

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 6, 2021



Attendees: (*Board 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, and
Guests: Melissa Jarecki, Rich Marusinec

Meeting was held using ZOOM: Meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

Minutes: Minutes for the two meetings held during September were approved as presented; they have been posted to our [Web Site](#).

Treasurer's Report: Karl noted that the end of September marked the end of our fiscal year. He provided an updated copy of the August report¹ and a September report² (both attached). He said, for August, he moved a \$44,712.06 stock donation for Snowmaking from being made in October 2020 to the opening balance of the 2020-21 fiscal year. This move had no effect on the current assets of Snowmaking, but it did lower the total donations and income of this fiscal year. Total receipts for this fiscal year from all sources are \$266,815.86, well below the \$300,000 donation threshold to trigger a required financial review. Highlights for the month of September include:

- received \$2500 for the Knowles Grant which with the previous \$2500 payment closes it out (this was for Prairie Burns in the fall of 2020 and the spring of 2021)
- spent \$873.84 of the Incentive Grant on the new camping shelter which brought the total spent to \$9203.01 of the \$9414 grant
- Snowmaking: \$13225 in donations
- membership: \$420
- bricks: \$500
- Colorama:
 - additional entry fees of \$1201
 - paid T-shirt bill of \$1914 and medals of \$223
 - current balance is \$2941 with a large timing services bill outstanding, final details from Kris

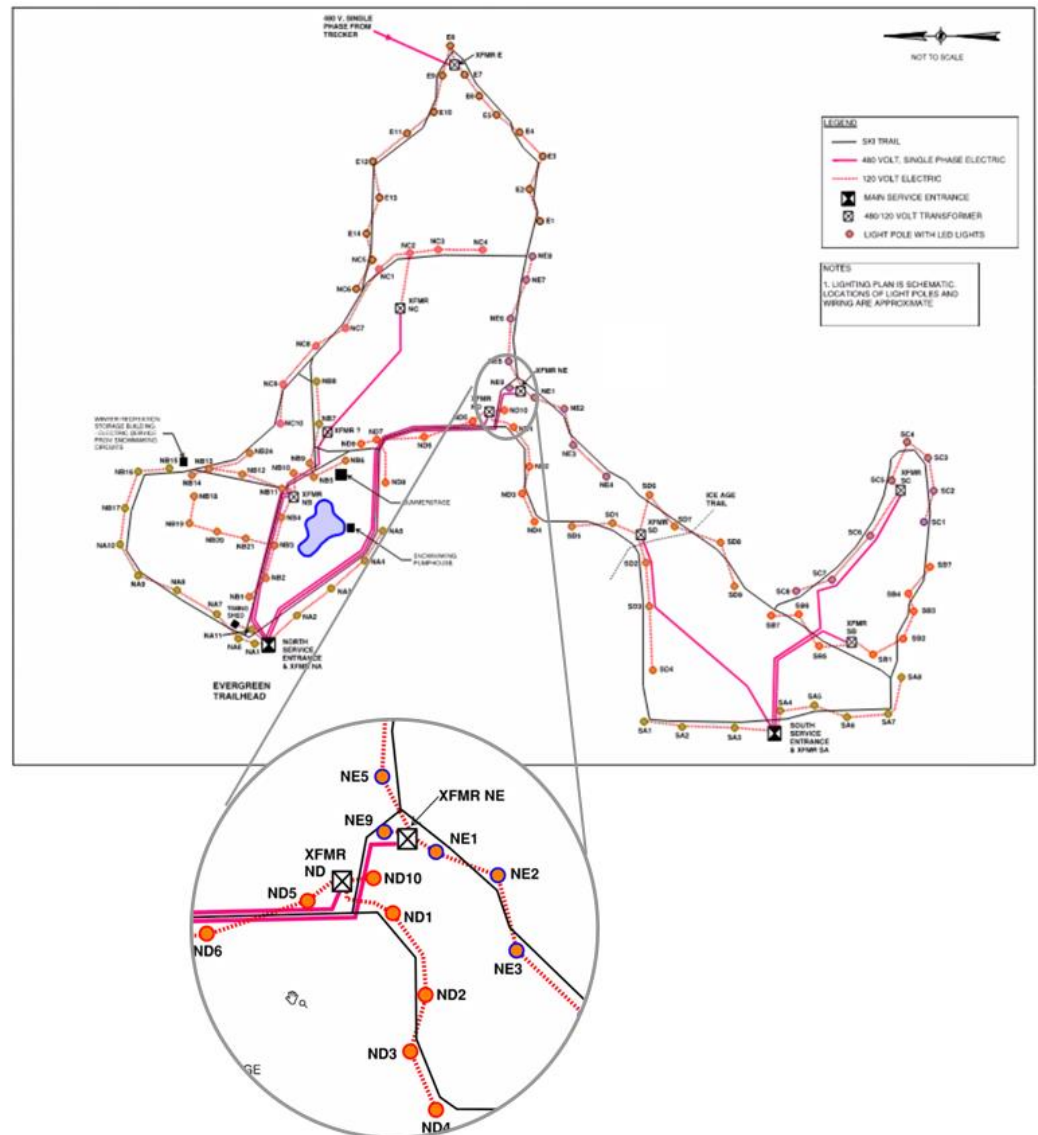
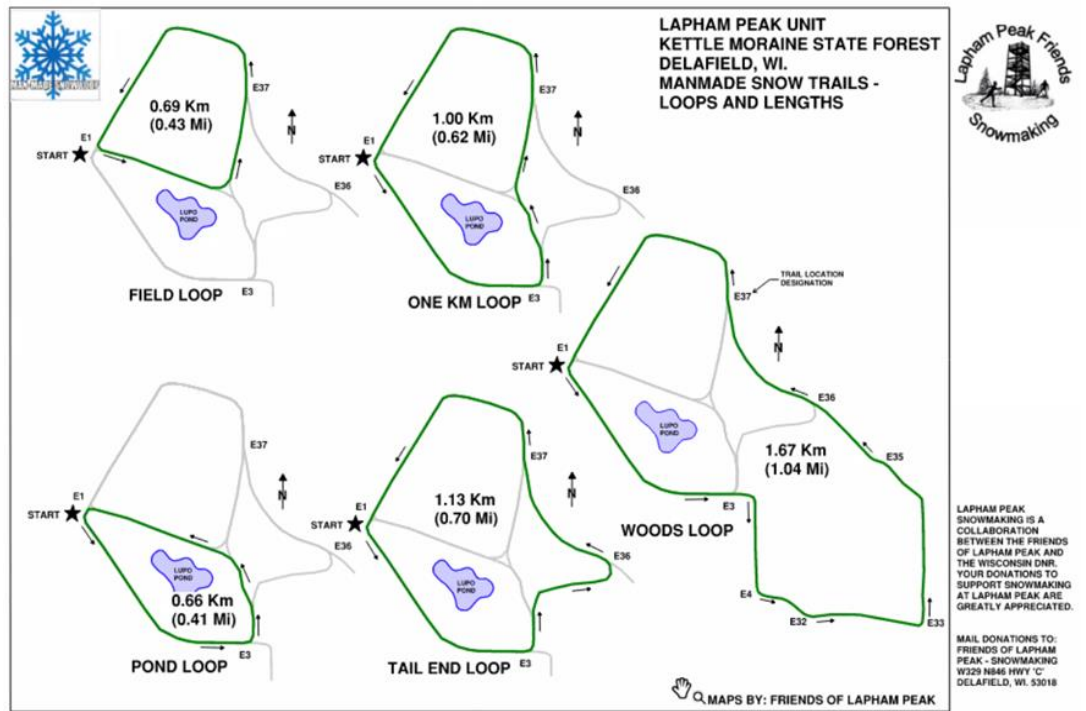
It was noted that a donation of Stock was received on October 4, 2021, and sold on Oct 5 for \$102,760.25, and that this will be transferred to our checking account on Oct 7th.

OLD BUSINESS

Snow Making:

- Rich M reported that they have been working with the DNR to plan and fund load-balancing changes so that all the snow guns can be run at the same time off the pedestals without overloading the circuit. \$10K has been funded by the DNR for this change, but that won't be completed until next year now (hoping that the cost of wire will be less by then). Rich will coach the teams how to carefully use the guns again this season so that we can live with the current situation.
- Rich M and Anne R answered questions related to the Snowmaking Committee's recommendation and proposal to hire a service to augment snowcat operator needs starting with this season. See their attached proposal³. After discussion, Rita moved, seconded by John M, that we accept the proposal as presented. There was a question of the need to provide a 1099 to the service provider, and while it was felt that was not needed, we asked that the answer be researched and verified. Rick V noted his support for the motion, and that this would still need to be monitored as the cost could become more over time. The motion passed unanimously.

- Charlie is working with local Delafield businesses to get sponsors lined up; signs with sponsors names will be printed once the DNR approves them. Enhancements to the map were requested, to include indications where hills are with up/down markers.
- Jim Marschalek continues to work on an enhancement to the Trail Conditions web page so that photos can be posted with status updates; the Snowmaking Committee has seen a prototype.
- A new SMI Polecat snowgun has been ordered (~\$21K); we'll have 7 guns for this season once this arrives.
- Silent Sports Magazine wants to do an article on Lapham Peak!
- We are expecting gutters to be added to the WRSB in the next 2 weeks or so.
- A map of all the lighting around the ski trails and their circuits has been completed; a valuable tool that we've needed for a long time.



Habitat: John H said with woodland work on the east side of the park completed and now ready for the planned fall burn, efforts have shifted to the west side of the park to clean a number of Prairie units of buckthorn, honeysuckle, box-elder, mulberry, and a significant amount of black walnut before the fall burn can happen. The unit just north of Lillian Ct (known to the Buckthorn Busters as Garlic Mustard Hill) has been completed, and now tree lines are being worked on as well as Timm's Woods. Significant help from the Rangers has been appreciated as they cleared some very thick tree lines for us using their skid-steer with a large mowing deck. Next, we will move south to the area we call, Unit 49, which is a new Prairie that we will be developing in 2022.

Campsite Update: Colton reported that 99% of the new campsite shelter is completed. John H reported that 209 hours of volunteer time (in-kind-labor, not counting the ranger's time) has been put in on this project by Ice Age Trail volunteers and Buckthorn Busters. Benches on 3 sides, and a ceiling, and some additional dirt for the floor will be added, plus a few small pieces of soffit and fascia are needed (on special order) as they ran a few feet short of materials to complete that work.

Lapham Lodge Discussion: The team met with the DNR to present the plan (attached to the Sept Board Minutes), and as of today, Anne K presented a letter (attached⁴) signed by Steve Schmelzer, Bureau Director Parks and Recreation Management Program Fish, Wildlife and Parks Division, Department of Natural Resources! This provides us with authorization to begin fundraising and pursuing next steps. The Board thanked Colton and Anne K for their support in moving this proposal forward quickly!

Colorama: Jon and Kris reported on the great success of this year's Colorama! Kris shared an email ahead of time with 2 attachments (both attached to these minutes as well). She said, instead of reading off numbers tonight, she sent a file with them. Please note attached files for net income⁵ and t-shirts⁶, etc. left over. An updated accounting sheet is forthcoming when all income/expenses are in. However, when all is said and done, she believes the profit will be about \$6000! Volunteers and rangers who helped prepare the trails were very much appreciated, as were all the volunteers who helped during the event. Jon & Christine did a huge job with Kris making this a successful event.

Memorial Bricks and Benches:

- Dan said that brick orders continue to come in and he's still waiting for an estimate to complete the south walkway. Rita suggested that we put a brochure holder about the bricks (one that would keep them dry) on the west side gate.
- John H reported that 12 new memorial benches are being made now, and that about half of these will be used to replace old benches that were removed from the asphalt path (they were embedded in the asphalt) along the Plantation Path; we wanted those removed so that the re-paving could be done without locking the old benches in further.

Highway C Crossings: The County is working on re-striping the crosswalks after the highway was re-paved. A new estimate of \$14,000 for flashing lights for the crosswalks has been received by the Park Management.

Annual Meeting: Steve Schmelzer, the new State DNR Director has agreed to talk to our group at the annual meeting; this will be via Zoom, on Nov 3rd, at 7pm. John H and Rita will create a registration system similar to last year. Rita requested annual reports by Oct 23rd.

NEW BUSINESS

Bridge Repair: The bridge on the Paul Sandgren Recreational Trail (just west of Hwy C) needs some structural repair work. The DNR is planning to use some of their remaining Trail Enhancement money for this repair.

Loggers: Logging has been completed. Deep ruts were left, as was slash (pine branches) on the forest floor. Park Management asked for the ruts to be back bladed (plowed evenly) and that was done, mostly. The Rangers added dirt and mulch to the trails, and volunteers helped spread the mulch. Slash will be left, as that is the process. The State will come back and spray Garlon (Buckthorn herbicide) next year to help reduce that from coming back too quickly).

Melissa Jarecki: Melissa shared some of her background information with us; she's willing to be a candidate for an open Board position, and is looking forward to that, and has a passion for education. She would love to help people connect more to the park and learn more about features here in the park.

Candlelight Hike: The Park can go to 75% capacity (at this time), tickets will be required. The date of Jan 29th was set. The DNR will print vouchers as in prior years and those will be required (and free).

Workday: Will be Nov 6, 9-Noon, with Chili lunch to follow. The primary focus will be to spread woodchips.

Loppet and Ski Series: The Loppet will be Jan 15; the Wed night ski series will run Jan 5-Feb 16. The Tue Ski Series will run Jan 4-Feb 15.

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund: John Mc will apply for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant for the Lapham Lodge, for the largest amount possible given the number of years the project might span.

Outdoor Wisconsin: Rick V reminded Anne R about Outdoor Wisconsin's news item on Snowmaking and that we might want to contact O.W. to see if the new Lodge might also be of interest to them.







Brine Spreader: Colton asked the Friends for \$1530 to fund the purchase of a Brine Spreader. They are moving from all salt to mostly brine, and they were given tanks, but they need the spreader (sprayer). After discussion, we asked Anne K to see if the money we provided for a Park sign 3 years ago could be used for this; we feel it's unlikely that we will ever see that sign. Anne R moved that if that money can't be used for this, then we should go ahead and fund this purchase from our General Account, but that we would also want to know when the sign will arrive here. Rita seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 8:14:

Our Annual Meeting will be 7pm on Nov 3rd, via Zoom. The meeting in December will be December 1, 6pm via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted, John Hillmer

Attachments:

1.  2021 Aug Treasurers Rpt v2.xls
2.  2021 Sept Treasurers Rpt.xls
3.  PB100 Operator Proposal.pdf
4.  FLP Support Letter signed.pdf
5.  2021 COLORAMA INCOME.pdf
6.  2021 T-shirts. Awards leftover.pdf