

**Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Tuesday, April 2, 2019**

On Tuesday, April 2, 2019, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Daryl Dennie, Rob Hormann, Michelle Miller, Josh Monson and Doug Stahlgren. Also present was Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the March 2019 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle said that all spring youth sports practices have begun. Soccer and volleyball games begin this weekend and softball, t-ball, and coach pitch the week of April 22. This year there are 132 children participating in spring sports, virtually the same number as in 2018.

Mayor Webster asked Mr. Karle approximately how many children were in the program 8 – 10 year ago. Mr. Karle estimated that the number would probably be 150 to 160. Mayor Webster asked if the recommendations of the CAP committee and the marketing investments such as the program guide, and electronic sign have been producing positive results. Mr. Karle said that he felt it was helping us hold our own, but there are a number of factors affecting participation, particularly the spring sports program. He cited shifting demographics, the decline in interest in baseball by young people, and the trend toward specialization and moving to select sports. There was considerable discussion among the Commission members regarding the decline in organized youth sports. It was noted that many children are consumed with electronic devices and video games as opposed to physical sports. Mr. Monson suggested that perhaps electronic gaming and coding could be offered at the Community Center to entice young people to come up and get involved. Mr. Stahlgren also noted that maybe an effort to promote the health incentive of sports participation would motivate parents to sign their children up.

Registration has begun for Co-ed Softball. Staff is hopeful there will be enough for a league this year. Games begin in late April. The Men's Golf league has twenty players on ten teams. The first night of play is Wednesday.

- Adult pickle ball will be offered on Tuesday evenings 5:30 – 7:30pm, April through October in the gym. This opportunity to play is in addition to the ongoing Monday afternoon and Thursday morning pickleball.

This afternoon the seniors enjoyed a craft day. The group created paper birdhouses. The program was free.

April marks the beginning of the Chair Volleyball team's official games. The first game is April 10.

The Easter Bunny is arriving early for an Easter Lunch and Egg Hunt on April 11. The lunch will include ham, potatoes au gratin, green bean casserole, and dessert.

April 18 at 1:00pm, the This & That program will feature the Think First Injury Prevention Program discussing fall prevention. Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths for people over the age of 65 and a leading reason for emergency room visits.

- The Fitness Challenge 8-week program has concluded. There were two programs, one for City employees and another for members. City employees lost a total of 99.25lbs. and 50 participating members lost 63.75.

There is another new fitness motivational program March Fitness Madness, blending the NCAA Basketball Tournament and fitness activities. Each team is assigned an exercise and as the teams advance so do the exercises.

Those interested in improving their balance and reducing the risk of falls are encouraged to join the Balance for Life starting Friday, April 5 from 11:00-12:00 p.m. The class will combine balance and flexibility with the ability to use a chair if needed. Runs from April 5 to May 31.

- Fitness Instructor Amanda Hatfield has resigned to accept a position in retail, Fitness Instructor Siva Manoharan has accepted a fulltime position in his field, and Part-time Custodian Katie Wells resigned her position at the end of the March.

Applications are being accepted for Part-time Parks Maintenance Worker, Part-time Custodian, Fitness Instructor, Customer Service Assistant, and Seasonal Parks Maintenance Worker.

- The Springdale Garden Club will present their High Tea, "Tea on the Wild Side," Sunday, 2:30 – 4:30pm in the Auxiliary Gym. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$6 for children ages 4 – 12 (3 & under free) includes food, tea, and prizes.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- JC Events will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at Ross Park on Saturday, April 20, at noon. The event is typically very well attended and has been a long-standing tradition in the community.
- There will be a special meeting of City Council at the Community Center in the Auxiliary Gym on Wednesday April 24 at 7:00pm. The meeting will provide a forum for the public to learn more about the earnings tax proposal on the May 7 ballot and to ask questions of the elected officials.
- The City will celebrate Arbor Day with ceremonies at Heritage Hill Elementary at 11:00am and Springdale Elementary at 1:00pm on Friday, April 26. The students will sing songs related to trees, and the Mayor will speak and present the Public Works Department with a resolution recognizing Springdale as a Tree City USA. The Springdale Garden Club will donate a tree to be planted at each location.

- The Springdale Elementary PTA has begun planning for its fourth annual Color Run on Saturday, April 27. They are requesting use of the walking track for the event as they have in the past. There were no problems reported the previous years, and they will provide the required insurance documents and name the City of Springdale in the waiver that the participants sign. The Commission approved the request without objection.
- The annual Third Grade Health Fair will take place on Friday, May 3. All 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes in the Princeton School District are invited as well as the local private schools. There will be over twenty booths sharing information on health and safety. This is a joint effort by the Springdale and Sharonville Recreation Departments, the Springdale Health Department, and Princeton School nurses. The department will have two booths one promoting safety around the water and another related to physical fitness.
- Mayor Webster noted the passing of Dave Blumberg, longtime Springdale resident, Parks & Recreation Department employee, youth and adult sports official, and men's softball coach. Mr. Blumberg was nominated for induction into the Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame. The Commission approved the induction at the ceremony in January 2020.

Mayor Webster also updated the Commission members on the earnings tax increase on the May ballot and the status of the Spring Rose residential development and the Springdale Commerce Park.