

Springdale Parks & Recreation Commission
Tuesday, September 3, 2019

On Tuesday, September 3, 2019, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Rob Hormann, Michelle Miller, Lori Merz and Josh Monson. Also present was Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the May 2019 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- **Sports Programming**

Mr. Karle said that fall soccer practices have begun and games begin this evening. There are eight soccer teams with 106 children participating. There will also be two youth volleyball teams this fall with 16 children participating. Registration for youth basketball and cheerleading began on September 1.

There will be a new fall Co-ed Cornhole League beginning September 10. Seven teams are entered. There will be seven weeks of play and a tournament.

- **Springdale Youth Boosters**

The youth boosters are planning a free family movie in the amphitheater on Friday, September 13. They will be opening the concession stand. The boosters reported very good concession sales at the three concerts this summer.

- **Club Rec**

“City Service & U” was offered again this past June. Ten children toured the various City departments learning about the responsibilities they have and the tools and equipment they utilize. The weeklong program concluded with a ceremony where they met the Mayor and enjoyed a pizza lunch.

Club Rec sponsored a pool party in July with 52 children in attendance. They swam, played games, and of course, had snacks and soft drinks.

The Club Rec members will be assisting with the Mudquest on Saturday and plans are in the works for their Fall Fest event at the Community Center on October 5. They will enjoy fall games and activities, and the evening will be topped off with s’mores over a campfire.

- **Adult/Senior Programming**

The “This & That” program on September 12 is *Making Peace with Dementia*. The program will explain the many changes individuals with dementia experience as the disease progresses and how relatives and caregivers can cope.

Active Aging week begins September 30. It is a full week of programs and activities to celebrate active adults 50 & over and promote the benefits of leading an active, healthier lifestyle. There will be a variety of programs to meet the social, educational, and physical interests and needs of adults and seniors.

- **Aquatics**

The pool closed for the season on August 11. It was a safe summer with no significant injuries or incidents. Total attendance was 6,275 which was virtually the same as last season. There were a total of 228 youth swim registrations and 10 adult registrations on the year which was a substantial increase over 2018 when there were

200 children and 7 adult registrations. Unfortunately, the Family Fun Day at the pool in June was canceled due to inclement weather. July saw the return of the Cardboard Regatta with 4 boats entered. The annual Goldfish Swim took place on August 11. The 1002 goldfish were released into the pool for children 12 & under to catch by hand. The event was not without controversy as it went viral on social media. Calls and emails condemning the event came from all over the country including a number of threats. The Police Department provided exemplary security preparing for the potential of protesters or people hoping to disrupt the event. There were no disruptions or issues during the Goldfish Swim and the 175 people in attendance had an excellent time. The Commission members discussed the merits of the Goldfish Swim event and Mayor Webster poled them as to whether it should be continued next year. The Commission members approved the continuation of the Goldfish Swim event unanimously.

Cardio Splash was offered in four sessions with an average of 13 participants per class. There was an additional session added this summer as the demand dictated.

The Sailfish completed their season with 55 children participating.

Mayor Webster shared with the Commission members that it was planned that next pool season the hours of operation will be extended on Saturday and Sundays and that the pool will remain open through Labor Day on weekends only.

- **Personnel**

Tyler Carter was recently hired to fill one of two Part-time Parks Maintenance Worker positions. He graduated from the Scarlet Oaks Fire Fighter program and will be continuing his education within fire service while working for the Parks Department.

Kobe Seay has been hired to fill the open Park Patrol position. He has worked in security in the US Army during his four tours in Iraq and is currently working toward a business degree at the University of Cincinnati.

Patty Short has joined the staff as a new part-time Customer Service Assistant. She retired after a 30 year career for the US Postal Service in their HR Department.

Rebecca Smith resigned in June from her part-time position as Teen Advisor to accept another position outside the City. Applications are being accepted for this position as well as part-time Custodian and Part-time Park Maintenance Worker.

- **Fitness**

The Teen Fit class will be offered September 22 for youth age 13 – 17. Participants will gain a better understanding of health and fitness. Additionally, those under 16 years of age will be permitted to utilize the Fitness Center without a parent upon completion of the course.

- **Facilities & Maintenance**

The Studio floor at the Community Center was refinished in July. Grills at Underwood Park and Ross Park have been replaced and the grill at Cameron will be replaced this fall. A number of dead or dying trees will be removed from several parks this fall. Picnic tables at the Community Center and Ross Park are scheduled to be repaired/refurbished. New security cameras are being installed in the pool compound and front entry.

- **Concerts in the Park**

The three concerts this summer were well attended averaging approximately 160 people each. All three bands performed well and were enjoyed by the audience.

- **Neighborhood Yard Sale**

The annual Neighborhood Yard Sale event was held on Saturday August 10. As in the past, residents were encouraged to hold sales at their homes and take advantage of our marketing efforts. It was advertised via the street banner, electronic sign, email, posters, newspaper, and craigslist.

- **Document Shredding**

The annual document shredding event was held Saturday, August 17. It was again a big success with of 9,850 lbs. of material collected. As we move forward, it is planned to offer the service three times per year to better serve our residents.

- **Junior Olympics**

The annual Junior Olympics took place on August 24. There were eight fun competitive events for boys and girls age 10 & under. Approximately 125 children entered this year and had a great time.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- **Family Mud Quest**

Staff is busy preparing 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 registered by September 1 and complete the course will receive a commemorative tee shirt.

- **ComeUnity Bash**

Plans are in place for the ComeUnity Bash on Saturday. Most of the same service groups are returning with food and refreshments. The bands this year are the Dan Varner Band, The Remains, and The Everyday People Band. Cincinnati Circus will also be back with their Big Show, a climbing wall, games, and strolling entertainers. The always-popular petting zoo will offer over twenty farm, zoo, and exotic animals as well as a pony ride carousel.

- **Business & Community Expo**

The annual Business & Community Expo will take place on Tuesday, October 1. As in the past, area businesses, community organizations, and City departments will share 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.

- **Euchre Tournament**

Springdale Offering Support will present a Euchre Tournament on Saturday, October 5, 6 – 11pm. Entry is \$30/person, \$50/couple, \$20 college student. Appetizers are included and beverages are available for purchase. Tickets will be available at the Community Center or by contacting Julie Matheny at 346-5712.

- **Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame**

Mr. Karle noted that Cheri Burt passed away recently and should be considered for induction into the Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame. She was a volleyball coach, youth booster, and tremendous volunteer for the adult softball tournaments and youth soccer tournaments. The Commission approved here induction to the youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame at the ceremony on January 3.