

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
January 3, 2019

Board members present*

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

Next meeting: February 7 (Thursday), Hausman Nature Center, 6pm

Meeting was called to order: 6:10 pm

December Minutes: Approved with minor adjustments.

Louise introduced Randy Wichinski. He has been a lifetime member for over 10 years and lives in Brookfield.

Treasurers Report:

- Karl provided copies of the Oct-December 2018 report. Fright Hike expenses were correct of \$223 with income known. Anne clarified insurance information with Dan. Kris gave \$1290 of checks from the Wednesday Night Ski Series. The Series profited \$2251 after the first night with some individuals paying for the series and one Loppet entry. Discussion on payment of the We energies bill with John M and Anne K. John suggested the meter is read at the start and end of snowmaking for 2019-2020 season.
- Taxes are due February 15, 2019. Dan suggested an extension. He and Karl will work on taxes May/June with completion before July 15 due date.
- The SM Committee would like locks, totaling approximately \$300 on the original pedestals. High voltage in each is a potential hazard. New pedestal have a different set up and locks.
- Karl handled income/donations and bills from the various members 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.

Old Business

Colorama: Kris heard from the timer. He would like her to use GetMeRegistered for participants. Kris would like to use RaceWire's registration. The person was OK with that. She had not received any calls regarding assistance at Colorama despite information for help in the January newsletter.

Loppet: Anne Riendl will get Kris Nico Parmann's, correct email. He'd like to help at Loppet.

Ski Series: 59 adults and 45 students participated. Snowmaking loop was very well covered with snow.

Snowmaking: John M shared a written report, attachment 1 for more details.

Snowmaking Expenses: Expenses included Snowcat maintenance and report - \$882.85, electrical materials - \$910.02, fuel – for Snowcat \$135.26 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: No copy has been received. Copies will have the signatures and the Notary imprint. Anne would like a digital copy which John said he'd provide once the paper copy arrives. 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: It was suggested to display the picture at the park (John, Anne and others) of the donation, valued at \$116,000 which was made to DNR and accepted by the Natural Resources Board at their October 24th meeting in Madison.

Snowmaking Phases 3B and 3C Expansions: Materials for the Phase 3B expansion was completed around the beginning of November. Restoration work with DNR approved plantings will be completed in spring. 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 has been very busy. Discussion has been positive with Cindy Duchow, a local state representative, regarding potential for state budget allocations to support snowmaking operations. Delafield Tourism Council has donated \$2500 to the snowmaking project with the check coming in January. Sponsorship is being acknowledged with signs on the light poles on the snowmaking loop. Many donations have come in during December.

John Hallett Holiday Ornament which is for sale for \$20 each.

One of the future recognition plans is 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.

A new sign on a “sandwich board” has been placed at the Evergreen trail head to point out the location of the snowmaking donation tube and encourage users to donate.

2018-2019 Snowmaking Season: Three interlinked loops of manmade snow trails, comprised of about 1.6 kilometers, has been open for skiing since December 13th. Warm weather prevented the making of additional manmade snow in December to cover the new “into the woods” trails. The snowmaking system has received a lot of usage by many skiers since opening, as the loops are providing the only skiable snow in the region. Trail users have been very complementary of the efforts of the volunteer snowmakers and DNR groomers.

The trails have survived several rain events; with the snow base being returned to skiable condition by tilling with the Snowcat. Hydraulic fluid leakage problems with the Snowcat have, for the moment, abated.

A brief window of colder weather this week has allowed for about 40 hours of snowmaking. Several areas of the core trails have been reinforced with additional snow; and ‘whales’ of manmade snow have been created along most of the “into the woods” trails. Those whales will be spread in the near future, increasing the length of snowmaking trails to about 2.1 kilometers, and possibly more. It will be determined during the spreading operations whether there will be two ‘out and back’ segments on the new trails, or if snow can be pushed to create the full Phase 3 loop through the woods.

Grants:

- The RTP Trails Grant (RTP-876-17N) is now complete. John is ready to file it after a discussion with Karl. Most of the bills went for Evergreen repairs with approximately \$8900 for reimbursement.
- Enhancement Grants –
 - Stretcher is here; Board is still on backorder

Habitat Restoration: Mule is broken down again. Brian and Jay were able to fix it for less than the \$700 projected cost. However, a new mule is needed in the future. Louise looked at the cost of a new John Deere which runs about \$10,000. Anne K. said she would look into the DNR budget for next fiscal year to see if the DNR budget could help the Friends assist with the purchasing cost. Anne will talk to the staff to determine the needs/wants for purchasing a new vehicle. Board approved for a subcommittee to be formed to purchase a mule/gator in the future. The old mule could be placed on the DNR Purchasing website. Meanwhile, there is a mule available until May 1 from Whitewater campground in the Southern Kettle.

Memorials (Bricks & Benches): Dan reported that 10 more bricks with installation in the spring.

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.

Candlelight: Event is Saturday, January 26 from 6-8:45 pm. Louise met with Jay to look for the supplies. We need 240 wax bags, wooden stands and candles. 250 plumber candles are left from the box of 500 ordered last year. Anne K. felt there should be used ones still available from last year. Anne will order wax bags and candles.

Staff will put out bag on the path beforehand. Four volunteers are needed for the early shift starting at 4 pm. with two volunteers being experienced. Two volunteers start lighting candles at each end of the trail so four volunteers. Problems occurred last year because of the wind. Bags needed to be rolled down at the top for better stability and to prevent the bags from burning.

Louise said people come into Trecker Lodge early when it opens at 4 pm for volunteers. Rita will make a sign for the door stating the "Building open to volunteer at 4 pm, the public at 5:45 pm." Four – five staff will be working. Louise will contact Wendy to see if she is interested in making popcorn since it is such a popular item. Park staff will get supplies ready for the bonfire, grill, charcoal and salt in case of icy conditions. Rita will send out to the membership volunteer opportunities and time slots for parking, lighting candles and working in Trecker.

New Business

Board Position: Randy Wichinski gave some background information about himself. He has worked as a public accountant, CPA, lectured at colleges and universities and is now retired. He was instrumental in lobbying the state for continuing education for accountants which came into law in 2017. (Wisconsin was the only jurisdiction that did not have continuing education for a profession such as nurses and teachers.) He said he would be glad to help Karl with 990 tax forms.

Ski Race: John mentioned the Sandgren Ski Race (if snow) on Saturday, January 26 sponsored by the WI Biathlon Association at McMiller. Proceeds benefit the McMiller shelter.

1st Day Ski: Anne R. reported 1700km were skied on the snowmaking loop New Year's Day. There were also many hikers and dogs as well as fat tire bikers at night for another 447 km hiked/biked.

Officers: Board accepted Randy Wichinski to the board; his term is until 2021. Board also voted Louise - president, Rick – vice president, John H. – secretary and Karl – treasurer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next meeting is February 7th (Thursday) at 6pm, Hausman Nature Center. Respectfully submitted as a draft, January 4, 2019, and Final as Approved on Feb 14, 2019

Rita Keber, pseudo Secretary; John Hillmer, Secretary

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

1) Snowmaking Report



2019 - Jan
Snowmaking.pdf

2) December Treasurer's Report (Corrected)



2018 December
Treasurers Rpt v3.pdf