

**Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes from Tuesday, May 6, 2008**

Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday, May 6, 2008 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Gene Burt, Carmen Daniels, Holly Emerson, Joe Ramirez, K.T. Russell, Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the April 2008 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle stated that the youth sports program was progressing well. Opening Day proved to be a very exciting but emotional day as four individuals were inducted into the Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame.

Springdale was the only community with a girl's high school age softball team. Mr. Beaty has been searching for an alternative place for them to play.

Mrs. Emerson and Mrs. Russell inquired about the possibility of bringing back the men's softball tournament. They felt there was a higher demand for a tournament since the Queen City Sport Complex closed. Mr. Karle indicated that there would need to be a sponsoring organization such as SYB that wished to use it as a fund raiser. They requested that Mr. Karle check with that group to see if there was any interest in bringing this tournament back.

Fall soccer registration began May 1<sup>st</sup>. A free soccer decal is provided to everyone who registers in the month of May. We hope this marketing tool will not only encourage them to register early, but also build pride and improve visibility of the Springdale youth sports program.

A new lightning prediction system was installed at the Community Center. Mr. Karle distributed information on the system and explained how it would enhance the safety of patrons and staff on the athletic fields and at the pool.

- Mr. Karle informed the commission that April was a busy month for the Adult Senior Program. In April, approximately 60 people attended the Granny's Kitchen Luncheon.

On April 9<sup>th</sup> 50 seniors traveled to the Toyota plant in Kentucky. All had a good time and marveled at watching a car created from beginning to end.

What' Cookin'? class was held two days in April with both classes filling to capacity. Feedback surveys were 100% positive. Many students asked for more classes and had ideas for the fall program.

The month of April concluded with another large event in the Experience Springdale series, *Italian Night*. The event included wine tasting, create your own pasta buffet and the world renowned guitarist Jim McCutcheon. Nearly 100 people attended. To further entice young

adults, we provided childcare for those attending the event. Kids Corner was free for those 6 and under and a “Kids Night Out” was offered for children 7 – 11 years of age at a cost of \$5.

Coming up May 10<sup>th</sup> will be the Senior Prom. It will feature a combo band – The Notables as well as a meal by Zeh’s Catering. As we move into the summer, June will feature the Senior Picnic and the next Experience Springdale event, Grill ‘N Go.

Mr. Karle also announced that a number of the Community Center billiard players won medals in the Ohio Senior Olympics. Medal winners included Walt Billieu, Max Leichty, Ginny Shaffernocker, Roger Potraffe, Harold Burkholder and Rick Kissell.

- It was announced that the position of Fitness Instructor was filled by Andre Parker. He has a degree in Recreation Management and has been working the past two years at Winton Woods High School in their Alternative Discipline Program and as Assistant Varsity Football, Track and Strength Coach.

A candidate has been identified to fill the vacant Park Patrol position. Resident Eugene Sampson has a degree in Criminal Justice and worked as a Parole Officer in Florida and currently for the State of Ohio. As a plus, he worked the front desk at his college recreation center gaining experience in this type setting.

The majority of the seasonal positions have been filled with the exception of two park maintenance positions.

- Staff is busy preparing the pool for the summer season. One apparent change will be improvements to the deck. Maintenance staff replaced the weathered boards with composite decking, improving both appearance and safety. Also, a canvas awning will replace the trellis over the deck. Members will have yet another shade area to enjoy this summer.

The pool staff has been hired. Mr. Karle stated that they are young but very high quality lifeguards. Amy Radcliff has been promoted to Aquatics Director for this year. James Castrigano will join the staff as Assistant Aquatics Director. He is a student at Xavier University and has served as Head Lifeguard at facilities in the Akron area.

It is planned that the pool will be filled on May 10<sup>th</sup>. It will open on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

123 Swim will be offered May 31<sup>st</sup>. for children age 3 – 11. This free program is offered as an introduction to our Red Cross Learn to Swim Program. It’s not designed to teach a child to swim or make them completely safe around the water.

Swim team practice and swim lessons begin June 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration is underway for the Sailfish Swim Team. The Recreation Department has been assisting them in promoting the program. The first fifty children registered will receive a free set of goggles. Mr. Karle noted that postcards had been sent to member households with children of the appropriate age as well as flyers to the schools. He said there were also notices on the Community Announcements of ICRC stations regarding swim team, 123 Swim and swim lessons throughout the month of May.

Mr. Karle announced that Family Fun Days at the Pool will take place on several Sundays during the summer. Details are being finalized.

- Mr. Karle noted two major special events coming up in the summer. Staff is working hard to follow-up last year's Hometown Family Fourth with even more fun and exciting activities for families to enjoy. There will be similar activities for children on field #2 with the addition of a petting zoo and pony rides. An attempt will again be made to have hot air balloon rides on field #3 and Chalk It Up on the multipurpose court. The evening will conclude with the traditional fireworks display. Shuttle buses will again be transporting people within the Springdale neighborhoods.

The date of August 23<sup>rd</sup> has been set for the End of Summer Cruise In. Staff has decided to change from 1975 and older vehicles to 1980 and older. Also it is planned to have the band in the parking lot area to consolidate activity.

Items of **New Business** were:

- Mr. Karle distributed the Parks and Recreation Department Annual Report. He highlighted some of the more relevant details in the report.
- The following dates of interest were noted:
  - a) Bike Safety Kickoff – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am – 2pm
  - b) Senior Prom – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 5pm – 8pm
  - c) Pool Opens – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 6pm
  - d) Grill 'N Go – June 14<sup>th</sup>, 6pm