

Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes from Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday, May 1, 2007 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Gene Burt, Carmen Daniels, Holly Emerson, Joe Ramirez and K.T. Russell. Also present was Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle and Assistant Director Jacqueline O'Connell.

Minutes from the April 2007 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that all the spring sports were now underway. There were some complication with baseball scheduling, but staff is on top of those changes. Pisgah Youth Organization administers the league and has a new person in charge of scheduling. If things don't improve, we may recommend a change to a different Knothole District.
- Regarding Adult/Senior Programming, in April a truly multi-generational program of wine tasting was offered at the Wine Source. It attracted 40 adults. They were offered six different wines and delicious appetizers.

The Collectables in Your Jewelry Box program was also well attended with twenty-six present. Attendees were given information and approximate values of items they brought in.

Our Delicious and Nutritious Cooking Demo and Tasting attracted 16 people. They were presented with tips for cooking and nutrition.

The April Senior Luncheon featured a visit from Major General Sterling Price, aka David Kooce, reenacting a general from the Civil War. He shared with the 42 participants many interesting stories and details from the time period.

A day trip was offered to Grand Victoria with a full bus of 32 participants.

May 12th is the date for the first Senior Prom, "A Grand Affair," which will feature food, dancing and the sounds of the Pete Wagner Orchestra. Eighty seniors have registered.

A red hat group has planned a meet and greet for May 10th to help get their group off the ground.

A comprehensive travel schedule is included in the May/June Scoop. There are single day and overnight trips planned. We work with two tour groups and the Springdale Senior Citizen's Club to provide a wide mix of opportunities to meet the needs of our members.

- Mr. Karle stated four individuals have been selected for interview for the Adult/Senior Programmer position. The process begins May 2nd. Marty Garges will be working approximately through the end of the month. Donna Lanter, Part Time Secretary, is currently shadowing her and will fill in until a permanent person is on board.
- Sixty-four applications were received for the position of Custodian. The Police Department will utilize the applicant pool and take part in the interview process since they also have a custodial position to fill.
- Most of the seasonal positions have been filled. We are still looking for several more lifeguards, but we do have enough to staff the pool for now.
- Over 700 tickets have been sold for the Reds game on May 5th. The Springdale Elementary Chorale will sing the National Anthem and perhaps the Mayor will throw out the first pitch.
- The weather was beautiful for the annual Opening Day parade and ceremony. Sports teams created banners which were judged by city council. Gene and Cheri Burt were honored for their extraordinary service to youth sports in Springdale. Also the boosters announced the placement of a concrete bench in memory of Debbie Roberts who was a prolific volunteer in the community

The commission members discussed the merits of the parade and banner contest. It was recommended that SYB discard the scoring system for the banners as it was designed this year.

- Assistant Recreation Director Jacqueline O'Connell presented the marketing plan "40 Days to the Fourth" to the commission members. They were presented with t-shirts, buttons, posters and yard signs and it was requested that they assist us in helping publicize and get the word out of the Hometown Family Fourth event.

Items of **New Business** were:

- Mrs. O'Connell provided a detail overview of the new Rec Trac software program that was purchased as part of the 2007 capital budget. The software was specifically designed to suit the needs of our department. It will improve the workflow and efficiency of the department and help us in our goals to enhance the level of customer service. This year two modules were purchased, facilities scheduling and activity enrollment. Mrs. O'Connell was assigned the responsibility to implement the program and facilitate the training of staff. She and Debbie Carpenter have spent the past week setting up the program and providing training to the staff. Mrs. O'Connell explained specifically what Rec Trac is and what it will do for us now and into the future as we plan for and purchase additional modules.
- Mr. Karle notified the commission that work should begin soon on the infield renovation of field #1, weather permitting. The process takes approximately one

week, but as we have done in the past, we will allow the infield to sit for four to six weeks so the turf can become established and the infield can settle in.

- Staff is finalizing specifications for the replacement of six backstops and overthrow fences at the Community Center as well as boundary fencing at the Community Center and Underwood Park.
- The Parks Maintenance has completed some upgrades to the Ross Park landscape. Thirty stumps were removed and ten new trees planted in the park this spring.
- The following Upcoming Dates of Interest were noted:
 - a) Bicycle Safety Program – May 12th 10am – 2 pm.
 - b) Healthy Ohioans Fitness Walk – May 16th, 11am – 1pm
 - c) Pool Opens May 26th
 - d) Memorial Day – May 26th open 1pm – 9pm
- The commission discussed the emerging sport of Lacrosse as a youth sport. Mr. Karle noted that it is increasing in popularity and a number of area high schools have started programs on the club level. Youth programs have begun springing up in some communities. Mr. Karle said he would investigate and report back to the commission.