

November 8, 2011

Dear Mayor Dickert and Common Council,

Greetings from downtown Racine.

I am on the committee of downtown's "Big Chill" snow and ice carving event to be held January 13-14-15, 2012. This event has grown from two previously existing events into one larger event.

Previously, we had snow sculpting on Monument Square in December and ice carving on the sidewalks the second Saturday in January. Next January downtown Racine will combine snow carving on Monument Square and ice block carving on the sidewalks on the same weekend. The snow carving will be a state championship, with the winner advancing to the national level.

I am writing to you seeking permission to place 12-15 blocks of ice throughout downtown on the sidewalks 6th and Main Streets the morning of Saturday, January 14. The blocks are 1" X 2' x 4' and weigh 300 lbs. They will be carved by professionals using only hand tools and their imagination. The carvings will remain in place until Mother Nature melts them away.

We understand the ADA compliance requests of keeping them at least 5' away from the buildings and 2' off the curb. We will have the required insurance from the Downtown Racine Corporation. Devin Sutherland is the contact person for signatures.

We have hosted this event every January for 6 years in an effort to create business during an historic slow time of year. We have not had any issues or problems with the event other than vandals kicking some of the carvings over at night.

I am requesting to be on the next meeting agenda to seek your permission to use the sidewalks for this event.

Thank you,  
Mary Osterman  
Copacetic  
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262-634-4287