

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
April 6, 2022



Attendees: (All Members were present)

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

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

Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were approved; they're on our [Website](#).

Treasurer's Report: An updated February¹ report and a March² report were provided (both are attached)-

- A cosmetic change moved the Lapham Lodge fund from being a Temporary Fund to a Permanent Fund given its long-term nature. Corrected a couple of mistakes in the report as described below:
 - Found a General Fund expense of \$56.35 that was inadvertently charged to the Jarecki Prairie in Oct 2021. This amount was transferred from GF to Jarecki in this month's report.
 - A correction was made for savings account interest not entered. Although this interest is calculated monthly, it is only deposited into the savings account twice a year. This money adds to the General Fund and is recorded in the Savings Account balance found on the top of the ASSET&OBLIG page.
 - Savings Interest: 6/30/2021: \$3.03
 - Savings Interest: 12/31/2021: \$3.08

Snow Making: Anne R and John McC shared information-

- 92 ski'able days of manmade snow was available this season.
- Several maintenance and repair items are in the works, including topics mentioned in the past months (hydrants, rebalancing electric loads, etc.).
- Cleaning up the trails will happen soon (such as removing un-needed snow depth markers for the summer).
- The WRSB holding tank was found to be full again at the end of the season, it's been pumped out and all indications are that this amount of water melts off the snowcat.

Habitat: John H reported-

- See attachment³ for this past month's Habitat Restoration progress on the West side of the park, around the pond where the Ice Age Trail crosses the marsh (what we currently call the Roller Coaster). This section of the IAT will be re-built this year with an IAT MSC effort that will also re-route some of the IAT segments in the park at the same time (Oct 6-9).
- 120 Piles of invasives and deadfall were removed during March!
- Woodland and Prairie burns (on both sides of the Park) contracted by GoodOak services will happen once things dry out a bit further.
- Under new business, we are looking for new ways to raise funds to pay for the seasonal (fall and spring) burns that are needed to maintain all we've restored in the recent 7 years.

Memorial Benches and Bricks:

- John H is working with Colton on the possibility of another spot or two for benches, but officially we have 2 places left right now.
- If weather permits, work on the next segment of the garden brick walkway could happen by end of April.
- 18 bricks are ready to be installed in the current section, when weather allows (6 at the new prices).

Loppet and Ski Series: From Kris-

- See the final income/expense report attached⁴, showing net profit of 9,016.95.
- Anne R moved, that the profit from the 2022 Loppet and Ski Series (Tue & Weds) go to SM as we had advertised, 2nd by Dan, and the motion passed, which changed a decision we made last month.

Lodge: John McC and Rita shared-

- The “35% plans” for the lodge were submitted to the DNR and to DOA for review.
- The building location was moved a tad bit North to make room for traffic to the South of the building.
- Work continues on the grant application for the EDA; it could still be one to two months before we find out if we will get any funding.
- We’ve been approved for The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant of \$20K (see attachment⁵). This is for “Phase 1” of the Lodge. The components of Phase 1 are listed in the document and include the architect and engineering contracts. This sets us up to apply again next year for “Phase 2” (the building), and in the following year, “Phase 3” (final sitework, furnishings, the room divider).
- Soil boring at the site will be done shortly.
- Total pledges to date are \$680,578.66; we are at 35.4% of goal so we are tracking to plan.

Summer Solstice: Rita reported via email, that due to the Band’s conflict, the date has now been set for Friday June 24, 6-9pm. Details are coming together (sponsors for beer, the band, insurance is getting lined up, etc.).

NEW BUSINESS

Fright Hike: Anne R reported that the subcommittee, and the DNR have met, the dates will be Oct 28 & 29th. Details are being worked on. Colton will have the shelter(s) reserved for us.

Miscellaneous:

- Peak Nordic: has asked for sponsorship of one of their events. John McC moved that we donate \$100 to Prowl the Peak as we have in the past, Kris provided the 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.
- A request came to us to add a link to the Friends’ website for AA; we discussed the issue of adding one would open the door to needing to add many others. This request is declined.

Hausmann Nature Center:

- Rita and Louise cleaned and reorganized the Friends’ office and the Friends room!
- Colton and Anne K described how the building is being established as a rental facility for 2 weeks, and then it will be configured for the Nature Center for 2 weeks, and then back to a rental, etc. A grand reopening of the building is being targeted for the end of May.
 - While the building is being rented, the NC displays will be moved to the upper back rooms and an accordion door for the hallway to keep people out of that area is desired. The DNR is asking the Friends to fund \$750 for the door. Karl moved, with a 2nd by John H, that we fund the folding door per the DNR request for less than \$1000 from the NC fund; the motion passed unanimously.
 - Hosts for the NC are being requested; a new volunteer system is up and running at the DNR and is being used for this position (a link is on our website as well to the system).

Park Education Signage Project: Melissa reported-

- Melissa is spearheading a new effort to establish a website for education in the park. This will consist of a new separate website (linked to the Friends’ website) and physical signage with QR codes throughout the park. Those signs/QR codes will point people to web pages on this new website that will provide additional information and education about the particular topic being discussed or pointed to by the sign. Examples might include park history, plants, animals, issues such as invasive problems, other projects, etc.
- She investigated several options for establishing a website which ranged from \$2500 to \$350; she will be going with the \$350 option that will establish a framework for her to add content as the different topics are developed.
- She also noted that we do not have an education account yet to fund this type of work and its maintenance. We asked her to develop a proposal for us.

Colorama: Jon J reported that we are planning Colorama 2022 for Oct 1. Colton will have the shelter(s) reserved for us.

Feel the Burn 5K: Colton is looking to help us raise money to help fund the seasonal woodland and prairie burns that are needed each fall and spring for various units in the park, to maintain what we have been restoring. John H estimates that about \$4K is needed each fall and each spring to stay on top of this – and this is work that now must be contracted out (our certified buckthorn busters can help, but a contract for the bulk of the work is still needed).

- June 25th has been set for the first annual “Feel the Burn 5K” at Lapham Peak (see the race flier, attached⁶)
- Our Burn Contractor, GoodOak, has agreed to be the major sponsor!

WorkDay: Students from Yale U will be working at the Butterfly Garden on May 7th so we thought that would be a good day for a workday event as well. However, we would prefer to schedule workday activities for the public and members in the morning, so from 9-noon we will do that, and then the Yale students will work in the afternoon. Leaders will be needed for each timeframe.

Plantation Path: Some early cracks along portions of the edges of the Plantation Path are being monitored. Hot sealing will be discussed with the construction company. In the meantime, heavy equipment should stay off the path, and the DNR may shore up sides with additional gravel.

Spring Newsletter: Rita asked for input and dates for items to include in the spring newsletter.

Treasurer Related Actions:

- 1) Karl noted that Anne R has been handling a lot of the online donations for the group. For some of the sites, one needs to be a check signer of the organization to gain access. Our bylaws state that two officers are required to sign checks. Since Anne is not an officer, she is not a check signer. What is the best way to handle this? (Change the bylaws? make Anne an officer of some kind?).
Additionally, with all the work that Anne R has put into finances of the organization, he believes it would be good to give her an official title such as Assistant Treasurer and formally assign responsibilities to her. John H moved that we establish a role of Assistant Treasurer and that the role be granted check signing capabilities and that Anne R fill this role for the remainder of this calendar year; Karl seconded the motion, and it was approved.
- 2) Karl and Anne R requested we switch our monthly board meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of each month. This switch will allow the Treasurer more days (including a weekend) after the month ends to get all the information together. Our goal is to circulate the Report at least 2 days before the meetings so we can each review the parts we typically check and give Karl feedback prior to the meeting. We all agreed to this.

Adjourned at 8:24pm: Our next meeting – Wednesday **May 11**, 5:45 via Zoom
Respectfully Submitted, John Hillmer

Attachments (6):

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| 1. 
2022 Feb Treas. Rpt
v3.xls | 4. 
2022 Ski League
Acctg.pdf |
| 2. 
2022 Mar Treas.
Rpt.xls | 5. 
F2207_KMSF_Lapham
_Lodge_FLP_Signed.pc |
| 3. 
2022MarchRestored.
pdf | 6. 
2022 Feel the
Burn.pdf |