

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
October 2, 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

Next meeting is our Annual Meeting: November 6 (Wednesday), Hausman Nature Center, 7pm (note the time!)

Meeting was called to order: 6:03 pm. Louise opened the meeting by saying that Patty Loosen from FWSP called and indicated we have won three awards this year:

1. Outstanding State Parks Friends group (another property was also named)
2. Outstanding Individual State Parks Friends member, John McCarthy (another person from another property was also awarded), and
3. Best Handicapped Accessible trail for the Gold Seal award!

A presentation will happen in Mosinee on Nov 9. We were also one of eight properties asked to do a Poster Presentation for the event. John H will work on this and requested pictures be sent to him; ideas to include on the Poster were provided to him. Several Board members indicated that they will be able to attend.

September Minutes: With one correction, the minutes were approved and will be posted without attachments.

Treasurers: Karl provided the attached treasurer's report for September¹ and also provided us with an updated version for August, also attached². This closes out our fiscal year. We have \$14,000 more now than when we started the year including all categories. Karl is still working on making sure everything balances so an updated version of the September report is anticipated. The discussion and financial topics then included:

- Members should email Karl with any accounts/funds on the reports that are no longer needed next year.
- Insurance Costs for each Event will be associated with each specific Event's Expenses (Naming the DNR as a second insured for any/all events costs \$25 per year (one charge) and will be part of the General Fund).
- The Cost for Employee(Volunteer) Dishonesty insurance will be split 50/50 between the General Fund and Snowmaking (\$100 total, \$50 each account).
- Donations and Bills and Reimbursement Requests were provided to Karl for processing. Kris provided a report for Colorama's income and expenses, attached³.
- John H reported that a new 6' screen and a new sign for use by events, such as the Nature Center, have been purchased and are located in the Lower Hausmann Office. It was decided by the Board that John H should obtain a 2nd new sign tht can be used down by the DNR Office to provide information and directions to people as they enter the park, and then the old sign can be returned to the Southern Unit. John H will order it.
- John H provided information that a High Definition (HD) Presentation Projector with VGA & HMDI options, one that would work in poor lighting such as the lower Hausmann Conference Room, and one that would show a high degree of detail such as Excel Spreadsheets, would cost around \$1500 +/- \$100. (Googling projectors will show options in the \$500-\$1000 range, but those would not provide the details needed). Anne R moved, with a second by Rita, that the Friends purchase a HD Projector as discussed previously, to enhance the clarity of our communications, with a budget of \$1600 from the General Fund; the motion carried. John H will pursue.

OLD BUSINESS

Snowmaking: John M provided the SnowMaking attached⁴ and summarized below:

Expenses: The following new snowmaking expenses have been submitted for payment:

- Insight – Diesel for Snowcat -- \$190.76 (old)
- DSPS – Electrical Inspection -- \$293.15 (old)
- John McCarthy Reimbursement – Misc. materials for building layout -- \$50.14
- SMI – Materials for snowgun oil changes -- \$320.74

Expenses associated with trail restoration are being tallied under the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant.

Snowmaking Phases 3B and 3C Expansions: Woodchip placement is essentially complete for this year. Seeding and straw were placed in the area near the top of Summerstage Hill - fencing will be removed after Colorama. The topsoil pile near the top of Tail End needs to be distributed along Magic Carpet to fill in some rutted areas, followed by seed and straw. An 8-inch thick layer of rounded aggregate was placed over a geotextile fabric in the wet area at the intersection of Tail End and Magic Carpet and is working well. Soft and wet areas along the Phase 3B and 3C will be allowed to set up over winter and then evaluated for further work next spring.

Project Fundraising and Community Engagement: A new campaign to raise funds for a replacement snowcat is underway. A draft flyer has been developed.

Snowcat: Discussions continue on the acquisition of a used or new snowcat to replace the current 37-year old snowcat. The Snowmaking Committee is actively exploring options to finance the purchase. The committee is working on a plan to have a Pisten Bully 100 at the park on New Year's Day for the "First Hike" event as a demonstration and to test the ability of the machine to work with the manmade snow piles. The committee's goal is to have a replacement snowcat in time for the 2020-2021 ski season.

Winter Recreation Storage Building: A 42x42' building for the snowcat, snowguns, and other winter equipment has been designed. The preliminary site plan is attached⁵. Plans for the building have been sent to 4 prospective contractors for budget pricing. Site preparation work may be performed this year by volunteers; Buckthorn Busters already cleared some of the Buckthorn. The committee is looking at a Stewardship Grant to help pay for the building.

Planning for 2019-20 Snowmaking Season – Planning by Rich Marusinec for scheduling and training snowmaking volunteers for the upcoming season is proceeding.

Habitat Restoration: John H said that Jack, Holly, and he met to establish plans for their Fall & Winter work; a grid is being developed to track work and communicate with the Rangers when & where herbicide is applied; herbiciding (especially in areas that buckthorn was cut within the past few months) will become a priority.

Colorama: Kris reported that the trails are good, though a little wet, and that a pre-run of the trails should be done just prior to the date to identify any issues. The long-range weather forecast suggests a wet morning, and that volunteers should dress accordingly. 225 have pre-registered to-date. A 75th Birthday Cake will be provided for Smokey Bear's birthday, and the Smokey the Bear song will be sung to kick off the kid's fun run. T-shirts were handed out to Volunteers tonight.

Memorial Benches: John H and Jim Waltz will lead an effort to build 6 more benches on October 23rd.

Fright Hike: More volunteers are still needed. Oct 6th is a meeting for Skit Participants and Volunteers were encouraged to attend as well. Most of the set up will happen Oct 16-17th. Rita will resend the request for Volunteers to point people and committee leaders, and they are asked to push the request out to their contacts. Dan provided the certificate of insurance to the DNR (Anne K) for F.H.

DNR Open House: From 1-4pm on Oct 19th, members of the State DNR, Parks & Rec Management Team, will be at Lapham Peak's Hausmann Nature Center for a Q&A Session, possibly a brief presentation, and light refreshments. Board Members are encouraged to attend before helping out that same evening with Fright Hike.

Annual Meeting: John M lined up Joe Liebau Jr., DNR Secretary's Director, Southeastern Wisconsin, to be our speaker. John H worked with John M on a draft agenda for the evening, and that was modified tonight:

- Meeting to be Called to Order at 7pm
- Jackie will open the meeting in song & music
- John M will introduce the speaker
- Joe will share his insights
- Intermission
- Presentation of Annual Report – copies will be provided
- Brief overviews of reports for Q&A will be shared by committee heads
- Nominations & Elections will be held for open Board Positions.

*Treats will be provided; Kris, Louise, Rita, Karl, and Anne K volunteered to bring things.

*Rita requested that reports be provided to her no later than October 25th.

Work Day: Nov 16th 9am meet at the Shop, and Lunch will be provided at noon at the Shop too. We discussed moving the Fire Pit at Evergreen, Anne K will follow-up with the Rangers on details; Firewood to be stacked behind Evergreen (after the meeting, John H verified that posts for stacking wood are already in the ground there). Anne K will also ask for more woodchips to be delivered, and it was discussed that 4 more new pitchforks should be obtained. John H will investigate. Louise will coordinate the lunch; Kris and Rita will assist.

DNR Staff Requests: See the Treasurer's Report for the initial items that have been obtained. We then discussed tables and chairs for Trecker. Louise reported that she can get twelve 46" tables for less money than 9 tables, so we agreed she should get 12 of them (total \$1153). The Rangers indicated that Table Carts were not needed. As for Chairs, John H reported that the chairs he found were expensive and did not have good online reviews. Rita indicated that she found some potentially good ones at Menards for about \$18-20 each. It was decided that John H should pursue 50 of those chairs.

Website Updates: John H reported that the Friends website has been updated and moved to the new system. He will show Rita how to use the new editor. He will work on the Snowmaking site next but because a number of people need to be shown the new system, it might take a while before they can all get together and see how that works, so the Snowmaking site will continue under the old system for a while longer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45; our next meeting is the annual meeting on Nov 6, at 7pm (note: not at 6pm).

Respectfully submitted, John Hillmer, Secretary

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

1) Treasurer's
(Sept)



Sept.Treas.Rpt.pdf

2) Treasurer's
(Aug)



Aug.Treas.Rpt.v2.pdf

3) Colorama Funds



ColoramaMoney.pdf

4) Snowmaking



Oct SM Rpt.pdf

5) Winter Building
Plan (Draft)



Draft Bldg Site
Plan.pdf