

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
June 3, 2020



Attendees: *(all members present)*

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

Guest: Will Edwards

Meeting was held using ZOOM: Our meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

Insurance: Insurance for the Friends of Lapham Peak –

Will E presented information that he has gathered while helping the Board shop for insurance, for: General Liability, D&O (directors & officers insurance), and Equipment (inland marine) [which would cover the new SnowCat and potentially also the rental of additional equipment]. Two options for this coverage from different carriers are being investigated. This would replace our current insurance carrier and policies that we have for General Liability and D&O with a rider for Employee Dishonesty, and special event coverage (we don't currently have or need our own coverage for physical equipment as we have donated all equipment in the past to the DNR).

After details and discussion with Q&A regarding these options, John Hillmer moved that we accept the recommendation presented by Will, that we go with a new policy from ***(carrier's name is withheld from these minutes pending a final decision)*** effective June 15, 2020, and that we drop the current carrier at the same time; this motion includes that the board grants approval to a committee consisting of Will E, John H, Rick V, Anne R, Dan W, to further evaluate the 2 carrier options, and select the best one of these two for implementation on June 15. John McCarthy seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion followed: We agree that Employee Dishonesty should not be needed as it should be included in the D&O coverage. And, that insurance at this time will not be acquired to cover alcohol at the Friends Events (in the event we want to add that later, we can). It is agreed that we will not activate the inland marine (equipment) portion of the policy until we either need to rent construction equipment, or until the new snow cat arrives, whichever comes first. It is agreed that upon canceling the current carrier's policy, that we would request and expect a refund for events that have been paid for but that have not yet happened, such as Summer Solstice. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: John H requested that we discuss if needed, the board meeting minutes from March 4th and the April 10th zoom meeting. These were both approved and will be posted to the website shortly.

Treasurer's Report: Karl shared updated versions of the March 2020¹ and April 2020² reports, and a draft version of the May Report³ (all 3 attached). He reported that he has transferred our fundraisers from last year into their respective accounts for a total of \$25,658.05. Additional points/details include:

- Transfer Colorama 2019 to General Fund: \$6,402.13
- Transfer Ski Series and Loppet 2020 to Snowmaking: \$6,458.07
- Transfer Fright Hike 2019 to Snowmaking: \$11,542.25 (Karl indicated that \$1,000 of this will be moved to Habitat per the Fight Hike Committee's direction in the next draft of the May Treasurer's Report)
- Transfer Summer Solstice 2019 to Snowmaking: \$1,225.60
- Snowmaking made a \$50,000 down payment on the Piston Bully.

- \$50,000 was transferred to a new Summit Credit Union account.
- The \$39,626.43 from the Greater Milwaukee Fund is being transferred to the Vanguard Endowment Fund using income averaging and will occur in 6 equal payments once a month.
- Several other adjustments/corrections were provided to Karl, and he will include those in an updated May report in the future.
- Louise reminded Board members that while it might look like we have about \$100,000 in discretionary funds, when we look at all of the commitments and how funds have been designated, the actual amount at this time in “un-allocated” (or un-designated) funds is closer to \$31,413. Rick noted that the available cash in the bench account could be offset by on-going expenses, which at about \$300 per bench results in a cost of \$28,000 for 94 benches. If this is deducted from available bench cash, we’d have about \$21,000 more for Friends use.
- It was also reported by Randy and Karl that our Oct 1, 2018 thru Sept 30, 2019 tax forms were filed.

Karl also made the following adjustments to the March and April Treasurer Reports --

- Solstice 2019: moved \$45.19 expense to General Fund: March
- Ski Series 2020: added in the final \$10 fee: April
- Snowmaking: added \$25 expense for insurance for the Prinoth Snowcat Demo machine: March

Old Business:

Snowmaking: John McC reported—

The new snow-cat is now in the US, in Reno for assembly, and will then be shipped to Minneapolis for final configurations, and then to us late this year (anticipating Nov/Dec).

Site and Building plans for the Winter Equipment Storage Building have been sent to the State’s DNR and DOA offices for review and approval. The cost will be about \$50,000 (plus donated labor). A General Contractor has been lined up and the bill of materials is ready.

Summer Solstice: Randy and John McC have agreed that the event will be cancelled this summer.

Habitat Restoration: John H shared this information prior to the meeting via email:

Buckthorn removal continued in the park until March 23, at which point we closed all the work down, and cleaned up the tools so they could be stored for weeks or months.

During the time of the shut-down, we arranged for the Rangers to take the John Deere Gator in for its 1-year annual maintenance and checkup work. When we purchased the Gator, it came with one year of warranty, and we wanted to be sure that we got anything taken care of that would be covered under warranty. As it turned out, the Gator was just fine, and they only needed to perform normal routine maintenance. The Rangers then returned the Gator back to the garage.

Back in February, we hired a contractor to address Autumn Olive (aka Elaeagnus) and extensive Buckthorn issues around the campsite and along the ice age trail in an area about 5 acres. It ended up being closer to 6-8 acres when all was said and done. Because we had the contractor mow down the area during the winter (so as to do the work when the ground was frozen), the trees and brush that were mowed off were still over a foot tall once the snow melted. We had not anticipated the amount of snow that was on the ground. This looked awful, and would have been a problem for regrowth and re-planting, so we hired the contractor to come back in May and re-cut it all down to an inch or so (the

cuttings were all mulched at the same time). It looks really nice now, and Colton with the Rangers and Habitat Team are considering options to replant the area with native species.

Beginning June 1, with approval by the Park Manager, Holly S, Jack A, and John H began working again to spray herbicide on buckthorn regrowth – with a continuing plan to hit each area that was cleared during the past fall and winter. Per the request of the Park Manager, they are also now trying to track the amount of herbicide used in the park, a new initiative that will take some time to figure out just how much detail is needed and how to track all of this. Today, we track the areas that we work, but in the past, we have not tracked the “amount” of herbicide used in each area. Initially, we will probably start with how much herbicide we are using based on purchases, but we will also then try and see if we can track acres treated using that quantity.

To keep the old Mule running as a spare UTV, which is needed when we have larger work teams, or to help keep teams socially distanced, we purchased 2 new tires for the rear of the Mule; those were installed on June 1st and work much better than the bare tires that were on it.

Other notes: Garlic Mustard is really bad this year, pulling has begun.

Memorial Bricks: Dan reported that he will be installing 17 bricks in the next week or so!

Grants: An Incentive grant, and the State Friends’ Flower Grant have been received. About 5 new picnic tables, a bench, and a fire ring for the campsite, are in the works. Colton and the Rangers will get flowers for the front entrance. We also asked Anne K to investigate what happened with the Park Sign that was approved and that we co-funded; she will follow-up.

Future Meetings and Events: With Summer Solstice canceled, and it appears that Colorama will not happen this year, the next event would be Fright Hike and the committee will determine in time for the Delafield July 4th parade (if one is held) if Fright Hike will advertise in that event. We will need to determine if a Fall Workday will be held in October or November or will that need to be canceled as well.

Websites: John H reported that he is working with Steve Davis on our Snowmaking website, to modernize it (and some modernization / adjustments to our Friends site is anticipated as well).

Snowmaking/Board Cookout: John McC said that Snowmaking would like to hold a joint cookout again this summer like we have in the past. Or at the very least, if that is not possible, we would want to have a grand-opening event when the new Winter Storage Building is completed and/or the new Snow Cat arrives.

Meeting adjourned 7:42 pm

-John Hillmer, Secretary

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

1) March Treasurer’s Rpt:



March Treasurers
Rpt.pdf

2) April Treasurer’s Rpt:



April Treasurers
Rpt.pdf

3) May Treasurer’s Rpt:



May Treasurers
Rpt.pdf