

Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes from Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday, April 1, 2008 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Gene Burt, Holly Emerson, Joe Ramirez, K.T. Russell, Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle and Assistant Recreation Director Matt Beaty.

Minutes from the March 2008 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle updated the commission on the sport programs. There are 196 children participating this spring. The SAY Soccer games began Saturday April 5th. There are six teams playing, which is up two from last spring. There are three T-ball teams again this season. They will participate with teams from Glendale, Woodlawn and Hartwell. Five teams will play Knothole baseball. Springdale was moved from District 15 to District 2 to allow them to play with local teams from communities of a similar size (Evendale, Greenhill, Forest Park, Finneytown, Woodlawn etc.). Two girl's softball teams will take the field in the U14 and high school divisions.

Five teams will play in the Mixed Couples Softball League. The Men's Golf League begins play on April 12th. Twelve teams entered again this year. Drop in Dodgeball was very well received, the first night 14 people played and the second Sunday 16 people joined the fun. There was quite a bit of positive feedback. The department plans to offer monthly events such as dodge ball, wiffleball and kickball.

- The Senior Luncheon in March celebrated St. Patrick's Day with featured guitarist Dave Hawkins. Dave was nominated for several Grammys so it was a big treat to have him perform. He came to us through our sponsorship with Creative Aging Cincinnati which provides top notch entertainment at a very reasonable cost.

Afternoon at the Movies continues to be popular. Twelve people attended on March 15th. They not only enjoyed a great movie, but were treated with free coffee and popcorn.

March 18 the first 'What's Cookin?'" class was held with the theme of "Italian Made Easy". The class was a complete success receiving excellent comments from the follow-up surveys. The April and May classes filled before the programs guides even got to the homes so extra classes were offered to address the need.

Forty-five seniors attended "Thoroughly Modern Millie" at La Comedia Dinner Club in Springboro.

The big kickoff to adult programming was Adult Night at the Rec. on Friday, March 28th. Sixty participants attended and *Experienced Springdale* complete with a DJ, palm reader, caricature artist, Wii games, badminton, walleyball and a corn hole tournament. It is hoped that these same individuals will also attend the April event and that Italian Night will attract an even larger crowd.

- The S.T.A.F.F. group volunteered to assist the Lions Club with their annual Pancake Breakfast. They served and bused tables. The final Teen Night of the year was very successful attracting over 80 youth.
- Mr. Karle informed the Commission that the Heart to Heart “Ladies Night In” fundraiser was not going to be held at the Community Center. It was learned that the event was also presented to the Woodlawn Recreation Center. Apparently, the Executive Director of the YMCA felt that facility was better able to accommodate the event.
- The open position of Customer Service Assistant was filled by Sandy Burt. She grew up in Springdale and has been very active as a participant in activities and as a volunteer with several service organizations. She brings customer service experience and computer skills from her previous work experience.

Fitness Center Instructor George Iaboni has submitted his resignation. The position is currently posted.

Pool staff positions are filling up nicely. The full compliment of sixteen quality Lifeguards should be attained. The one critical opening is the position of Assistant Aquatics Director.

Applications are being accepted for an opening in the Park Patrol staff.

Items of **New Business** were:

- The new Fun Guide was distributed to the Commission members. Mr. Karle noted that it should be arriving in homes within the week. The Fun Guide was the first in the new format which will be sent out quarterly instead of twice a year. Residents will receive more timely and up to date information on programs and activities. Mr. Burt noted that he missed having the list of highlighted dates on the back page. Other members concurred stating that it served as a good quick reference of important dates. Mr. Karle explained that the frequency of the guide allows us to make these changes as necessary.
- At the March meeting of the Recreation Commission, Ms. Emerson requested that the existing policy for *Selection of Returning Coaches* be reviewed. Mr. Karle provided a copy of the policy, noting that it has been in existence for over 30 years and has served as an objective method of determining who has priority to return as head coach when the number of returning coaches is larger than the number of returning teams. Ms. Emerson stated her concern that some coaches do not play their children an equitable amount of time and are not participating in the proper spirit of recreational sports. There was a discussion of what was fair in regard to playing time and participation in sports at a recreational level. It was noted however that in most circumstances league rules dictate playing time. It was ultimately determined that a phrase be added to the policy indicating that coaches who have violated League or Recreation Department rules would forfeit their priority in the selection process.

Ms. Russell stated that she disagreed with the policy that would give a returning coach with a child on the team priority over a coach without a child. Members discussed the policy and it was determined that the word *head coach* be added to the phrase to prevent an assistant coach from have priority over a returning head coach.

- The following dates of interest were noted:
 - a) Third Grade Health and Safety Fair – April 3rd, 8:30am – 1:30pm, 25 health/safety stations.
 - b) Retro Bill Family Show – April 10th, 7pm, PD sponsored children advocate
 - c) Boating Safety Day – April 12th, boating safety class, water unit display, 4-6pm
 - d) Springdale Day at the Reds – April 19th, 1:10pm
 - e) Arbor Day Ceremony – April 25th, 4pm
 - f) Opening Day Parade and Ceremony – April 26th, 9am