

# Friends of Lapham Peak

Annual Board of Directors Meeting

December 12, 2018

## Board members present\*

\*Louise Borzynski, \*John Hillmer, \*Rita Keber, \*Anne Korman (DNR), \*Kris Maki, John McCarthy, \*Jackie Nicholson, Daya Pillay, \*Anne Riendl, \*Karl Timm, Rick Von Haden, \*Dan Wiley, Paul Keber (guest)

**Next meeting:** January 3 (Thursday), Hausman Nature Center, 6pm

**Following a wonderful dinner hosted at the Keber's – the Meeting was called to order:** 7:50 pm

**October & November Minutes:** Both were distributed via email prior to this meeting; they were approved tonight.

## Treasurers Report:

- Karl provided copies of the Oct-November report via email (attached to the end of this report<sup>1</sup>) and we discussed pages 2 and 3 (receipts & disbursements). Significant payments included the final invoice for the Evergreen siding project. And, with other expenses, over \$100K was distributed this month; new income was also significant at over \$80K this month. Colorama, Fright Hike, Phase3B, and Snowmaking were drivers for these larger than usual income and expense numbers.
- Karl handled income/donations and bills from the various members who had those for him to process, with income streams & fund-accounts identified. Kris provided Karl with a check for \$775 from Colorama Race/Wire for online registrations.
- Work is on-going to convert our Friends accounting over to QuickBooks.
- There was a question about getting a pro-rated refund on the insurance rider from our carrier as we returned the Snowmaking 3B equipment early; the answer came back that the rider is an annual rider, not a daily or weekly rider, so there will not be a prorated refund. When we rent again in the spring or summer, we will need to be sure they bridge the equipment so that whatever we rent (similarly) will also then be covered under this rider.
- We again discussed the issue of us needing or not, to collect sales tax, especially given the larger sales we are seeing now from events such as Colorama and **Fright Hike**. Dan verified with the State that we do not have an issue:

*Based on the email below(attached<sup>2</sup>) that I received from the DOR the FLP fundraising events would not be subject to sales tax. All our current fundraisers are below the **75 day per calendar year standard** and therefore no sales tax.*

*We may exceed the **\$50,000 receipts per calendar standard** but sales tax is only due if both standards are exceeded in a calendar year. Then sales tax is due on receipts that exceed the standard.*

We also asked Anne K to check again about the sales tax that the State has been keeping on items that the front office sells. These items are not loaded with sales tax, yet when the fund **goes** to the State, and **they** come back to us, sales tax has been removed from them. Our position is that this is incorrect.

## Old Business

**Colorama:** Kris provided a draft summary report of the revenue and expenses, and then in mid-December she sent an updated version, attached<sup>3</sup>. She and members discussed the need to determine if this event is worth the effort in the future, and timing/scheduling or combining it with other event(s). Kris gave Rita a message to put in the newsletter re: help needed for Colorama next year. [A link to the newsletter is provided here](#). There was a question

about reserving a timer for next year, and would there be any expense to do that if we are not definite yet? By mid-December Kris shared this information in an email to us as a follow-up:

*I received an email from Eric Kean who timed Colorama last year for Eclipse timing. He is happy to time our race for the same amount next year....that is good news....we can cancel....if registration is open, then we'd lose fees, but I cannot see us cancelling unless an earthquake destroys our trails. So, #1 on list of tasks to get Colorama started is completed.*

**Fright Hike:** We have paid our coordinator almost all that is due, but we are still working out the final details of the income and expenses so as to determine the final payment. The coordinator would be willing to do this again for us next-year but we need to get more volunteers involved to handle the various sub-tasks (functions like, parking, security, set up, cleanup, etc). The notion of a set of crew chiefs was discussed, with one person heading up each major function, and organizing a sub-team for that function, that way all the work does not fall on just a few. Information about these needs was placed in the [January newsletter](#). After the coordinator is paid, there will be a profit to the Friends, with the majority of this going to Snowmaking. However, the Fright Hike committee recommended that \$1000 of the profit go to Habitat Restoration given John Hillmer's significant involvement in **Fright Hike** and the focus that he has for that work. This was approved.

**Work Days:**

- November 3 was a good work day, with 45 volunteers attending (including a number of cadets from St. John's). Work focused on trail-restoration for the Phase3B project, and also Buckthorn Removal per a grant that the Habitat Restoration team has been working on.
- Our Next work day (our Earth Day project) will be May 11, 2019.

**Snowmaking:** John M shared a written report, attached<sup>4</sup> though he was not able to attend this meeting.

Snowmaking Expenses: Significant expenses have been incurred for snowmaking since October, due to the installation of piping and power for the Phase 3B snowmaking extension, and purchase of a new snowgun. The near-final total for the Phase 3B work is \$57,300; and for the snowgun purchase is \$21,150. Attached is a PDF summary of the Phase 3B expenses.

Land Use Agreement (Formerly the Memorandum of Understanding) for Snowmaking: Negotiations with DNR on the Land Use Agreement were completed in September. Two copies of the final LUA were signed by Louise and returned to the DNR at their Madison office on October 24th. The DNR-executed copy has not yet been returned to us. Terms of the LUA that related to the planning and construction of the Phase 3B snowmaking expansion were implemented. A digital copy of the LUA, as signed by the FLP, is available for review, upon request. The Strategic and Business Plan for Snowmaking will be revised and updated to address the provisions contained in the LUA.

Donation of Phase 3B/C Infrastructure and One New Snowgun to DNR: A donation, valued at \$116,000 was made to DNR and accepted by the Natural Resources Board at their October 24th meeting in Madison. The donation represented the new snowgun (\$21,000), noted above, and the infrastructure for Phases 3B and 3C of the snowmaking trail expansion (\$95,000). A presentation was made by John McCarthy to the NRB at the meeting, and a group picture taken. The NRB was very appreciative of the donation.

Snowmaking Phases 3B and 3C Expansions: Materials for the Phase 3B expansion were delivered to the Park in early October. Construction began in late October with pipe fusing, followed by excavation, pipe placement, partial backfilling, electric cable installation, placement of hydrants and power pedestals, final backfilling and restoration. The work included installation of about 1400 feet of pipe and electric cable, six hydrants, and six power pedestals. The work was done by volunteers with equipment rented from Miller Bradford (at a substantial discount); and contracted services for the pipe fusing (Core and Main), and electrical connections (Elect-Tech).

The construction process went well, due to the meticulous planning, the help of the many volunteers, and the excellent weather. The installation process was completed within the planned time frame of less than 2 weeks. A substantial portion of the final restoration was completed, but significant rain prevented the completion of some of the fine

grading and clean-up, along with seeding and chip placement. Significant help with the restoration was provided by volunteers, including the cadets from St. John's, during the November 3rd FLP workday.

Phase 3C, which would be comprised of about 1100 feet of pipe and wire; and three more hydrants and power pedestals, is planned for June 2019. Final design and ordering of materials for this work will proceed during the early spring of 2019. Final restoration work remaining for the Phase 3B work will be completed in the spring.

Project Fundraising and Community Engagement: The fundraising sub-committee is continuing with implementation of the "Into the Woods" campaign. A mailing was made to over 500 past donors to encourage financial support of the project. A program has been established that provides a matching contribution, up to \$10,000 total, for new contributors to the snowmaking project. The sub-committee is actively engaging with the Delafield Chamber of Commerce, who donated \$2500 to the project. Sponsorships are being solicited, similar to last year, with signs to be placed along the snowmaking trails as recognition.

Approximately \$20,000 in donations to snowmaking were received during November 2018. Many of these donations arrived in the return envelope mailed with the "Into The Woods" campaign mailing. This included \$2,545 from 25 "new" donors.

John Hallett has once again designed, made and donated an original Holiday Ornament which is for sale for \$20 each. This year the figure in the ornament is of a child Nordic skier, and the ornament is made of wood.

A program is being implemented to provide "arm bands" to individual donors (above a specified amount) that can be worn on the snowmaking trail to show that they are a financial supporter of the project.

2018-2019 Snowmaking Season: Preparation for the upcoming ski season kicked in as soon as the Phase 3B construction work was completed. Marker posts, showing the width and depth for placement of the manmade snow, were installed. Snowguns and other related equipment were tuned up and placed along the trail, ready for snowmaking to begin.

Cold weather during late November and early December has allowed for the snowmaking process to begin. Snowmaking started on November 26th, and proceeded for 48 hours. A second session began on December 5th, and wound up on December 11th. A "loop" of approximately 1.2 kilometers of manmade snow was opened for skiing on December 8th. Whales of snow have been made along most of the rest of the Phases 2 and 3A trails and are being spread. Volunteer snowmakers, led by Joe Stuber and Rich Marusinec, and supported by Park staff, have been operating the snowguns.

The aging Snowcat continues to have some issues. Beattle (volunteer) and paid professionals have kept it going so far. We continue to recognize our need for a more reliable Snowcat to spread the whales and till the surface when icy.

#### **Grants:**

- The RTP Trails Grant (RTP-876-17N) is now complete.
- Enhancement Grants – we've paid the portions that we had due for the items approved
  - Orientation sign(s) are a work in progress, Anne K will coordinate
  - Stretcher is here; Board is on backorder
- Trail repair funds: the state will provide \$6K for this work, but we will have to share in the expenses. Should this come from snowmaking? Or general? Either way we believe this is not something to turn down.

**Habitat Restoration:** John H reported that a significant number of volunteers have been working this fall, MWF (with Jack or John H) and also T-Th (with Holly or John H). Some days we have as many as 8-10 working, and other days it's around 4-6. The new chainsaw is working great, but a number of other small repairs have been needed to other saws, and a number of supplies have needed to be purchased (chains, oil, herbicide), but great progress in the Park and also along the Ice Age Trail as it passes through the Park has been accomplished. On one day, we had 4 chainsaws plus a brush saw and 7 people picking/stacking and burning. With help from St. John's, about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the "Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin: C.D. Besadny Conservation Fund" work was completed.

**Memorials (Bricks & Benches):** Dan reported that 17 more bricks have been ordered (since the October report). Louise reported that another bench has also been ordered!

### New Business

**Volunteer Hours:** Louise asked individuals and committee heads to get her a summary of their hours logged this year. Details are not needed, just high level summaries.

**GMF:** Distributed our dividend already this year; this year it was: \$1540 (on Oct 15). We asked Karl to re-invest that in our Vanguard account ASAP.

**Open Board Position:** Randy Wichinski is interested and is pending; he will meet with us in January. We also have one other person who might have an interest. We will see if Randy accepts before following up with other lead(s).

**Ski Vendor:** Anne K updated us on the matter of signing up a new vendor. Work with this vendor on a concession agreement is in progress and she hopes to have this announced before Christmas. (Post meeting note, that did happen, and the information on the new vendor is now published on our [website](#)).

**Candle Light Ski/Hike:** The office (Sarah) will not be able to monitor Q&As for the event on Facebook. Rather, we (John H, Rita, Anne R, Louise, and Sarah) will provide Q&As on our Friends [website](#) (which is now done). We will increase the number of vouchers this year to allow more cars into the event. Vouchers (600) will be ready for pickup at the office by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Skiing:** Volunteers are needed for the Loppet (Jan 19); Ski-league begins Jan 2-Feb 13.

**1st Day Hike:** Yes, Lapham Peak will be hosting this event again.

### **Meeting Adjourned at 10:30pm**

Next meeting is January 3<sup>rd</sup> (Thursday) at 6pm, Hausman Center.

Respectfully submitted with corrections applied,  
John Hillmer, Secretary

Attachments (PDFs are attached for Board Members, but are not available in the online version)

1) Treasurer's Report



LPF 2018 Nov  
Treasurers Rpt.pdf

2) Email Re: Sales Tax



SaleTax.pdf

3) Summary of Colorama



2018 Colorama  
Summary.pdf

4) Snowmaking Report



Dec Snowmaking  
Rpt.pdf