renewed (they were originally set to expire in August; John H will have them extended a year).

### 3. **Snowmaking, John M presented their report, attached<sup>3</sup>:**

a) **Snowmaking Expenses:** The following major expenses were approved for payment this past period:

- a. Lappin Electric - Wire for new electric pedestal - \$236.38
- b. Miller Bradford - items for snowcat maintenance - \$133.56
- c. SMI - down payment on new standard Polecat Snowgun - \$7,175.00

Additional expenses expected in the near future include pipe and aggregate for relocation of the well discharge, a new electrical pedestal and related expenses, plus parts for repair of existing pedestals.

b) **Snowmaking Strategic Plan and Business Plan:** A draft of an updated Snowmaking Strategic and Business Plan has been issued by the snowmaking committee and is under review by the DNR. The Plan documents the background and history of the project; lays out the plan for future expansion to completion of the system; cost and resource estimates, it presents an operating mode for the system that uses volunteer labor to offset any additional expenses by DNR for the expanded system; and it addresses ancillary impacts to park facilities from the snowmaking system expansion. The Plan includes the Manmade Snow DNR and Volunteer Labor Analysis and the study of Operating Snowmaking as a Concession, as appendices.

c) **Memorandum of Understanding for Snowmaking:** A meeting was held on May 14th in Madison with Missy Van Landuyt and Anne K. SM committee members Anne R, John M, and Rich M attended the meeting to present the Snowmaking Strategic and Business Plan and move the MOD process forward. The agenda included a discussion of the region's ROA results as it relates to the resolution of the campground issue from original park master plan; review of the DNR's estimated hours and expenses for snowmaking; the SM committee's estimate of the hours to operate the snowmaking system; the Strategic and Business Plan; the possibility/ramifications of the Friends running snowmaking as a concession; and the timeline for potential snowmaking trail extension.

The DNR was generally supportive of expanding snowmaking at Lapham Peak after reviewing the snowmaking manpower summary shown in the Strategic and Business Plan which indicated that the DNR

would not incur any incremental expenses for the added trails due to volunteer support for snowmaking. The DNR is interested in marketing Lapham Peak as a winter ski destination.

It looks like the MOD process is moving forward. The DNR is trying to decide how to address the campground issue. Options are to move forward with the snowmaking MOD without taking any action on the existing park master plan, or approve an amendment to the master plan through the DNR's process. If an amendment is required, the goal will be to submit it for acceptance at the DNR's Board meeting in September. Development of the MOD will proceed concurrently, with a goal of acceptance at the same Natural Resources Board meeting. Donations of new snowmaking equipment (snow gun and piping and wiring for Phase 3B) will also be presented at the September meeting.

- d) **Snowmaking Expansion:** John M is beginning work on the construction plans for the potential completion of the Phase 3B expansion in October or November of 2018 if the MOD is approved in September.
- e) **DNR Enhancement Grant project proposals:** The SM Committee is submitting applications for DNR Enhancement Grants:
  - a. Lapham Ski Trail orientation sign near Evergreen Trailhead with a map showing Ski Trail key elevations, trail markers, trail lengths and difficulty
  - b. payment of one year's operating and maintenance expenses
  - c. Trail grading and surface drainage improvements not covered by the rec trails grant (most of this work is not on the loops with man-made snow)
  - d. See **#4 DNR Enhancement Grants** below for additional discussion and information on this topic
- f) **Snowmaking expense planning:** a summary of expenses from the 2017-2018 ski season and a proposed budget for the 2018-2019 season was presented.
- g) **Snowmaking work week:** The actual work (probably the week of June 11<sup>th</sup>) will depend on availability of heavy equipment from Super Excavators (loaned-donated). Projects to be completed include raising the well pipe outlet to provide an additional 12 inches of pond depth, relocating one electrical pedestal, adding a new pedestal for the Instruction area, and improving some trail drainage.
- h) **New fundraising campaign:** Will E. presented ideas for working with individual snow making supporters and asked for assistance to enhance fundraising from that sector. He suggested a theme for the next phase such as "Into the Woods" and "Up the Hill" as a catchy marketing tool that donors could relate to. Charlie R. and Will to coordinate ideas for this campaign with regular reports and input from the rest of the committee.
- i) **Plaques on wall in Evergreen shelter:** Committee members are comparing the master snowmaking donation list of names and totals with the plaques in Evergreen, with the goal of updating the plaques.
  - a. During our FLP Board meeting tonight, Anne K suggested the committee look into an electronic sign or display monitor for Evergreen to show donor names and their levels, rather than create new plaques. Board members had favorable comments regarding this suggestion; the SM committee said they would take this under advisement.

#### 4. DNR Enhancement Grants:

Since the SM Committee is preparing to submit 3 applications (**see #3e above**) for the DNR Enhancement Grants, and since the Friends have already submitted an application that contained 2 items (funds for a new DNR Specified Sign for the park, and funds to help the DNR with improved rescue transportation equipment for our Park), Anne K suggested we prioritize these 4 applications. She reminded us that many Friends groups will submit applications and there is only \$250K to distribute for all of Wisconsin. (The Enhancement Grants for the selected/approved applications will fund ½ of the project/application, and the Friends would fund the other ½).

After discussion regarding the suggestion to prioritize the 4 applications, John H moved, with a second by Dan, to use the following priorities that John M suggested:

- 1<sup>st</sup> priority should be the Rescue Equipment and Park Signage application that Louise submitted for us
- 2<sup>nd</sup> priority should be the Ski Trail Signage application that the SM Committee will submit
- 3<sup>rd</sup> priority should be the application to fund one year's operating and maintenance expenses
- 4<sup>th</sup> priority should be the application for Trail grading and surface drainage improvements

The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Evergreen Maintenance and Grant:**

John M shared options and ball park costs again with Anne K and the Board (incl. doors, concrete, ½ siding or all new siding), and what the current Grant provides and what more might be needed to expand this project. Anne K says the likelihood of the DNR replacing the building is highly unlikely anytime soon, so if we can do more now that would be in everyone's best interest. Anne K says she can provide a skilled construction labor resource from the Southern Unit. John H said he could get Buckthorn Busters to help remove any siding when the time comes. John M said he will follow-up with the Grant, and will investigate the supplies needed to do all of the siding; he will email the Board with more details since the Board does not meet again until August.

**6. Work Day, Louise reported:**

We had 50 volunteers working, with a total of 210 hours completed on our May 12 Work Day. There was a nice article in the newspaper by Rebecca Seymour and we received nice recognition for our work from Cindi Duchow - Assembly District 99 Representative.

**7. Buckthorn Busters:**

John H reported that while minor buckthorn work continues in the late/spring and summer, most attention has turned to pulling and spaying garlic mustard. The BBs have requested approval to purchase a new chainsaw using Habitat Restoration funds. Kris moved, with a second by John H, that an amount up to \$600 be approved for this purchase; the motion passed unanimously. John H will work with Jack Abler who will purchase the saw with input from the DNR (regarding best prices); Jack will work with Louise for getting this paid. John H also noted that he and several other BBs were just at the DNRs required chainsaw certification classes.

As part of old business, after the May Board meeting, Louise used email to obtain approval from the Board to sponsor the expense for a picnic hosted by the Rangers for the Buckthorn Busters. Jay estimated it will cost \$150-200 for food and beverages; we did this last year and reimbursed him \$120. This was approved.

**8. Colorama:**

The Brochure was provided to the Board for approval. A discussion of the pricing (early-bird vs. late or on-site registrations) was shared to the committee. Registration is open now. Advertising has begun on various calendars; donations are now being requested. We are working with an insurance carrier on the liability release.

**New Business**

1. **Online Shelter Reservations in 2019:** Anne K reported (during the discussion of the Bike Swap event) that beginning in January, all park Shelters will now be reserved using a DNR provided online website calendar. We will need to re-reserve the event dates and shelters that had earlier been scheduled for 2019 dates. The January **Candlelight Hike/Ski** will need to be a priority. More details will be coming from the DNR.
2. **Ragnar Events:** Kris reported that she and her son volunteered at a location for the FLP (across the Glacial Drumlin Trail from Bicycle Doctors) for the relay race. She believes we will get \$250 for this overnight work (and noted that over 90 vans needed to be managed/parked during the night as part of this!)

3. **Tower Work:** Maintenance work has been contracted and is scheduled for our tower's steps and should be done by July 4<sup>th</sup>. The DNR is handling all of this.
4. **Memorial Bricks and Benches:** Dan reported that about 167 memorial bricks have now been laid. Funds for a new memorial bench have been received; 6 more benches will be made by Jim Waltz and the Buckthorn Busters in June. One of our non-standard Memorial Bench plaques that needs to be repaired will be given to Jim Waltz to see what he can come up with for a solution.
5. **Windmill Maintenance:** Louise said she checked into services that repair windmills, they exist, and she also found that should we ever decide to dispose of ours there are people who will buy these. Anne K will look into what it would take to repair ours, so that we can have a discussion on funding/grants or other options in the future.
6. **General Liability Insurance:** This topic, part of the proposed DNR/Friends Agreement, is still pending. Our renewal is coming due in August. Anne K will follow-up to see what she can find out for us. If we don't hear back in time, we will renew ours and then terminate it in the future if we find that the DNR will cover this for us.
7. **FrightHike:** Good progress is being made. Oct 12 & 13 are locked in. Progress on insurance was pending a decision on how we needed to get people to check/sign/agree to a liability waiver and release; this has been resolved now. [www.FrightHike.org](http://www.FrightHike.org) and [www.facebook.com/laphampeakfrighthike](http://www.facebook.com/laphampeakfrighthike) are up and running. You can even get your tickets now!

At 8:45 pm, the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Rita and a second by John H; the motion passed.

**Next meeting Wednesday, August 1, 6 pm, Hausmann Nature Center**

Respectfully submitted with updates, July 26, 2018,

John Hillmer, Secretary

Attachments (not available in the online PDF):

1. Treasurer's Report



May 2018 Treasurers  
Report.pdf

2. BikeSwap Funds



2018 BikeSwap.pdf

3. Snowmaking Report



2018 June SM.pdf