

SKATING POND COMMITTEE

11-1-2005 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Dave Monroe, Chairman; Marc Andrews, Treasurer; and Tim Larkin.

Meeting called to order by Dave Monroe @ 7:10 p.m. in the Durham Public Library Main Activity Room.

Dave Monroe reported the following:

Dave Roach from All Habitat Services, LLC., who trimmed the highly invasive fragmitis reeds at the skating pond, was to spray the invasive purple loosestrife on the pond banks as well--as recommended by the Inland Wetland and Watercourses Agency. To ensure this last measure is a manageable way to proceed, i.e., that it s 'appropriate/ safe to use this aquatic herbicide, Dave Monroe reported that Maryann Boord would consult with Geoffrey Colegrove (Town Planner and Zoning Enforcement Officer) to make a determination. (Dave stated that in the event that the spray cannot be employed, an aquatic cutter will be used; the cutter being the same type of device used by the Connecticut DEP for pond management/ maintenance.) Dave stated that Mr. Roach is ready to go with these measures/ this equipment as soon as we contact him to do so.

Mr. Monroe stated that although he has a sufficient number of bids for the proposed and accepted electrical work for the Skating Pond, he is having some difficulty obtaining a 3rd bid for the accepted bank/ berm repairs. Dave said that all contractors contacted thusfar are highly busy with other projects, and/ or have not responded/ expressed an interest in our project at this time. (Recall that Dave Monroe was requested to obtain additional bids for the various work at a recent Town Meeting; at which the motion to accept the \$50,000 grant from the Bond Commission Allocation for the purpose of developing the Skating area was approved.)

It should also be noted that Brian Curtis has met with a representative of the Connecticut DOT to extend the guardrail on the eastbound side of Rte. 68, such that it will be continued from its present length eastward completely to the present parking lot--to ensure the safety of skaters and pedestrians from breech of the Skating area by automobile incursions.

Marc Andrews confirmed that Dave Monroe received the information he forwarded and that he researched on commercially available and cost-effective ice resurfacers for the Skating Pond. Info was forwarded on NiceIceTM resurfacers (from Nicerink, Inc., Genoa City, WI) and IceMaster resurfacers (from IceMaster/ Geochem, Inc., Anchorage, AK). These portable ice resurfacer devices from these companies are widely used in Canada/ North America on backyard-to-commercial size ice rinks; and can be utilized manually or on the back of a lawn tractor or quad/ ATV--with minimal initial cost, and only ice resurfacer mat replacement operating costs thereafter with average use.

The meeting was adjourned by all in attendance at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15 at 7 PM at the Durham Public Library. As always, the public is invited to attend.