

Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing
Advisory Committee
Minutes -- Jan. 14, 2009

Members attending: Cathy Leach, Cheryl Hoffman, Pam Appleton. Members absent: Mike Mullaney, Eric Fisher. DPW staff attending: Mike Lynch, Doug Bullen, Andy Buckman

The meeting was opened and the agenda approved at 6:09 p.m.

Public comment/correspondence: Cathy Leach brought forward a request for four family public skating passes for a fundraising raffle by the Moharimet PTO. The committee approved this request.

Due to lack of a voting quorum, the November 12, 2008 minutes were not approved.

Budget Report: Mike Lynch distributed the latest budget figures, which were on target. There was some discussion regarding an increase in public skating revenue and the payment of bond for the chiller tubes.

Rink manager/facility report: Doug Bullen reported on the lighting audit/replacement plan. As part of a PSNH payback program, the rink lighting will be improved with "cold-start" fluorescent lights that will be brighter, as well as use less energy. Replacement is scheduled to begin soon and will be done by PSNH. DPW did make a slight change to the original plan to improve the protection to the lights. This is a \$20,000 project, with \$10,000 covered by PSNH. It is estimated that there will be a five-year payoff on the initial cost due to energy cost savings.

Pam Appleton brought up concerns regarding scoreboards and asked whether there was a midseason maintenance plan in place for items such as scoreboards, line painting, nets, etc. Andy Buckman responded that maintenance of items like nets were done on an as-needed or seasonal basis.

In response to line painting, Andy explained the difficulties with a full re-painting during midseason. However, he does have some alternate ideas on how to brighten the lines and will try this in the next week or so.

There was discussion regarding scoreboards, and all agreed that eventual replacement would be ideal. DPW has investigated costs, and ballpark estimates are approx. \$12,000 for two end boards, and \$20,000 for a center hung board (these do not include installation costs). Andy and Doug will continue to work on this issue. Andy will also make some improvements to the current scoreboards in the meantime. Pam brought up the idea that purchasing scoreboards might be a good fundraising activity. The committee will continue to discuss this at subsequent meetings.

Banner sales: An update was provided by Pam. There is one new banner sponsor, with two renewals who have not yet paid. She will follow up with those two. If she does not hear back, or if there is no interest in renewal, then those two banners will be removed. The committee reiterated using an October – October yearly timeframe for banner installation. Banner sales can be worked on throughout the year.

Community Events: Cathy reported that most of the events this year have had higher attendance. She outlined the public relations plan she uses monthly, and was still looking for input on how to better reach the teenage crowd. Andy did report that the Adult skate nights have not been attended at all, and the teen skate nights were well attended except for the January night, which did not have any attendees. It was suggested that we return to just one Adult skate night next year.

Cathy asked if we could provide more programs during the February school break, and Andy suggested holding youth pick-up hockey sessions on MWF of that week from 9-10:20 a.m. All agreed this was a good idea. There was discussion of cost, and it was settled that the cost would be \$3.00.

New Business: Cathy reminded the committee that her term as Council rep will be up in March, so there will need to be a new chair in place beginning with the April meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.