

**Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes from Tuesday, March 2, 2010**

Mayor Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday, March 2, 2010 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Gene Burt, Carmen Daniels, Joe Ramirez, KT Russell and Julie Wright. Also present was Greg Karle, Parks and Recreation Director.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that the youth basketball regular season concluded on February 20<sup>th</sup> and tournament games will be played through March 6<sup>th</sup>. Springdale has 15 teams playing in 12 divisions and had 6 teams place 1st and 2 teams place 2<sup>nd</sup> in their league. Springdale is hosting the Boys L3, Girls L4 and Boys L5 tournaments.

The youth volleyball season concluded on February 28<sup>th</sup> for the 9-11 age group and the 12 – 15 year olds will conclude with an end of season tournament on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

The cheerleaders have finished their season and were able to cheer at 2 games per week for most of the season. Many compliments were received on the quality of their performance.

Registration for spring sports has been ongoing since January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Currently there are 112 children registered. It appears there will be 5 soccer teams, and 6 baseball/t-ball teams. The numbers reflect the loss of one team from 2009, which went to select soccer. Noting that there are no girls softball teams again this year, Mayor Webster asked if the league had considered going back to slow-pitch softball to strengthen the interest. Mr. Karle said that had been proposed, but virtually all the communities preferred to stay with fast-pitch since that is what they play in school.

The women's volleyball league is more than half way complete. The end of season tournament will be March 24<sup>th</sup>. The racquetball league is currently in tournament play and will finish with the next week.

- The February senior luncheon had a Valentine's Day theme. Over 50 seniors attended and enjoyed the music of "one man band" Jim McBride.

The popular What's Cookin'? Class returned this year with the first session held February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Both classes were filled with 10 people each.

With a money saving theme in mind, Crazy About Coupons was presented on February 16<sup>th</sup>, of course free of charge. Twenty people were in attendance.

Another favorite program, "Springdale's Gone Wild" kicked off the series with a program on amphibians. The Hamilton County Parks Naturalist brought toads, frogs and salamanders. Approximately 40 people were in attendance.

Mr. Karle highlighted several other significant upcoming events in the Scoop magazine.

- The Criteria for Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame was considered. Mr. Karle presented a proposed criteria and wording. After some discussion the following criteria was established: “The Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission established in 1999 the Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame to formally perpetuate the memory of those who extraordinarily gave of their time, talent and effort toward the betterment of youth sports in Springdale. Nominations may be submitted annually for consideration to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Eligibility requires that the individual be deceased and contributed to the youth sports programs in Springdale as a coach, official, in a support capacity or in any other role that provides for the betterment of youth recreational activities in the community”.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle explained that he was recently approached by a company called Laffalot Summer Camps to host a one week camp for children 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. He stated that he sees this as an outstanding opportunity to offer a quality program at little to no cost to the City. The department’s role would be to provide access to specific areas of the facility for the one week of camp (July 26 – 30), Monday – Friday, (9am – 2pm). The areas they would use include gymnasium space, Arts & Crafts Room (for lunch) and outdoor facilities. Their organization provides marketing, registration, instructors and equipment. Recreation staff would assist in the marketing through the typical media venues and provide an area for them to secure their equipment for the one week of camp. Access to the areas defined should have little to no impact on the normal operations or programs.

Laffalot proposes a fee of \$106 per child for the one week of camp. In return the City would receive 20% of their fee as a commission (standard fee for contracted programs at the center). They require a minimum of 25 campers to hold the camp, so the City would receive a minimum of \$530 if camp is held.

Laffalot Summer Camps has an excellent reputation and was rated as “Best of City 2008” by Cincinnati Magazine. They offer many camps in the Greater Cincinnati area including Blue Ash Recreation Center. They were contacted and described a very positive experience with this organization. As with many contracted programs offered, this would be open to non-resident, non-members but it is felt that many Springdale residents would find value in this opportunity. Mr. Ramirez asked if they the camp personnel would undergo a background check. Mr. Karle explained that a criminal background check of their staff would be required as a condition in the contract. The Commission was in agreement that the Laffalot Summer Camp opportunity should be pursued.

- It was noted by Mr. Karle that the maintenance staff will be refinishing the racquetball court floors beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>. The courts will be closed one week, until March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Upon completion of this project they plan to move forward with the Studio floor. By completing this project without outside contractors over \$2000 was saved.

- Mr. Karle provided an update on personnel in the Parks and Recreation Department. Parks Maintenance Worker Ken Shroyer resigned February 26<sup>th</sup>. It is planned that a Part Time Maintenance Worker will be hired to help manage the workload this year.

Administrative Assistant Debbie Carpenter will retire June 30<sup>th</sup>. Her final day at work will be April 30<sup>th</sup>. It is planned to fill the position from within the current full time staff employed with the City. The job was posted and five applications were received.

#### **Upcoming Dates of Interest**

- a) Teen Night – March 19th**
- b) Lions Club Pancake Breakfast – March 20th**
- c) Cost Containment Day (Good Friday) Closed – April 2nd**
- d) Easter Sunday Closed – April 4th**