

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



Board Members (those present are noted with an “*”)

*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: *Angela Lorbach

Next meeting: May 1 (Wednesday), Hausman Nature Center, 6pm

Meeting was called to order: 6:10 pm

Special Presentation – Fright Hike 2019: Anne R introduced Angie Lorbach, our coordinator again for the 2019 Fright Hike, scheduled Fri Oct. 18 & Sat Oct 19, from 6-8:30 pm, at Lapham Peak, a fundraising function of the Friends of Lapham Peak. The goal of the presentation was to create awareness and excitement and to identify specific areas of need for leadership for this event to be successful again. Last year, over 4,000 people attended the Hikes and we anticipate the same for 2019. Our website www.FrightHike.org and facebook.com/laphampeakfrighthike (Facebook) are up and running. Online Ticket sales will be available again later this year. The greatest need is for volunteers, both for the skits, and for the running of the event. This year, we will utilize a number of team captains to coordinate and oversee a number of the specific areas; we need people to step up and fill these:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>TEAM CAPTAIN</u>
SETUP/DECORATING/CLEAN UP CREW	<i>open</i>
SECURITY	<i>open</i>
PARKING	Will Edwards
SHUTTLES	<i>open</i>
TICKETS	<i>open</i>
LINE CONTROL	<i>open</i>
ENVIRONMENTAL/WASTE	<i>open</i>
VOTING/TSHIRT SALES	John Hillmer
SPONSORSHIPS	<i>open</i>
MAKEUP/VIP TENT	<i>open</i>
VOLUNTEER AFTER PARTY	<i>open</i>

We also need business sponsors for the event. For more information or to accept a position, or to help us with a business sponsorship or lead, please contact: Angela Lorbach, frighthikepeak@gmail.com or 262.290.8710

March Minutes: Approved and posted on the web as presented (with minor spelling corrections made)

Treasurers Report: Note, this topic was addressed near the end of the meeting, but it is reported here in these minutes for consistency month-to-month). Karl provided updated copies of the February report (attached¹) and also copies of the March report (also attached²), with several notes:

- Transferred \$9,296.34 from Fright Hike to snowmaking (note, \$1,000 of this should be moved to Habitat Restoration; that will be done in an updated March Report)
- Snowmaking paid \$10,880 in snowcat repairs
- Snowmaking spent \$3,663 in hydrants and wire for next spring's extension

- Snowmaking received \$19,220 in donations

The March Treasurers Report was accepted with a few other minor corrections. Board Members provided Karl with Receipts and Donations and Reimbursement Requests, Bills to be paid, etc. Funds included memberships, brick donations, and SnowMaking, Habitat Restoration, etc. Rick mentioned that he continues to provide Karl with the monthly details for the Greater Milwaukee Foundation fund.

Anne R discussed the desire for improved visibility, accountability, and oversight of finances, given that we now have about 30 income and expense streams of funds to track. While work is well underway to move the treasurer's repositories into QuickBooks, we still have many funds that are tracked by various committee and subject areas. An example of the need for more tracking is to see how the checkbook balances out each month with the treasurer's report given many adjustments that need to be addressed and accounted for. Anne R is proposing and recommending a Finance Records Committee be established to look at the overall picture and determine / recommend any needs for improvements in the various processes around our finance handling. After much discussion, it was agreed that Karl, Anne R, Randy, and Rick form the Finance Records Committee and study our current processes and determine recommendations for any changes.

It was noted that we have filed for an extension to complete the Friends' 2018 Tax Reporting – and Karl, Randy, and Dan will be working on that in the next few months.

Old Business

Snowmaking: John M provided the attached report³ which is also summarized here. Snowmaking Expenses:

- Hydrants for Phase 3C – \$1162.50
- Snowcat repairs by Miller Bradford -- \$10,521.91

Substantial snowmaking expenses are expected for the next period, for Phase 3C construction.

Snowmaking Phases 3B and 3C Expansions: Phase 3C, which will be comprised of about 1100 feet of pipe and wire; and three more hydrants and power pedestals, is planned for late April 2019. Final design for this work is proceeding. Materials have been ordered. An excavator from Miller Bradford has been reserved. Final details on the schedule for the work need to be worked out. Excavation work will not occur until after the Bear Trax run on April 28th. Final restoration work remaining for the Phase 3B work will be completed as part of the Phase 3C work.

Project Fundraising and Community Engagement: Discussions with Cindy Duchow – local state representative – regarding the potential for a state budget allocation to support snowmaking operations are ongoing.

2018-2019 Snowmaking Season: The ski season is complete, with the final grooming occurring on March 14th. There were over 90 days of groomed snow, with the full system of 2.4 kilometers, including the entire Phase 3 "Into the Woods" loops, for about 60 days. Volunteer snowmakers and snowcat operators put in over 800 hours to make and spread snow, and then till the frozen base after four rain/ice/thaw/freeze events. The DNR staff did a great job of keeping the trails groomed on a regular basis. An estimate of 54,000 skier visits was developed based on the car count information provided by the DNR for December, January, and February.

Snowcat: The snow cat has been repaired by Miller Bradford and returned to the park. The total cost of the repairs is about \$14,000

The snowmaking committee is actively strategizing replacement of the current snowcat in the relatively near future. A building to store the snowcat is also being evaluated. John M will lead this effort.

Grants:

RTP – John M is working on the reports that will provide \$8900 from the Grant to the Friends for the work we did.

DeBoer – DNR Natural Resources Foundation provided us with \$1000 from their Quiet Trails Fund.

Enhancement Grant – The stretcher and rescue board did arrive. Sarah and Anne K are finalizing the sign and pictures that will represent the overall features and activities at this Park.

Enhancement Grant for Trail Work – Anne R reported that with the State offering matching funds of \$6490 (for work that would cover \$12,980 of work, materials, supplies, and volunteer labor), we would need a plan for how we would match the \$6490. After a presentation, see attached⁴, and after much discussion, John H moved, and it was seconded by Anne R, that we accept this Grant, and the Friends will match the \$6490 by:

- \$2000 will be funded by Snowmaking Fund
- \$1000 will be funded from the DeBoer Grant
- \$1990 to \$3490 be funded by the General Fund (if no volunteer hours are logged for this work, then all \$3490 will need to come from General; however, up to 200 hours can be logged by volunteers at \$7.25 per hour up to \$1500, then as little as \$1990 would be needed from General.

For a total then of \$2000 (SM) + \$1000 (DeBoer) + \$1990 (General) + \$1500 (volunteer time) = \$6490

Though it is agreed that as much as \$3490 might be needed from General if no volunteer time is logged, which would then be \$2000 (SM) + \$1000 (DeBoer) + \$3490 (General) = \$6490. Again, any volunteer time would be tracked and logged at \$7.25 per hour (up to \$1500) and that would then reduce the General Fund's contribution down from \$3490 to as low as \$1990. The motion was unanimously approved.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant – John H reported that we have been awarded a \$10,000 Grant for Habitat Restoration, focusing on Invasive Species & Prairie Management work that will target the west side of Hwy C. This will come in the form of \$5000 from the State and \$5000 in matching funds from the Friends, of which it is planned that \$2500 will be needed from the Friends if we can also provide 345 hours in volunteer labor (345 x 7.25 per hour = \$2500). If less than 345 hours is logged by volunteers, then the Friends cash portion would need to increase.

Habitat Restoration: John H reported that the new Gator with winch has arrived and has been in use for a few weeks now. It is working out very nicely! A final payment (for the \$600 installed winch) will be made this week. The Kubota (loaner) has been returned. The Kawasaki Mule will continue to be used as long as it holds up and does not cost us money.

Memorial Benches: Six new benches will be made by Buckthorn Busters, led by Jim Waltz, currently scheduled to happen the morning of Friday April 26. It was noted that this is the same date that Fusing for SM Phase 3C is to happen.

Summer Solstice: John M reported that the Bike Doctor is all set to provide music; insurance for the event has been taken care of already, though a rider for alcohol may still be needed. Dan will help when the time comes for that.

Work Day: Saturday May 11th is our Earth Day Work/Play Day at Lapham Peak. This will be from 9am-noon with lunch at noon in the maintenance garage. 14 from St. John's Northwestern are anticipated. The workday will be publicized in the upcoming newsletter. The work will focus on the Butterfly Garden with about 10 people needed for there and the rest will work on trail restoration from the recent SM Phases 3B & 3C.

New Business

Nature Center: Louise reported that all of the mounted animals and birds had to be removed from the Nature Center. The Rangers discovered that sadly, a moth infestation had attacked these, and they needed to be removed to be treated or disposed of. Apparently, this is an issue that museums also deal with from time to time. Most were put in a DNR Freezer in Milwaukee to kill the infestation. Cleaning of the building and carpets is planned before any of these that can be salvaged and/or repaired can return.

Mission Statement: Randy asked about getting our mission statement added to GuideStar (www.guidestar.org); we all agreed that would be good and he will work on that.

Spring Newsletter: Rita asked for input (topics and materials) for the next newsletter.

Membership: Rita reported that we currently have: 49 annual paid memberships, and 129 life memberships.

Meeting Adjourned: Rick moved, and Randy seconded, that the meeting adjourn at 8:40 pm. Our next meeting will be May 1st (Wednesday) at 6pm, Hausman Nature Center.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hillmer, Secretary

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

1) Treasurer's (Updated Feb)



Feb Treasurers Rpt
v2.pdf

2) Treasurer's (March)



March Treasurers
Rpt.pdf

3) SM Report (April)



April
Snowmaking.pdf

4) Enhancement Grant



Trail Repair Grant.pdf