

Friends of Lapham Peak
Annual Board of Directors Meeting
December 11, 2019



Attendees: *(those present are noted with an “*”)*

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

Next Meeting: Monday January 6, 6:00pm, Hausmann

Meeting was called to order: 7:35 pm after a Holiday Dinner was thoroughly enjoyed, hosted by Louise.

October & Annual November Minutes: The minutes of both prior meetings were approved as presented; those have now been posted on the [Friends Web Site](#)

Treasures Report: Karl shared the following information: He completed an audit of the prior year’s reports verifying that each month the bank statements balanced with the check register, and now he has also completed the process to verify that the treasurer’s reports also balance with the bank statements.

- Karl provided an updated September report (version 5, attached¹)
- Karl will provide a combined October-November report at or before the next meeting in January. During the process, he did find one reimbursement that was issued twice; that has now been resolved (repayment of the funds paid out twice have been received back)
- Karl also reported one of the prairie-restoration projects recently purchased \$6,000 of seeds (a donation)
- And, Fright Hike has paid all of it’s bills including payment to the contracted coordinator, which then yielded the Friends with a profit after expenses of \$11,522.29 – up a bit from 2018! (a detailed summary of Fright Hike was requested showing all income and expense line-items).

Donations, Expenses, Reimbursements were then handled by Karl; Kris provided the attached² report for Colorama Receipts.

OLD BUSINESS

Snowmaking: John McC provided a written report, attached³, which John Hillmer reviewed with the Board:

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| • Insight: Diesel for Snowcat, \$458.40 (old) | • Anne R reimburse for postage, \$143.00 |
| • Corey Oil: hydraulic fluid for SM pump, \$49.80 | • SMI: Repair parts for snowguns, \$53.97 |
| • Fire Catt LLC: Fire hose testing, \$435.00 | • SMI: Repair parts for snowguns, \$248.45 |

Expenses associated with trail restoration are being tallied under the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant (see “2018 DNR Enhancement Grant” below).

Snowmaking Phases 3B and 3C Expansions: Woodchip placement is essentially complete for this year. 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. 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 mailing of a flyer has been completed.

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 Piston 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: Plans for the building have been sent to four prospective contractors for budget pricing, two of which have responded with prices that exceeded the budget. Options are being considered. A Stewardship Grant request for \$20,000 was submitted to help pay for the building. A copy of the application package is provided herewith⁴, for record purposes.

2019-20 Snowmaking Season: Rich Marusinec is leading the training and scheduling of snowmaking volunteers for the season. Unseasonably cold weather in mid-November facilitated several days of snowmaking, with whales of manmade snow created in the area around Summerstage and on Tail End Hill. Warm and wet weather has precluded further snowmaking. The whales will stay until more snow can be made, and then will be spread to provide a skiable surface.

2018 DNR Enhancement Grant - Trail Rehabilitation: John M also shared this update –

Several addition projects under this grant were recently completed. Mulch was spread on trails at various locations. Trees were trimmed by a contractor along the lower trails. Ruts created by the tree trimming were raked out of the trail surface. A bulldozer was rented and used by Beattle to complete two trail improvements on the upper trails: a tight turn on Squiggly Wiggly was widened; and intersection E9 was improved. Disturbed areas were seeded and covered in straw. Attached¹⁰ is a current tabulation of the expenses incurred on this grant. No further work under the grant will be done this year. We'll continue with the work next spring.

Habitat Restoration: John H reported the crews are back in full swing again this fall, with an initial focus on:

- 1) Ice Age Trail:
 - down the hill and west of the Tower
 - immediately west of Hwy C
 - on the east side of Hwy C along the pond
- 2) and in front of the park along Hwy C

Donations have been generous to fund supplies and maintenance of equipment. The rangers are beginning to mow fire-breaks for the anticipated spring prairie burn (of about 1/3rd the prairie on the west side of Hwy C) which now has the go-ahead to gets bids from approved contactors. Bids will also soon be requested for fecon mowing in areas between Gut-Buster and Two-Tier including the campsite thorny brush.

Also, the Friends' new Gator received its 200 hour-maintenance work (oil, lube, filters, etc) and a warranty repair of a front ball joint. While the Gator was in the shop for that work, a wired-remote was added to the winch to make operations safe and flexible.

Colorama: Kris shared the attached⁵ financial review of this year's Colorama that yielded \$6,352 in profit after all expenses and revenue was accounted for. She then reported that after 31 years as Colorama director, she is officially retired now, due to health and personal reasons. If anyone is interested in taking over the event for 2020, please contact the FLP Board. She would be glad to help transition the work to the new director, but she will not be doing the work again. We thanked her for the many years she's done this for us, it's been a huge success! She shared that recently it has been a lot of work for the amount of funds that it yields.

Workday: Over 50 volunteers helped in November at our work day – a new firepit was added at Evergreen, wood was stacked behind Evergreen, and trail-work done to add wood-chips. May 2, 2020 is the next planned workday.

Property Manager: Colton Kelly has officially started as manager at LP; he joined us at this meeting as well.

Membership Brochure: Rita reviewed changes that were submitted and the final draft. This includes an updated membership letter, with a new option for Life-Time members to be "Sustaining Members" too, to donate (any amount) beyond their life-time fee). The board discussed changing the front picture to use the newly obtained mug-logo; we thought that was a good idea. Rita also added some colored leaves; we thought those were a nice touch. She received go-ahead to print a quantity that would be enough for a discount. John H will verify the mileage of the accessible trail (1.8 miles) for the brochure.



NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Hours: Louise requested each Board Member/Committee Head supply her with their hours for the past year (1/1/19–12/31/19) so those may be reported to the State; details are not needed, just total hours.

Ski League and Loppet: Registration forms were presented, approved, and they're on the [website](#) (see attached^{6,7,8}). The Wed Nite Ski Series will run Jan 8- Feb 12th. The Loppet is Jan 18th. Volunteers are all lined up.

Candlelight Ski/Hike: Scheduled for Jan 25; like recent prior years, a ticket voucher (free) is required for each vehicle that wishes to attend the event. Vouchers are available first-come, first-served. Limit one per person at time of pickup. Vouchers may be picked up at the Lapham Peak office starting January 4 and prior to 6 pm on Friday, Jan 24th. Office hours are generally 11am-5:45 pm. A section of FAQs will be added like we did last year (before the event had to be canceled due to extreme cold weather). Rita will ask volunteers for treats.

OutWiGo Snow: John McC provided the attached report⁹ after he met with Anne K and Kathryn Gehrke to get more details and offer help on the planned event (Jan 11th). Items of interest to the Board are as follows:

- The DNR's primary partner is the Ice Age Trail Alliance, working with REI (whose focus is on snowshoeing). He suggested that XC skiing be given a prominent place in the program. He also wanted to grab this opportunity to promote snowmaking and the clubs and groups we have here. The DNR is receptive to his suggestion that FLP host XC ski lessons during the event. He is looking for help from the Lapham Peak Ski Club, and the Milwaukee Nordic Ski Club, who will be at the park that day meeting at the Hausmann Nature Center. He has generally proposed scheduled lessons for adult beginners at 1pm and 3pm, with a kids focused program at 2pm. He's asked for volunteer instructors from the Lapham Peak Ski Club; and from Peak Nordic Kids for the kids program -- also the kids games materials (he'd really like/needs some help with the kid's games).
- He believes this is a great way to promote the FLP and Snowmaking. We could have a booth and literature near the trailhead. There will be rentals from Nordic Specialists. We would be allowed to ask for donations.

- The Friends could be selling soups, snacks and hot chocolate at the Trecker Lodge.
- There will be fat/snow bikes available to rent or test -- but not on the manmade loop.
- Snowshoe activities would also not be on the manmade snow loop
- If he can figure out a way to get them here, we will have a Giant Ski event – All he needs is a driver with a trailer who can bring them from the Birkie HQ in Hayward, and take them back (or make our own).
- DNR is planning to set up a kids sledding hill near Trecker – details pending; he said the DNR understood that there is a fair possibility that there would not be enough natural snow for this. An option may be developed to do it in the Nordic Playground area.
- There will be booths and a fire and s’mores near Evergreen.
- We could run a beer “tent” area -- sponsored by New Belgium Brewing – near Evergreen and keep all the proceeds. We need a licensed server. Paul Keber and John M have that license -- but may be otherwise occupied, so we would need someone else to get the license – not very hard.
- The board discussed options for food, and also recognized that there are many events in January where donated food is desired, so several board members will investigate options to purchase some of this.

New Projector: The new screen and new projector worked well at the Annual Meeting in November. However, we could use 2 tables for the projector, like some that have been borrowed. The Board approved John H to work with Louise to purchase two 19inx19in aluminum tables for the FLP for the projectors use.

Next Meetings: Monday January 6, 2020, 6:00pm, Hausmann
Monday February 3, 2020, 6:00pm, Hausmann

Adjournment: 9:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,
 -John Hillmer, Secretary

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

1) Sept Treas. Rpt v5:



2019 Sept Treas
 Rpt-v5.pdf

3) SM Report:



SM Report.pdf

6) Wed Nite Adult:



Adult Reg.pdf

9) OutWiGo Snow:



OutWiGoSnow.pdf

2) Colorama
 Receipts:



SM Receipts.pdf

4) Stewardship
 Grant:



Stewardship Appl.pdf

7) Wed Nite Junior:



Junior Reg.pdf

10) 2018 DNR Grant:



2018 DNR Grant
 Expenses.pdf

5) Colorama:



Colorama.pdf

8) Loppet Reg:



Loppet Reg.pdf