

Parks & Recreation Commission
Tuesday, September 1, 2015

On Tuesday, September 1, 2015, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Steven Brooks, Carmen Daniels Doug Stahlgren, Megan Wisecup and Julie Wright. Also present was Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the May 2015 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that fall soccer practices have begun and games start September 8th. There are 79 children participating on six teams. That would be the same number of teams as last year and one less player. Registration for youth basketball, volleyball and cheerleading begins on September 1st. This year a coach's clinic will be offered for our basketball coaches. The purpose will be to develop coaching skills and provide them with drills and activities they can utilize. The clinic will be conducted by Sherwin Anderson former Xavier University point guard who was team captain for two years and led the nation in steals his junior year. Mr. Anderson earned both a Bachelor's and Masters Degree from Xavier. After graduation, he traveled for a year with the Harlem Globetrotters. Mr. Anderson conducts camps, group and individual training on a regular basis in a positive and encouraging environment. He conducted a clinic for the Evendale Recreation Department last year and was highly recommended. There are also plans for a player's clinic earlier in the day in conjunction with Sharonville. The coaches will provide the instruction along with perhaps some Princeton players and/or coaches. There will be a portion of the program where Mr. Anderson will give a 20 – 30 minute motivational talk to the players. It is felt that these clinics will be highly beneficial for our coaches, players and the program in general.

Mayor Webster explained to the members that he had formed a committee called the Citizens Advisory Panel and indicated those appointed to that committee. The purpose is to examine the decline in the number of children involved in youth sports and offer suggestions on how participation can be increased. Ms. Wisecup, who is a committee member, reported to the commission some of the discussion that occurred. She explained that it is not just a Springdale problem and is occurring in many communities. They discussed some of the challenges in getting the Hispanic community involved and their reluctance travel and assimilate outside their neighborhood. Ms. Wisecup also shared that the committee discussed marketing efforts and meeting with the local PTAs. They are also working on the idea of a survey of the residents. Ms. Daniel indicated that she thought the Sharonville Recreation Department had done a survey of residents regarding recreational activities. Mr. Karle said he would contact their department to see what information they could share. There was also discussion of a welcome package to provide new residents in the community to let them know about not only the parks and recreational programs and facilities, but also the other city services that are available.

The Men's Golf League completed their season two weeks ago and will have their awards dinner at the Community Center on September 2nd.

The Springdale Youth Boosters are planning to hold a Father Daughter Dance fundraiser on Saturday, October 17th, 6- 8pm. The cost will be \$20 couple, \$5 for each additional daughter. They will enjoy a DJ, pizza, beverages, ice cream floats and a keepsake photo.

- The seniors celebrated the season with their “Dog Days of Summer Luncheon” on Friday, August 28th. They enjoyed typical American favorites like hot dogs mac & cheese, chips and dessert. Entertainer Dale Fetick performed favorites from Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole and Tony Bennett.

The Cincinnati Art Museum will present our September “This & That” program with *Flowers and More Flowers* on September 24th. The presentation will explore how floral motif has been depicted in art through the ages and in different cultures around the world. The “This & That” program continues to be popular, with 29 members attending the program on Historical Landmarks in July and 20 members at the August program on Entertainment and Recreation in Early Cincinnati, both presented by the Cincinnati Museum Center.

Technology 101 will be offered again on Saturday mornings in September. It is a great opportunity to obtain private instruction on how to use your iPad, smart phone, notebook, navigation or other mobile device. Instruction is also available on use of a computer. An appointment is required for the 45 minutes session. The cost is \$3.

Adult/Senior Programmer Donna Lanter and Fitness Center Manager Jay Dennis are working on programming for “Active Aging Week” which is the last week in September. This program is led by the International Council on Active Aging and is designed to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle for adults and seniors. They will be putting together a series of activities the week of September 28th that includes social, educational and physical fitness activities.

- Mr. Karle stated that the pool closed for the season on August 16th and that he was happy to report that there were no significant accidents or injuries and with the exception of a few mechanical issues things ran very smoothly. Attendance was fairly light in June and most of July due to the unusually wet and cool weather.

There were a total of 301 youth swim registrations and 14 adults received instruction. At the request of the participants, Cardio Splash class was extended for two extra sessions. The annual Goldfish Swim took place on Saturday, August 15th with approximately 160 people in attendance. The 1002 goldfish were released into the pool for children 12 & under to catch by hand.

The Sailfish swim team completed their season with a runner up finish in the small team division of the NSSL Championships. They were very proud of this accomplishment since the team that finished ahead of them, Greenhills, was just this year moved down from the large team division and had quite a few more swimmers in the competition. The Sailfish had 84 swimmers participate this year.

- The vacant part-time Fitness Instructor position has been filled by Andrew Messerle. He is a student at the University of Cincinnati, nearing completion of his bachelor’s degree in Exercise and Fitness.
- The very popular Butts n’ Guts exercise class has returned Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:15pm. The high energy tightening and toning workout is suitable for all fitness levels. It’s a great way to get in shape and all you need to bring is a mat, towel and water bottle and it’s free!

Boot Camp returns after its summer break on September 14th. The motivating instructor will train anyone at any fitness level from beginner to expert with positive encouragement. It’s a good way to tone up and lose weight by burning an estimated 450 calories per class. Best of all it’s free. Again, bring a towel or mat and water bottle, Mondays 5:30 – 6:15pm

A Teen Fit class will be offered on September 13th. The class is designed for 13 – 17 year olds to learn about exercise and nutrition. After successful completion of the class, 13 – 15 year olds with a fitness membership may utilize the Fitness Center on their own.

SilverSneakers Flex: Cardio-Strength begins on September 14th. The Strength & Cardio class is a low impact class designed to help improve muscular endurance and cardio stamina. They will meet Mondays from 10:30 – 11:30am. The class is free with a SilverSneakers membership, \$3 for non members.

- Unfortunately there were not enough teams to have the Women's Softball Tournament this year. Interest in the sport has been declining for years for both men and women and, unfortunately, this is probably not going to be a good option as a fund raiser for the youth boosters as they move forward.
- The Neighborhood Yard Sales event was held on Saturday, August 8th at the recommended time of 9am -2pm. Residents were encouraged to have sales at their home on this date at the recommended time. The event was widely advertised with the street banner, yard signs, newspaper ads and on Craigslist.
- The annual free document shredding event took place on Saturday August 22nd, 10am – 1pm at the Community Center. This year a new vendor was utilized, Royal Document Destruction. Apparently, this event remains popular as 6100 lbs of paper were shredded and recycled.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- The annual Junior Olympics will take place on Saturday, September 12th. Registration begins at 10am with events 10 – 11:30am. There are eight fun competitive events for boys and girls age 12 & under. The event is free and open to the public.
- Plans are in place for the ComeUnity Bash event. There will be a series of three bands performing on field #4 beginning at 3pm. The Cincinnati Circus will return with their exciting Big Show performance as well as numerous family games and a climbing wall. The very popular petting zoo will be on the multipurpose court as well as food and refreshments to purchase from local service groups. As dusk falls on the Community Center complex, six hot air balloons will be displayed and light up the night sky.

Staff is also finalizing plans for the Family Mud Quest event that will take place before the ComeUnity Bash. The ½ mile course will feature many of the same obstacles with a few new ones added for variety. The non-competitive event will emphasize fun, teamwork and helping each other finish. Team members who complete the course will receive a commemorative tee shirt. Registration is underway.

- Mr. Karle said that he received a request from the Daysprings Church of God to utilize the tennis courts at the Community Center for a charity Tennis Tournament in early October. The proceeds would benefit their global mission fund. The tournament would be on Friday and Saturday and finals on Sunday if necessary. The request comes via Tim Kufeldt, the Senior Pastor who is also a resident of Springdale. He indicated that they would be willing to provide insurance coverage if necessary. Following discussion of the event, the tennis tournament request was granted on the condition that the rights to the concession sales be retained and offered to the Springdale Youth Boosters.

- Mr. Karle also said that the Springdale PTA has requested the use of the outdoor track on Saturday, May 7th to hold a 5k color run fundraiser. Their goal is to have at least 125 participants. The event would be open to all age groups. The colored powder thrown at the participants is made of corn starch and food coloring and is environmentally safe. They would only throw the colors in designated areas and would clean up afterward. The run is to precede the annual Spring Carnival at the school. Registration is planned to be in the school parking lot and they should not need anything from the Parks and Recreation Department except use of the track. The request was approved with the condition that liability insurance is provided for the event and that the participant release form include a phrase also releasing the City of Springdale from liability.