

## Friends of Lapham Peak (FLP) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2026

### Attendance

Board Members Present: Chris C., John K., John H., Kris M., Mark F., Rita K., John M., Anne R.  
DNR Representative: Mike Ring

### Approval of Previous Minutes

The April 2026 Board of Directors meeting minutes were approved by consent.

### Treasurer's Report

The April Treasurer's Report was distributed prior to the meeting. Karl reported the following:

- Colorama 2025 funds transferred to the Hausmann Nature Center Ramp Fund: \$3,167.06.  
Ski Series 2026 funds transferred to Snowmaking: \$11,306.60.
- Per the April 2025 Board minutes, all insurance payments are to be paid from the General Fund.
- General Fund payment for Snowmaking insurance beginning May 2025 totaled \$1,973.92. Anne R. noted that Board minutes from last year indicate the transfer of insurance expenses to the General Fund was to begin in April rather than May.
- Interest income is now being deposited into the General Fund; interest received totaled \$2,010.
- Nature Center merchandise activity increased, with \$1,070 in sales and \$3,748 in purchases.
- Fright Hike received \$2,000 in sponsorships.
- Feel the Burn received \$170 in entry fees.
- Prior to the meeting, Melissa Jarecki submitted a motion via email to transfer \$7,525 from the Hausmann Nature Center Fund to the DNR for payment of the resident naturalist salary for 2026, consisting of the FWSP Incentive Grant (\$3,500) plus the required 115% match. The motion was seconded by John K. and passed unanimously. Mike Ring will provide Karl with instructions regarding where the payment should be sent.

### Old Business

#### Lapham Lodge

The Board reviewed Lodge reports for March and April prepared by Mark H. and distributed them prior to the meeting.

#### Snowmaking

John M. presented plans and concepts for the Phase 4 Snowmaking Project ('Up the Hill'). Discussion included a potential additional trail beginning at Tail End, extending south and reconnecting with the western trail between SummerStage and the Dark Cut-Off. The concept would require minimal expense and little or no additional water-line infrastructure.

#### Ski League / Series / Loppet

Trackside Timers has been secured to provide timing services.

### **Habitat Crew**

A written Habitat Crew report was provided by John H.

### **Hausmann Nature Center**

Melissa's April 22, 2026 committee report was distributed.

### **Jarecki Prairie Restoration and Pine Grove Path**

Melissa's report was distributed.

### **Butterfly Garden**

Twenty-nine new flower plugs have been installed.

### **Garden Pathway Bricks**

A report prepared by Becky was circulated.

### **Membership**

Rita reported 105 paid annual members and 231 lifetime members as of May 18, 2026.

### **Colorama**

Sponsorships continue to be received and registration is open.

### **Fright Hike**

Sponsorships continue to be received and the ticketing website is open.

### **Feel the Burn**

Sponsorships continue to be received and registration is open. A food truck vendor is interested but is working to secure insurance coverage. Buckthorn Busters are exploring opportunities to sell merchandise at the Lodge.

### **Accessible Pier and Path Project**

John M. presented information regarding potential pier locations, construction materials, project costs, and funding strategies. Approximately \$20,000 in grant funding has already been secured, while Phase 1 construction of the pier is estimated to require approximately \$45,000.

John M. moved, seconded by John K., that FLP proceed with Phase 1 (accessible pier) in 2026 and Phase 2 (accessible pathway) in 2027, utilizing Timber Design and composite decking materials. The motion further authorized the use of General Fund resources to cover costs while additional grants and donations continue to be pursued. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Accessible Path Extension to Hausmann Nature Center**

John M. reviewed potential route options and discussed the need for elevation and survey information to assist with design work.

### **Supervisor's Report**

Mike Ring provided updates regarding staffing, funding, projects currently underway, and future park initiatives.

### **Bugbee / Redmond Property Collaboration**

Mark F. reported that two bicycle clubs are leading planning efforts for trails on the property. The groups understand that the proposed trails will not connect directly to the Lapham Peak trail system. Approximately \$250,000 will need to be raised to complete the project. Discussions continue regarding parking, use of the existing residence, and potential future camping opportunities.

### **Liability Insurance**

John H. provided a letter outlining proposed changes to FLP liability insurance coverage, including reduced coverage levels. Chris C. shared information gathered through preliminary research but noted that a complete copy of the current policy is needed for evaluation. Anne R. and Chris C. will work to obtain a complete policy copy. The upcoming renewal reflects only a \$20 increase over the prior year. Chris will contact Seth at FWSP to determine whether a Friends Group insurance program for multiple organizations has recently been discussed.

### **Hobby Farm**

Karl will represent FLP during the August 8, 2026 opening weekend and will seek information regarding neighborhood concerns related to traffic, noise, and parking.

### **New Business**

#### **Tower Area Restroom and Picnic Shelter Concept**

John M. discussed pursuing grant funding through the GCA Deep Roots Program for preliminary concept and design work associated with a restroom and picnic shelter facility near the Observation Tower. Concept discussions included a facility similar in appearance to those found in Waukesha County Parks, incorporating restrooms, an attached pavilion or shelter, and a fireplace feature. Board members expressed support for moving forward with the grant application and concept development process. Letters of support have been requested from the City of Delafield and the Ice Age Trail Alliance.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by John Hillmer due to the Secretary being out of town and unable to attend the meeting.