

Memorandum #08-94

To: City Commission
From: Finance Officer
Date: 5/8/2008
Subject: Request for Additional Funding for Yankton Area Ice Association

Attached is a letter from Dave Spencer, President, Yankton Area Ice Association, which describes a project that the association is interested in pursuing. Dave will be at Monday's meeting to discuss this request.

Thank you,

Al Viereck
Finance Officer



Yankton Area Ice Association

P.O. Box 235
Yankton, SD 57078

Yankton City Commission
Dan Specht
Yankton, South Dakota

Completing its third year of operation, we would like to update the City Commission on the status of the indoor ice skating rink. We thank the City of Yankton for their assistance with the parking lot and permanent floor addition to the facility in the past. The flooring project has allowed ice to be formed earlier, last longer in the spring, allowed events such as the Lewis & Clark Home Builders' Association to host their annual show, and most importantly, saved the "backs" of many of our volunteers!

Activities at the rink this year included six youth hockey teams (including an all girls squad-more on that below), a youth hockey camp in October, the USD Club Hockey Team, an adult hockey league, a figure skating club, several learn to skate groups, a public open skate schedule that ran from October 31 thru march 8 and private rentals groups that included USD Student Activities and MMC Student Government Association. Total visitors to the rink were estimated to be over 15,000.

The youth hockey program next year will consist of a junior varsity, bantam, pee-wee, and junior varsity girls' squads. All four of these teams will compete at the state level, which means they will travel to cities across South Dakota, as well as those same cities coming to Yankton with their teams, which will include over-night stays in Yankton. When the state schedule is released this fall, it will involve all or part the visiting JV boys, girls, bantam and pee-wee tams coming to Yankton on the same weekend.

Our latest project at the rink is the addition of four locker/changing rooms. Working together with our partner, the Yankton County 4-H Clubs, we have a plan to utilize the south storage room in the 4-H Building to house these locker/changing rooms. Currently we are using two "make-shift" locker rooms that are difficult to use when more than two teams are schedule to play right after each other. This is a very economical alternative to any other plans for this type of addition.

This project will greatly improve the traffic flow for the facility as well as allow it to start hosting local and state tournaments. The girls' junior varsity league will be a new league for South Dakota hockey this fall, and the state is looking for a rink to host their first state tournament. If our locker rooms are completed by fall, it has been suggested by the state association that Yankton serve as the host rink.

In addition to the locker/changing rooms, we are making other facility improvements to the 4-H Building that will include new doors at the entrances and improved lighting in the lobby area. Total costs of these improvements are \$20,000 that does not include donated labor to finish the project.

The Yankton Area Ice Association and the Yankton County 4-H Clubs are currently raising funds for these improvements. We are asking the City for any assistance in this project, similar to what they have done with the past projects of the parking lot and flooring addition.

Thank you again for your past support and please let me know if you have any questions.

Dave Spencer
President
Yankton Area Ice Association