

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
March 3, 2021



Attendees (members present indicated with an “*”)

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*

Meeting was held using ZOOM: Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

Minutes: February’s minutes were approved and posted to the [Friends Web Site](#).

Treasurer’s Report: Karl shared the attached February Treasurers Report¹ and said, it looks like all / the bulk of ski series money has been collected. A steady flow of snowmaking donations are coming in. The expenses for the WRSB are winding down. Of special note, a donation to SM through Fidelity of \$10,000 came in. Bills for payment or reimbursement have been sent to Karl throughout the month, and he with Louise’s help have been getting those checks processed. Anne R reminded us that the option for a Loan from WSB is still pending.

OLD BUSINESS

Snow Making: John M reported –

- WRSB has now formally been presented to and accepted by the DNR (final as-built drawings were completed and provided, as was a summary of expenses). The building is now under the DNR’s insurance.
- 85th day of provided snow for skiing will be on March 12, just 12 days away (grooming manmade snow continues, but a warmer forecast suggests that winter skiing is nearing the end for this season).
- The Virtual Birkie was a success at Lapham Peak, with most days having good weather.
- Some electrical load-balancing will happen now that we understand more of the load on the system; Rich will also be scheduling some hydrant and snowgun repairs.
- WRSB Electrical System was inspected by the State, and passed.
- Some additional landscaping work around the building is planned for spring & summer.

Habitat: John H provided the attached report²–

Buckthorn Busting

- Work is almost done around the pond south of Evergreen. A small section of about 20 yards still needs a little work on the far east side, but other than that, our goal for this area is nearly done.
- For the past 2 weeks, we shifted back to Highway C, this time on the West side of the road, from Jay’s Driveway coming north to the Ice Age Trail and continuing north to the Paul Sandgren Trail.
- Anne K mentioned how nice the park is looking, especially from the highway, and that she gets lots of good comments from visitors (and its safer now that deer are easier to see).

Prairie Burning

- We will be burning 70 more acres of prairie this spring. John H is working with Colton and the DNR; John accepted a bid by the same contractor that did the fall burn; they will lead the spring burn with their employees and with our volunteers helping again.
- The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant is for \$10,000 (\$5,000 from the grant, and the rest was to come from FLP in the form of \$2,500 cash and \$2,500 of in-kind-labor). The cash portion of this project was therefore \$7,500. With what we spent last fall, and the cost this spring, the total cash portion will be \$1,800 more than the \$7,500 originally planned.
- Karl & Louise spoke in favor of moving ahead; the General Fund will cover additional costs if needed.

Timber Harvest

- Colton updated the Board about a Timber Harvest that is scheduled for the Park (this happens about every 10-15 years); trees have been marked for culling, but actual harvest might be 8-12 months away still. Trails are not to be used or damaged by this work.

Trail Grants: John M provided the attached Spreadsheet(PDF)³ and Word Document⁴ that describes the current status of grant expenditures for the various trail rehab grants that we are working on. In Summary, we received three grants related to trail restoration work:

- 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant – Trail Restoration: Grant total of **\$12,980**; DNR to provide **\$6490** and FLP to provide **\$6490**. The grant is for rehab work on the entire trail system. No cash is planned to be exchanged for this grant. FLP will fund their portion of the work and DNR will fund their portion. The attached Spreadsheet³ is a summary of recorded expenditures to date for the FLP and DNR. The FLP portion is to be covered as follows:
 - 314.5 hours of volunteer labor: **\$2280**
 - FLP General Fund: **\$2000**
 - FLP Snowmaking Fund: **\$2210**
- DeBoer Quiet Trails Fund – Grant total of **\$1000**, with no match required. A check for the total amount was given to FLP. Documentation of the completion of this grant was submitted in 2019, and this grant is closed. This grant was used to pay a part of the FLP portion of the 2018 DNR Trails Enhancement Grant, reducing the need for FLP expenses and volunteer hours to **\$5490**.
- Weizenicker Grant – the grant provided a check for **\$5000**, with the expectation that there would be a match by the FLP of **\$5000**. While this grant was also used to pay a part of the FLP portion of the 2018 DNR Trails Enhancement Grant, the requirement for the 50% match means that the amount of the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant to be funded by the FLP remains at **\$5490**.

The FLP have provided the **314.5** hours required for the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant, leaving a net remaining obligation of **\$4210** in expenses.

The FLP has expended **\$3735.96** in expenses, leaving a net of **\$474.04** of remaining expenses to satisfy the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant.

The **\$1000** from the De Boer grant is applied to the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant. The **\$5000** from the Weizenicker Grant is also applied to the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant. This results in a net obligation to the FLP of **\$490** to satisfy the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant, plus the **\$5000** FLP match for the Weizenicker Grant. This **\$5490** can be satisfied as either expenses or volunteer labor.

The current total for volunteer hours is **411**, which is equivalent to **\$2979.75**. Deducting this from the remaining obligation above of **\$5490** results in a net remaining obligation of **\$2510.25**, which is equivalent to **346.25** hours.

In summary, the FLP's current obligations to satisfy the trail restoration grants are as follows:

- Minimum amount for expenses: **\$474.04**
- Maximum amount for volunteer hours: **346.25** hours (**\$2510.25**)
- Total remaining FLP obligations to satisfy grants: **\$2984.29**

Note that additional FLP expenses beyond the **\$474.04** can be used to reduce the number of volunteer hours required.

The DNR has expended **\$3308.20** towards their obligation of **\$6490** for the 2018 DNR Enhancement Grant. The DNR needs to still expend and provide documentation for **\$3181.80** of expenses on work related to trail restoration to meet their obligations for this grant.

John M also said he was working on the paperwork for the WRSB Grant.

Ski Series and Virtual Loppet: Kris shared the attached income sheet from the 2021 Ski season⁵. A very good year for skiing and Snowmaking income, especially with the COVID logistics that she overcame very creatively! People liked registering online! She is expecting a profit after expenses of about \$6700.

Some additional help on Tuesday's might have been good. She was looking for a more detailed summary for the Tuesday nights, but probably won't be getting more from the timer. Results from the Wednesday night races were posted, and awards were provided.

The Board thanked Kris, Rita, the DNR, and all those who groomed and made snow, provided donations for the new snowcat, etc., that allowed for a great season!

Membership Drive: Rita is still pursuing the annual paying members and indicated that we are seeing many more lifetime members!

Ten Year Plan for Lapham Peak: Colton reported that the 10-year plan highlighted in last month's report has now been submitted to Madison.

Memorial Bricks and Benches: Dan said that about 16 orders came in for memorial bricks this winter, creating a profit of about \$2000 – and if we can get 40 more orders, we'd have enough to finish the pathway in the Garden!

Louise said we've had 3 memorial benches ordered this past winter and anticipates another soon; John H will schedule a workday to build more, about 6 for memorials and 2 for parts as some are in need of repair now.

NEW BUSINESS

Colorama: Kris would like to look into a virtual Colorama for 2021, given the success of the Virtual Loppet and Tuesday Timed Ski League. The Board was very supportive of the idea; she will give it more thought!

Newsletter: Rita asked for input/articles for a spring newsletter, and a number of Board members said they would provide material.

Adjourned at 7:25pm: John M moved, Randy provided the second, and we adjourned. Our next meeting will be a virtual Zoom meeting on Wednesday April 7, 5:45 pm (to start at 6pm).

Respectfully Submitted as draft, John Hillmer

Attachments (5):

1.  February Treasurers Rpt.xlsx
2.  March Habitat Rpt.pdf
3.  2018 to 2020 Trails Grants-Expenses.pdf
4.  FLP Trail Grant Status.docx
5.  221 Ski League income.xlsx