

## Waterville Estates Village District

### Snowmaking Committee Minutes – October 31, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 09:00 hours on October 31, 2021. Present were Richard Leblanc, Jaime Oldmixon, Mark O'Hara, Charles Goodhue, Mike Hering, Chris Winkler, Andrew Ericson, and Gerry Panuczak. Tiffany Royea, WEVD staff attended as a guest.

Mr. O'Hara motioned to approve the July 6, 2021 minutes as written. Mr. Leblanc seconded the motion. All members present voted affirmative.

Mr. Goodhue reviewed the results of the snowmaking survey sent to the community. The initial survey was sent on October 1, 2021 and community members had several reminders to complete the survey. 74% of respondents were non-residents, and 26% were residents. The following represent highlights:

- 1) Support to continue operation of Campton Mountain
- 2) Priority should be given to owners and guests
- 3) Overcrowding of the lodge is a concern
- 4) Tubing should be offered
- 5) Better snow coverage is important
- 6) Consistent opening of the chairlift should be a priority
- 7) Weeknight sessions would be positive
- 8) Season pass for a higher price can be considered if consistent conditions are a reality
- 9) Not support for transferrable passes
- 10) Willingness to pay more providing consistent conditions are available
- 11) Green and blue trails most important for snowmaking expansions
- 12) Pricing preference was \$20's for owners and \$40's for non-owners.

Mr. Hering stated that these pricing preferences matched what the WEA Board of Directors is considering, although no decisions have been made. Mr. Hering stated that cost of operating the mountain were taken into account in recommending ticket pricing. Ms. Royea stated that if the mountain were to be expanded to a weeknight, Thursday would be best from a supply and staffing perspective.

Mr. Oldmixon stated that given the infrastructure changes necessary to expand snowmaking for this upcoming season, it is not possible. Additionally, previous administration did not obtain the modification of groundwater permit beyond and initial test of the current snowmaking infrastructure. Current administration has begun the process of obtaining such permit for this season. If we obtain the permit, snowmaking with chlorinated water will be available for the rope tow only. If we are not able to get the permit, we will not be able to make snow. Mr. Oldmixon resigned from the committee as he has taken the ski area operations position for the District. He will continue to be a resource for this committee in that capacity.

Mr. Leblanc shared the matt material needed to cover the unloading areas on both the rope tow, and chairlift. We would need two rolls at \$3,000 per roll. Mr. Leblanc motioned to recommend this purchase. Mr. Ohara seconded the motion. All committee members present voted affirmative.

Mr. Leblanc stated that staff should order a Trails Merge sign to be placed where traffic crosses to get to the different lifts. Mr. Oldmixon will look into this in his new role.

The next meeting will be November 15, 2021 at 16:00 hours.

The meeting was concluded at 10:34 hours on October 31, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted

Gerry Panuczak