

**Springdale Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**September 5, 2017**

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Sharon Casselman, Daryl Dennie, Doug Stahlgren and Julie Wright. Also present was Recreation Director Greg Karle and SYB President Rob Horman.

Minutes from the May 2017 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mayor Webster introduced the Springdale Youth Boosters President Rob Horman. Mr. Horman said that he was there to request the use of the Auxilliary Gym for a Breakfast with Santa event to be held on Sunday December 10, 1 – 3pm. They would serve pancakes, sausage, fruit, milk, juice, coffee and since the event is later in the day, hot dogs and chips. He stated that they were looking at it as a fund raiser and were in the very early stages of planning. Ms. Casselman suggested that they perhaps call it Lunch with Santa since it was an afternoon event. She also suggested they provide a discount for pre-registration that may be helpful in planning their supplies. Mr. Horman said they would of course have Santa in attendance and a photographer present for pictures. The Commission was in support of the idea and approved the use of the gym on the specified date.
- Mr. Karle noted that the spring youth sports season went well. Of special note, the boy's wings team went undefeated and won their league and the girl's passers were runner up in their league. The fall youth soccer program has begun with the first games this evening. This year there are five SAY soccer teams and five instructional, which is an increase of three teams from last year. There are 113 children registered, up from 84 last season (a 26% increase) and the most in over 7 years. Unfortunately, there were not enough children registered for the fall volleyball program, but they may still participate in the winter program. Registration has begun for the winter youth sports of volleyball, basketball and cheerleading.

Mr. Karle explained and distributed information on Lindsay's Law. This law was enacted August 1 and is relevant to all youth sports regarding sudden cardiac arrest. Coaches and parents are required to watch a video and sign a form indicating the same.

There was a group discussion related to the reason for the significant increase in children participating in the youth soccer program. Potential reasons for the growth in the program included increased marketing: program guide, additional emails to coaches & players, outreach to schools (sports camp & field day), SYB facebook popularity of soccer, and a possible increase in the number of young families.

The Men's Golf League completed their season at the end of August. This year there was a full complement of 12 teams participating.

- The boosters are experiencing a rebirth of sorts with nine new members in the past few months. They have a new Facebook page, and it seems new energy and fresh ideas. The recent meetings have been averaging about 12 members. They do plan to operate the concession stand for fall soccer and have planned a Family Movie Night, Father Daughter Dance, and of course the Winter Sports Pep Rally.

- Club Rec has a new advisor, Rebecca Smith who began August 1. The youth will be assisting with the obstacles at the Family Mud Quest on September 9 and plans are in the works for their scavenger hunt bonfire event in October.
- Thirteen children participated in the City Service & U program this summer. They enjoyed learning about the various City departments and getting a behind the scenes look at how they function.
- There is a new group meeting each Monday afternoon called the “Stitch and Chat Gang”. Participants bring their current needlework project and enjoy friendly chatter. Helpful hints and instruction are also shared.

Pickle Ball has been a huge success. They play on Mondays and Thursdays and the numbers keep growing. The program is now utilizing three courts indoors as well as the outdoor court.

Technology 101 will be offered again on Saturdays through the month of September. It is a great opportunity to receive private instruction on your iPad, smart phone, notebook or other mobile device. The cost is \$3.

Seniors will have an opportunity to make Kusudama Flowers on their craft day September 12. They will use special origami techniques to create beautiful flowers.

The This & That program for September will be Cincinnati Memories #2 on September 14. They will take a virtual tour of Downtown Cincinnati visiting Music Hall, Chester Park, the inclines and Crosley Field.

The month wraps up with Active Aging Week September 25 - 29. There will be programs each day to celebrate active adults age 50 and over and promote the benefits of leading an active, healthier lifestyle.

- The pool season went exceedingly well with no significant injuries or incidents to report. The new Aquatics Director and Assistant Aquatics Director did an excellent job in their first season with us. There was a total attendance of 5,862 visitors to the pool which is about average. There was a total of 258 swim lesson registrations which included 10 adults. Cardio-Splash classes were offered on Thursday evening and Saturday mornings. Due to its popularity, it was extended to three sessions.

The weather did not cooperate with many of the pool special events. The Family Fun Day had a relatively small turnout due to bad weather and unfortunately, the Club Rec Pool Party was canceled due to storms. Threatening storms also hindered the Sailfish’s movie night, but 90 people still enjoyed other fun activities that evening.

Mechanically there were a few issues this summer, with a water return line on the slide that had separated and delayed its opening in the first week season. Prior to opening, the slide surface was repaired and refurbished and the filtration pump for the slide and the baby pool were replaced. In the final weeks of the season, the circulation pump in the main pool developed a leak. It continued to function through the end of the season but is scheduled to be rebuilt this fall.

The Sailfish had 74 swimmers this year. It was a bit of a rebuilding year for the swim team under their new Head Coach Ben Carnahan. They were honored to host the Northern Suburban Swim League Championships on July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> with over 800 swimmers participating. The staff and swim team

parents did an outstanding job of organizing the event and many compliments were received from the participating communities. The Sailfish operated concession stand and made approximately \$1,200.

- Part-time Custodian Demarcus Bryant resigned in May to accept fulltime employment. The position was filled by local resident Shawnda Gates.

The Teen Advisor position was filled by Rebecca Smith. She is a lifelong resident of Springdale, graduated from Mt. St Joseph with a degree in Special Ed. K – 12. She is currently the Intervention Specialist for Carlisle High School, coaches varsity bowling at Princeton and is the Interact Club Advisor at Fairfield High School.

Part-time Facility Supervisor John Ramp is retiring from his position with the City at the end of September. Fitness Instructor Jimmy Harrod has been assigned to this position and is currently in training. We are very grateful for Mr. Ramp's nearly 15 years of service to the department and the City.

The open Part-time Parks Maintenance Worker position was filled by Emily Diacont. She has a background in caring for animals and maintaining the 15 acres she live on.

Parks Maintenance Supervisor Bob Young will be retiring at the end of September after over 10 years of service. He has been an excellent leader in the Parks Department and we wish him well in his retirement. Twenty-seven applications were received for this position and staff is currently interviewing the top ten.

Hailey Martin completed her internship in August and has returned to Ohio Northern University to complete her degree in Exercise Physiology. She did an excellent job and I am confident she enjoyed her time here and profited from the experience.

- The fitness staff offered a new class this summer called "Adapt-2-Fit". It was a free class designed for individuals with disabilities and mobility challenges. This was an adapted chair exercise class to help participants remain active and make daily activities easier.

Silver Sneakers Flex is back beginning September 6 on Wednesdays at 11:30am. It is a low impact cardio and strength class designed to improve muscular endurance and cardio stamina. The class is free to SilverSneakers members and \$3 for non- SS members.

Country Western Line Dancing will be offered Thursdays at 1pm beginning September 7. Singles and couples are welcome.

- The 2017 Program Guide was deliver to homes in mid-May. It is also mailed out to new residents each month and is available at the front desk for new members.

The staff has reached out to the community at events such as the Heritage Hill Block Party, Safety Day and the upcoming Latino Expo (10/8) and the Business & Community Expo. Additionally staff has reached out to the business community with marketing opportunities at Macy's and Cincom.

- The Neighborhood Yard Sales were held on Saturday August 12, 9am – 2pm. Residents were encouraged to participate by holding a sale at their home on the specified date at the recommended times. It was advertised via the street banner, email, posters, newspaper and craigslist.

- The annual document-shredding event was held at the Community Center on Saturday, August 19, 10am – 1pm. This year there was an extraordinary amount of material shredded. It was reported that 12,000 pounds of paper was shredded and recycled during the three-hour event.
- The Junior Olympics was held on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. There were a total of 130 children competing in eight fun but challenging events. This is largest number of participants in many years. There were awards, giveaways and entertainment by a magician. Many thanks to Steven Brooks who again this year solicited sponsors to assist in funding the event.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- The fifth edition of the Family Mud Quest will take place before the ComeUnity Bash on September 9<sup>th</sup>. The fun starts at 1pm as participants slop their way through a muddy obstacle course, crawling through mud pits, over hay bales and down slippery slopes. It's free of charge and those who registered before September 3<sup>rd</sup> and complete the course receive a souvenir tee shirt.
- The ComeUnity Bash returns on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 3 – 9pm. This year the bands will be moved to the amphitheater and there will be additional family type games on the basketball court. The very popular Cincinnati Circus will present their Big Show at 4:30 and 6:30pm including a high wire act and Wheel of Destiny. The petting zoo featuring over thirty animals will be open 3 – 7pm. There will be a series of three bands in the amphitheater, Safire Express at 3pm, the Danny Frazier Band at 5pm and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wind taking the stage at 7:30pm. Virtually all of the local service organizations are back and will be selling food and refreshments. Ms. Casselman asked if postcards were mailed out advertising the Community Bash. Mr. Karle responded that postcards were not utilized but could be considered next year if the budget allows.
- The Youth Boosters will present a Family Movie Night on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> in the amphitheater. The family rated movie will be free of charge. The boosters will have the concession open for food and refreshments.
- The annual Business & Community Expo will take place on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. As in the past area businesses, community organizations and City department will shared information and explain the services they offer. The always-popular Chili Cook-off will also be held. The same day, the Health Department will offer their flu Clinic/Health Fair in the Auxiliary Gym.
- Mayor Webster asked the Commission members for their opinions on a number of potential capital improvement project including splash pads, picnic shelters and informational signage (both temporary and permanent).