

Friends of Lapham Peak
Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 12, 2022



Attendees: (*unable to attend)

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
Plus guest: Mark Fischer, Mark Herr, John Kolbe

Meeting was held via ZOOM: Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

Minutes: Minutes from the Sept meeting were approved with corrections; the version posted on the web is the corrected version.

Treasurer's Report: Karl provided the attached treasurer report for September¹. Some items of note are below. Note: the bulk of Colorama 2022 will be reported in the October report next month.

- The Jarecki Prairie had a \$26,440 reimbursement which consisted of a variety of items including: sealing the accessible path, gravel alongside the path, and prairie burning and herbiciding
- Habitat has been busy as usual with a \$3,999 reimbursement for supplies
- A memorial designation with 24 checks was donated [\$3,375] to the General Fund
- Snowmaking had a \$7,500 individual donation
- PayPal is making changes on how payments are processed including a new system called Zettle. Melissa has several board members up to speed using credit card charges with Zettle. In general, PayPal fees are now all over the place with test payments of \$1 using "PayPal Here" taking \$0.03 while Zettle takes \$0.11. "PayPal Giving" took out no fees. Paying through the PayPal website using a QR code took out \$0.58 for a \$25 donation while our website took out \$0.99. Also, a \$7,500 donation through our website took out about 2% or ~\$150 which is a known issue with large donations. See the last tab "Details" in the treasurer report for more information.
- It was also reported that the State's Form 1952 was completed and received by the State. The 2020-2021 Fed form 990 will be posted to the [Friends Website](#).
- Louise reminded the Board that while our Assets & Obligations tab in the report says, "AVAILABLE DISCRETIONARY GENERAL FUNDS (GF) \$99,797.34" we must exclude \$1,979.75 from that total as that money is earmarked for new "nickname" trail signs in the Park (\$2,100 was donated for those and a small amount has been spent, but \$1,979.75 remains to be spent for that purpose).

Louise noted that the Nature Center money that was in Summit Credit Union (\$51,372) has been moved into a Money Market account that will pay 2% through Sept 2023, as long as we keep \$50K in the account. We can write checks for free against this account, and we can dissolve this account at any time without penalty.

We then discussed CDs and other Money Market accounts as we have cash on hand that we will need in the future but not for a period of time – so we felt it was best to earn interest with this money. After much discussion, Karl made a motion to move \$500,000 to a new Summit Credit Union Money Market Account, while at the same time he will investigate any issues or shortcomings for us by having multiple accounts under our organization. Rita seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Anne R will close out the \$50K Line of Credit that we have with the WSB.

Lodge: John McC shared information using the outline below: [\(the secretary's notes are below in blue ink\)](#):

- Review of EDA Grant
 - Form CD-450 – still not signed by DNR, [an extension has been granted; Anne K is chasing this action down for us to see what is holding the signature up](#)
 - Fraud PowerPoint and sign-off - Done
 - Kick-off meetings – DNR (done), EDA – Tentative date – 11/2/22 [\(assuming CD-450 gets signed\)](#)
 - Property Lien Issue - unresolved

- Review options for Construction Loan – Mark Herr

Mark provided options that have been received from a bank² and a credit union³ for a \$300K construction loan, that would be set up in the event that such a loan or money would be needed during construction. Both initial proposals are attached. Board Members provided input and suggested that we contact the bank to ask for something more similar to that which was proposed by the credit union, to see if we could get an apples-to-apples comparison. The committee agreed to investigate that with the help of Anne R.

- Meeting with Senator Baldwin’s representative on Thursday, the 13th
- Status of current and pledged funds – Rita and Paul Keber

Total Cash: \$560,539.37 less \$167.23 PayPal expenses = Net Cash: \$560,372.14 (doesn't include other expenses)

Future pledges: \$135,700 (including \$100,000 from Friends of Lapham Peak)

Grants: \$1,319,900; Grant receipts: \$10,000

Total pledges, grants, and cash minus PayPal expenses equals \$2,015,972.14 (84.0% of \$2.4 million goal)

- Fundraising efforts
 - New flyers, mailer – ready to go
 - Delafield Tourism – waiting for firm commitment
 - Donor Bricks – moving forward, through That’s My Brick
 - Donations of materials and labor
 - John Hillmer reminded the committee that the Ice Age Trail Alliance has asked to help; they will send our material out to their members seeking support/funding for this for us. Paul will follow-up.
- Next Steps
 - Restart design - around beginning of November
 - We Energies Estimates – request submitted, awaiting response
 - Sanitary and Mound system – initial info received; further review required
- Stormwater Analysis – Done, approved. Final report to be submitted
 - Culvert called for in SW report installed on Monday
- Schedule Revisions offered by Architect, under review. This will flow into the cash-flow analysis.
- Other discussions tonight included the 5-year costs to operate the facility.

Habitat: John H reported-

- The team spent September clearing and preparing trails that the Ice Age Trail Mobile Skills Crew (MSC) volunteers will be working on in early October.
- In October, the IAT MSC was a huge success: 187 volunteers from across the state (and Illinois) donated 3,048 service hours as we:
 - Crafted 2 reroutes totaling 2,200 feet of new tread
 - Built a 330-foot boardwalk (and removed the old one)
 - Constructed 3 stone staircases (for a total of 15 steps)
 - Framed and filled 14 box steps
 - Installed enough check dams to stop a small river.
 - In addition, a reroute at Hwy C means there is now only one pedestrian crossing! A significant safety upgrade for both hikers and cars alike.
 - Looking at just pure buckthorn habitat restoration, over 887 hours of work was donated to the Park! Our crews will follow up and remove the piles of brush and buckthorn that were created.
 - John Hillmer was the event photographer; Photos and video of the upgrades can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIRuoQ8Pbh4>



- Our next large project site has been selected, just north of the new prairie that we are working on. This is the site and property once home to the Schoeninger farmhouse. The DNR has agreed that all buckthorn on the site even up to the barns should be removed. There's enough of a hill and other trees to maintain a line-of-sight barrier so people aren't looking at operations happening at the barns.
- Maintenance of both UTVs has been performed.
- Wood has begun to be split, and the Log Cabin is starting to be filled. Some of the split wood will initially be used (for free) at Fright Hike.
- The rack that we will display the wood on, for Donations, at Evergreen, will be built in November.



Memorial Bricks and Butterfly Garden:

- 1 more Brick has been sold.
- A watering system for the butterfly garden was going to be proposed at some point this fall, so to get an overview, Colton explained: a waterpipe would be buried, coming down from Hausmann, it would be tunneled under the plantation trail so as not to disturb the asphalt. This would carry water in the summer only and would be drained in the fall. A contractor that Eva knows is willing to donate the pipe, Eva is willing to donate \$2K, and with the overall cost anticipated to be \$3,880 the Friends would need to provide \$1,880. Some questions remained that Colton will follow up with Eva on.

Colorama: Jon reported 21 volunteers were involved! See the attached draft income & expense sheet⁴, showing income of \$9,435, and expenses of \$3,757 for a profit of \$5,678!



Hausmann Nature Center:

- October 27th is planned for a “Thank you” event for the Nature Center!
- The last scheduled events for this fall at the Nature Center are:
 - October 15 and October 16
 - October 22 and October 23

Fright Hike: Volunteers are still needed to help run the show both nights. Skits are firming up; tickets are selling fast. A UTV will be needed by Angie both nights of the event; John H will have the Mule ready. Final planning for power is still in the works (what can be plugged in where, and how much in each plug, etc.).

Annual Meeting:

- Scheduled for in person, on Wednesday Nov 9, 6 PM at Hausmann. Rita will assemble reports that need to be turned in to her by Monday the Nov 7th. John H will print a number of copies for attendees given that many people still like those especially when meeting in person.
- Rita and Kris will coordinate refreshments.
- John M will present updates on the Lodge!

“Feel the Burn” – Kris said with all of the numbers now final, that the money raised from “Feel the Burn” should be moved to Habitat. Karl will handle this next month.

Snow Making: Anne R and John McC reported –

- Four hydrants with cracked parts have been replaced and/or repaired.

- Lupo Pond had a section of the northwest side berm raised in Sept to help it hold more water.
- Mike Koester will be transitioning to the Snow Making Coordinator role; Rich M will be coordinating the first few rounds of snowmaking with Mikes help and then Mike will coordinate the last rounds
- SM Electrical work is now scheduled for October, to be done before Fright Hike.

NEW BUSINESS

Work-Day – Nov 12th, 9-noon; Rita will communicate this via a newsletter. Woodchips and Ice Age Trail cleanup projects are scheduled. A lunch will follow at Noon.

Endowment Fund: Louise educated Board members on the history of the Endowment Fund. It was established by the Board initially with \$25,000 from the general fund, and then a few donors over time have made contributions to it, in addition to the money that we have made from the fund and then rolled back into the it.

Adjourned at 8:53pm: Next meeting – **Wednesday November 9th, the Annual Board & Members Meeting, 6 pm, in person, at Hausmann.**

Respectfully Submitted, J. Hillmer

Attachments:

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| 1. | 
2022 Sept Treas.
Rpt.xls | 2. | 
WSB.pdf | 3. | 
Ixonnia.pdf | 4. | 
2022 Colorama
v4.pdf |
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