

Pittsburgh Curling Club
Building Committee – Phase 2 Meeting
February 24, 2011

Attending the meeting were: Andy Banfield, Steve Buffington Brian Stuart, Paul Hannan, Dan Bliss, Al Tarkka, Shernise Allen and John Zavinski

A review of the steps taken so far started the meeting. Topics covered were the various designs of clubs, choices of basic ice equipment, and capital and building funding campaigns.

The biggest decision that the committee now faces is the approach to making dedicated curling ice a reality. The past focus has been on building a facility from the ground up with a new building. Unfortunately, without a solid partner, that option will not occur in the near future.

Therefore, the Building Committee has decided to focus its efforts on obtaining leased space and creating curling ice in an existing building. This will be much like the strategy that Columbus Curling Club followed. The one difference will be to assure that a lease agreement has a sufficiently long term, and acceptable cost, to allow the Club to meet its projections with respect to membership and fundraising. The ultimate goal will be a standalone building, but only after we succeed in the leased space.

The Committee was tasked to come up with a revised cost estimate to achieve the new goal. A set of defined costs will then be determined to decide when to start the lease and begin ice construction.

A new set of documents will need to be prepared for the grant request portion of the Building Committee. We all believe that now that we have a single focused option, grantwriting will become easier, though still not guaranteed.

The extra dehumidifiers from Ardsley will be picked up by Steve and Brian. This is a great step in reducing our costs for the dedicated ice. The possibility of obtaining a chiller from an existing club is still being investigated and is a very exciting possibility.

John and Shernise brought a new energy to the Committee and we are grateful for their input and effect on the Committee. Shernise had some great ideas for fundraising and she has indicated that she would like to keep working in that field. John provided copies to the members of a plan that he was involved with to renovate a theater in Sharon, PA. It is a plan that we can base our new phased plan that ties in with monies raised. This gives us the defined goals that we were all looking for.

We hope that even more people will join the Committee. We will keep working to that end.

The committee has set their next meeting for April 7, 2011 at the offices of PVE Sheffler in Wexford. All are welcome to attend.