

**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Tuesday, September 3, 2013**

Tuesday, September 3, 2013, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7pm. Members present were Steven Brooks, Gene Burt, Carmen Daniels, Doug Stahlgren and Julie Wright. Also present was Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the August 2013 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that the fall soccer games began August 24th, and the season will conclude on October 26<sup>th</sup>. There are five teams and one instructional team, which is the same number as last season. There are 86 children in the youth soccer program, up two from 2012. Registration for youth basketball, volleyball and cheerleading began on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

There was considerable discussion regarding the participation of children in select sports and their impact on the recreational youth sports program. It appears there is a growing interest in select sports and a wider range of opportunities for children and their parents than existed in the past. It was suggested that the department look into additional training opportunities for the recreational coaches to enhance the perceived value of the recreational program in the development of young players.

The Men's Golf League concluded August 28th, and they will have the end of season dinner on Wednesday. The Mixed Couples Softball League was completed in late July.

The youth boosters plan to sell candy, popcorn, snow cones and beer at the upcoming Community Bash.

- Springdale's Gone Wild had 18 onlookers with an outstanding presentation by a naturalist from Hamilton County Parks District. The topic was having a garden and what creatures you might come across in the garden. The presentation included a turtle, hissing cockroach, an owl and even a little green toad. The children enjoyed the animals and the parents had many good gardening questions.

The Retirement Ready Series continues on September 10<sup>th</sup> with a program titled "Getting your Estate Planning in Order". The workshop is free of charge, and a complimentary snack is provided. Registration is open until September 9<sup>th</sup>.

The "This and That" program on September 12<sup>th</sup> will be *Appalachian Story Time* with Russ and Barb Childers telling the story behind their Appalachian quilt using songs and folk stories. Register by September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Wii Bowling returns on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Bowlers will attempt to break the Springdale record of 193.

The September 27<sup>th</sup> senior luncheon will be "Lunch & Music Bingo". After a lunch of baked potatoes and soup, a DJ will lead a game of bingo where instead of calling numbers he will play TV theme songs to be matched on the player's cards.

- ROCK! Solid fitness class was a great success. It was our staff's first attempt at an outdoor boot camp style fitness class. It was held on four Saturdays in June. There were 20 participants the first week and over 100 total throughout the month.

Ballet is again being offered at the Community Center. Ms. Dena had been lured away by a dance studio last year but decided to return. She held three ballet camps this summer and is now offering classes for children 3 and over in classical ballet that teaches through fun and creative themes.

Bootcamp is back! After a summer break the popular fitness class returns on Mondays 5:30pm – 6:15pm beginning September 9<sup>th</sup>. The free class is appropriate for all fitness levels and offers the opportunity to lose weight, tone up and have fun.

- Pool attendance was down this year due to the very wet and relatively cool weather this summer. The season was extended one week to allow the pool to be open until Princeton schools went into session. There were no significant accidents or injuries and mechanically there were no major issues with the exception of the floor drain repair in the filter house which will be completed now that the pool is closed for the season. The annual Goldfish Swim took place on Saturday. The usual large enthusiastic crowd had a great time. There were 306 swim lesson enrollments in 2013 including 19 adults.

The Sailfish Swim team had an outstanding season capped off with a runner up finish in the small team league championships. The team has experienced tremendous growth in numbers. Last year the team had grown from 56 to 72 swimmers and this year it grew further to a total of 107. This is the largest number of participants in over 15 years.

- The Women's USSSA Softball Tournament was held on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. There were sixteen teams from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Michigan entered in the competition. This tournament remains the largest in the area for women's softball. After expenses, SYB raised approximately \$1,300 from entry fees not counting revenue from concession sales.

The Neighborhood Yard Sale was Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 2pm. Residents were encouraged to participate by holding a sale at their home on the specified date at the recommended times. We advertised via street banner, email, posters, newspaper and craigslist advertising. The excellent weather contributed a very successful event.

Cintas Document Management had their mobile shredding unit at the Community Center on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 10am – 1pm. They reported 7,468 pounds of material collected, which is by far the largest amount since we began offering this service. All materials collected were recycled.

Mr. Brooks suggested that the Neighborhood Yard Sale, Document Shredding and Safety Day activities be moved so they are on different dates. He noted that he wanted to attend all three events but was unable to. Mr. Karle stated that there is no reason those events could not be on separate dates and to endeavor to make that adjustment in the future.

- Plans are in place and contracts signed for the ComeUnity Bash event. Marketing will begin in earnest this week. There have been meetings with the Police and Fire Departments to discuss security and emergency response.

Registration continues through Friday for the Family Mud Quest event that will take place before the ComeUnity Bash. The ½ mile course will feature obstacles such as a mud trudge, rope walk, giant slip and slide and more. The non-competitive event will empathize fun, teamwork and helping each other finish. Team members who complete the course will receive a commemorative tee shirt.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- Debbie Hansen and Ada Perkins have recently been hired as Customer Service Assistants and are currently undergoing training. Mrs. Hansen grew up in Springdale and still has family here. She has strong customer service experience and computer skills. Her previous work experience includes Cops Protective Services and Fairfield Schools. Ada Perkins grew up in Springdale and is currently a resident. She is a frequent user of the Community Center and thus has familiarity with our programs. Her previous work experience includes Princeton City Schools, Cincinnati Public Schools, the Free Store Food Bank and the Friendly Stop Café. Both ladies are very personable and will make excellent additions to the customer service team.

Two individuals have been selected to fill vacancies as Fitness Instructors and are currently undergoing training as well. James Harrod has completed studies at Scarlet Oaks in Sports and Rehabilitation and will be studying Health Promotions at Cincinnati State this fall. Gary Wells has an Associates degree in Health and Fitness from Cincinnati State. He also has experience in teaching group fitness classes. Mr. Wells plans to further his education at UC by completing his Bachelors degree and hopes to become a health teacher when he completes his studies.

- Outdoor recycling containers have been put in place at the Community Center and Ross Park.

The deduct water meter has been installed at Community Center which will allow irrigation of the ball fields without the expense of sewer charges.

The Maintenance Crew has completed a project to regrade field #2, utilizing the box spreader purchased last fall.

A new fence over the culvert pipe at Underwood Park was recently installed. It replaced a chain link fence that was in poor condition. The Parks Maintenance crew also installed a new basketball backboard and drinking fountain and repaired cracks and seal coated the playing court, adding markings for basketball and other playground games. The crew has also seal coated the court and installed court markings at Ross Park and Chamberlain Park. This improvement not only enhances the appearance and utility of the courts but will also extend the usable life of these amenities. Mr. Karle distributed a photo of the park improvements.

- The annual Junior Olympics will take place on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 12noon. There are eight competitive events for boys and girls age 12 & under. There will be two new events this year, the javelin throw (foam noodles) and a bucket toss. There will be a magic show prior to the awards ceremony. Volunteers are still needed.