

Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes from Tuesday, March 6, 2007

Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday, March 6, 2007 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Carmen Daniels, Holly Emerson, Joe Ramirez and K.T. Russell. Also present was Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the January 2007 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that the youth basketball program is wrapping up their regular season and began their post season tournament February 20th. Springdale hosted the Girls Intermediate, Boys Pee Wee and the lower division of Boys Instructional.

Youth Volleyball began their season in mid January. There were three teams in the 9 – 11 age group and three teams in the 12 – 15 age group. Wyoming participated in the older age group again this year with two teams.

Women's Volleyball began January 10th with six teams entered. They have two weeks yet to play.

Late spring sports registrations are still being accepted for some age groups in some sports. Baseball is on tract to have three T-Ball teams and possibly five Knothole teams. Two girls' softball teams are anticipated as well as four youth soccer teams.

- The Adult/Senior events were highlighted by Mr. Karle. He noted that the Celebration Day and Open House on January 5th was a great success with over 150 in attendance. The event celebrated the first anniversary of senior programming at the Community Center and the grand opening of the new Senior Activity Room. In addition to snacks and refreshments, there were class demonstrations, a bulletin board with photos of the year's events and the Senior Video Yearbook was premiered. WMKV was there doing a live remote broadcast. We're confident many seniors went home with a better knowledge of what the Community Center has to offer.

A travel expo was offered on January 19th, mapping out the entire year of travel. There are both one day offerings and multi day adventures. AAA Royal Tours and Joy Tour and Travel are both providing travel opportunities. Additionally, we are offering a number of low cost travel opportunities in partnership with the Springdale Senior Citizens Club.

The Participants Council continues to grow. One of the ideas they hope to pursue this spring is a Senior Prom. They are planning the upcoming St. Patrick's Day luncheon, featuring musician Jack Frost. They also discussed the formation of a hospitality committee to ease the transition of new members

- Mr. Karle reported the “Jam’ in at the Rec” event in January attracted almost 70 youth. The February version was attended by 82. The format appears to be an improvement over the traditional teen dance event. The “Teen Night” in February was attended by 40 youth. There were no problems to report at any of these activities.

The STAFF group looks forward to assisting the Lions Club in their Pancake Breakfast on March 25th. They will be serving and bussing tables.

- The commission was informed of the following personnel changes. Thirty-four applications were received for the Adult/Senior Programmer position. We hope to begin interviews soon. Rick Kissell was hired as Part-time Custodian. He is a retired postal worker. A new Fitness Instructor, Nick Kossoudji, was recently hired. He is a student at UC working toward a degree in Health Promotions and Education. Previously he was employed part-time for three years at Mason Community Center.
- The Commission received a copy of a mailing that was sent to Springdale businesses. It highlighted not only membership opportunities for employees, but also the availability of the meeting room space at the Community Center at a nominal cost.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle highlighted the major capital improvements approved in the 2007 budget.
- Mr. Karle explained that plans are in the works to change the format of the 4th of July event to make it more family friendly. The festival format, parade, booths, gambling and carnival rides will not be included. In its place, there will be entertainment to include hot air balloon rides, bounce houses, stilt walkers, balloon artists, a living statue, etc. all free of charge.

The staff is working on an event called “Chalk It Up” for the multipurpose court. It will be an opportunity for families to create a work of art in chalk.

There will be opportunities for community organizations to sell concessions.

A big band type musical group is planned for the amphitheater and the evening will close with a fireworks display. Shuttle bus service will be provided to the neighborhoods. The event will be July 4th, 6:00pm to 10:30pm. Mayor Webster explained the necessity to initiate changes in the event to maintain a wholesome and safe activity for the public.

The Cincinnati Civic Orchestra will perform at the Community Center on Sunday, August 5th, 6:30pm to 8:30pm as part of their summer concert series. It appears to be a relationship we can maintain as an event annually. They will perform selections from “America’s Greatest Composers”.

Plans are coming together for a car show/cruise in for the late summer. The preliminary plans are to have it at the Community Center on a Friday evening. There would be a 50's & 60's type band or DJ performing at the event.

The "Taste of Springdale" will be back this year. The event will be held September 15th. Area restaurants will provide a sampling of their food. Musical entertainment and shuttle buses will be provided. The evening will conclude with a fireworks display.

Mr. Ramirez suggested in the future a family campout event be considered. He explained that Evendale has held one and that it is well received by the community.

- A copy of the Parks and Recreation Department Annual Report was distributed to the members.
- Mr. Karle announced several new programs including Adult Drop-In Corn Hole, Belly Dancing and Simply Yoga. The Karate class has a new instructor and will be offering classes specifically for children in addition to the adult classes.
- The following Upcoming Dates of Interest were noted:
 - a) Teen Night – March 16th.
 - b) Debbie Gardner Survive Seminar – March 20th, 7:00pm
 - c) Lions Club Pancake Breakfast – March 24th, 8:00am – 12noon.
 - d) Third Grade Health Fair – March 29th