

**Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing
Advisory Committee
Minutes of June 12, 2007**

Members present: Mike Lynch, Doug Bullen, Andy Buckman – DPW; Cheryl Hoffman and Mike Mullaney – citizens; Cathy Leach – Town Council representative

Members absent: Bob Karelitz and Rick Szilagyi – citizens

I. The meeting was brought to order at 3:35 p.m.

II. *Public comment:*

John Bubar, 42 Dover Rd., expressed concern over his property taxes and if the town's commitment to the rink would raise his taxes further. He also spoke of concerns regarding any plans for major infrastructure to the rink that would impact parking and traffic. He is also in favor of user fees to offset costs.

III. *Facility updates:*

Mike Lynch distributed a picture of the new entrance that will be constructed this summer. This is being done primarily in response to safety concerns expressed by Primex, the town's insurance carrier. It will most likely not impact people entering from the parking spots next to the rink, but should provide safer flow for those who park across the street.

Doug Bullen reported that an inspection of the chiller tubes resulted in the finding that they did not need to be replaced. A cleaning of the tubes will be done in-house during July or August that should result in some electrical savings.

Mike Lynch suggested an upgrade to the current hot water system/heater through a grant program in which Northern Utilities will pay for 50% of the cost. The total cost is estimated at \$6,000. The upgrade should provide for higher efficiency and reduced costs. The committee agreed that the upgrade should occur, and Mike will follow up with the Town Administrator to determine the process.

IV. *Financial update:*

Mike Lynch provided brief comments on possible projects, and will provide the group with a supplemental budget at the next meeting outlining operating costs from Sept. – Dec., 2007.

V. *Advertising opportunities:*

Andy Buckman distributed photos of possible places to hang advertising banners. He suggests the committee move forward with banner advertising first, before continuing a glass replacement and/or board advertising program. He indicated that 16 spots were available for large banners, or more for smaller banners. He will bring forward more details at the next meeting. Cheryl Hoffman will assist in determining what a rink ad is worth to an advertiser to help determine costs.

VI. *Community events:*

Cathy Leach distributed a handout with various ideas for community events. It was agreed that part of the committee's role should be to encourage rink usage from all members of the community. At this point, the committee agreed to move forward with planning monthly community skate nights, along with possibly adult-only nights and teen nights, and renting out for birthday or other celebration parties.

The committee also agreed that getting word out to the community is important. Cathy will bring a draft of a public relations plan to the next meeting. Doug Bullen will provide an updated Sept. – Dec. calendar at the next meeting.

VII. *Summer usage:*

There was some discussion regarding use of the rink as a skateboard park during the summer months. Many issues were raised regarding supervision, liability, possible facility damage, police patrol, and possible loss of summer rental income. It was suggested that a small group of representatives from the rink and Parks & Recreation committee, DPW, and the police meet to discuss this further.

VIII. *Future policy issues:*

Cathy Leach distributed a list of policy issues that the committee should discuss in the near future. These included: public skating fees, scheduling priorities, a continued look at rental costs for all users.

IX. *Election of officers:*

Cathy Leach was elected chair of the committee. At the July meeting, a vice chair and secretary will need to be elected.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.