

**Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes from Tuesday, September 2, 2008**

Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission for Tuesday September 2, 2008 to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Gene Burt, Carmen Daniels, Holly Emerson, Joe Ramirez, K.T. Russell, and Parks and Recreation Director Greg Karle.

Minutes from the May 2008 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- Mr. Karle reported that fall soccer has begun. After spending several seasons w/SAY North, Springdale, Sharonville, Evendale, Sycamore and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart have branched off and formed a new area – Cincinnati SAY Central. When necessary, the league will include other areas and districts to “play in” to make sure that there are enough teams in each division. These include: Glendale, Milford, St. Michaels, Blue Ash & Winton Valley. The soccer program has grown by one team as compared to 2007.
  - 4 instructional
  - 2 boy’s passers
  - 1 girl’s passers
  - 1 boy’s wings
  - 1 girl’s wings
  - 1 boy’s strikers

Assistant Director, Matt Beaty, has created a new online mapping system for locating all Cincinnati SAY Central soccer fields and distributed it to all coaches. They’ve been instructed to share it with all the parents. It allows the user to select the community or field that their trying to locate and gives directions from their location to the field selected. It also has the individual fields included for more specific instructions once they arrive at the location. All the Customer Service Assistants at the front desk have access to the map from the computer and can send the map to anyone who calls in looking for directions to league fields.

Adult Drop-In Sports attendance was less than expected throughout the summer. We averaged 10 – 20 people for wiffleball, kickball and ultimate frisbee. Mr. Beaty will try outdoor activities through the fall and resume with dodgeball in the winter.

- Mr. Karle highlighted the adult and senior activities that occurred during the summer. Italian Night in May was a great success with over 100 people attending. They enjoyed wine tasting, an Italian buffet and musical entertainment. This event was followed up in the Experience Springdale series with Grill ‘N Go having over forty people registered. They had fun with a scavenger hunt and enjoyed barbecued ribs and chicken.

The Senior Prom was held again this year, on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The popular event featured a four piece combo and catered meal.

July 16 a nice crowd enjoyed “Breakfast with the Arts”. A talented group of young people call Voiceworks entertained during the brunch.

In August the luncheon was titled “Sing the Blues”. Popular artist Cheryl Renee entertained during the luncheon.

- The 2008 pool season went very well. There were a total of 5 assists by Lifeguards, none required CPR or emergency medical services. Mechanically there were no major issues. One light pole blew down in a storm and will be replaced before next season.
- There were 291 enrolled in swim lessons. All classes were taught by certified Red Cross Water Safety Instructors on staff. Additionally “123 Swim” was offered to introduce and attract people to the swim lesson program. It was a free trial offered to orient children to the water and the lesson structure. There were 65 children in attendance.

There were two Teen Nights planned, the first was canceled due to severe weather, but the second was very well attended.

The Ladies Day at the Pool attracted the largest crowd ever with 33 women in attendance.

There were also two Family Fun Days at the Pool. All in attendance had a great time with noodle races, giant twister, balloon launching and duck races. The second one in July attracted over 100 people.

Saturday the annual Goldfish swim took place with 278 people taking part.

Compared to 2007, the total number of swimmers on the Sailfish Swim Team decreased, but the number of new swimmers on the team increased. The season ended with a third place finish in the small team division of the NSSL championships. Next season the championships will be hosted by Springdale. Planning for this event has already begun, many volunteers are necessary to allow the meet to run smoothly.

- Customer Service Assistant, Cindy Huckins resigned in June to accept full time employment. Letha Chastain has hired in her place. She is retired from a career with GE.

Fitness Instructor, Rob Southall has resigned after five years as a Fitness Instructor. He has accepted a fulltime position at L.A. Fitness in Pittsburgh. Springdale resident, Sarah Melvin has been hired to fill this position. She has a degree in Communications from OU and is currently enrolled at the College of Mt. St. Joseph. She is working on her doctorate degree in Physical Therapy.

Adult/Senior Programmer, Anna had a baby boy July 7th. She is enjoying maternity leave and should return in early October. In her absence, Donna Lanter has served in her place.

- Mr. Karle reviewed the major summer events. The Hometown Family 4<sup>th</sup> was an even greater success in its second year. The crowd was large for both the entertainment activities and fireworks display. New this year was the petting zoo and monster mural. Both were very popular features.
- The 2008 Women's Softball Tournament was a success. There were 21 teams from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

The community yard sale was a huge success again, all 60 booths sold out in record time. Beautiful weather helped bring out a great crowd.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual End of Summer Cruise In was August 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was a bit disappointing that this event did not grow in the number of cars this year. There was some local competition with special events and it was oppressively hot, but both SYB and the Lions Club seemed to do well on concession sales.

- Mr. Karle advised the commission that with General Electric relocating a large number of jobs outside Springdale there is concern within the city regarding the budget as we move forward. Some capital items will not be completed this year including the walking path repair and sealing and the tennis court and basketball court resurfacing and fencing. Unfortunately the budget will be a bit leaner the next few years, but he expressed confidence maintaining a quality level of service.

### **New Business**

- Junior Olympics will be coming up this Saturday, September 6th. Four events have been replaced with new ones and four of the classic events have been retained. New to the activities will be speed stacking, tennis rally, basketball shootout and scooter race.
- Plans are underway for the Taste of Springdale on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The event is 2pm – 10pm. Again a Cornhole tournament will take place in the early afternoon. There is entertainment throughout the day. The featured band will be Ooh La La and the Greasers. There will be many Springdale area eating establishments providing food and local service organizations providing beer, wine, soft drinks and water. The night will conclude with a fireworks display. As usual shuttle buses will be running throughout the communities.

- The following upcoming dates of interest were noted:
  - a) Winter Sports Registration begins – September 1<sup>st</sup>
  - b) Junior Olympics – September 6<sup>th</sup>
  - c) Taste of Springdale – September 13<sup>th</sup>
  
- Mr. Ramirez announced that a men's softball team coached by residents Mark Audretch and Mike Day recently won Class E Division of the Cincinnati Metro Tournament. The team was comprised of many young men who grew up playing baseball in Springdale.
  
- Mayor Webster announced that the Veterans Memorial will be dedicated on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The statues will not be completed at that time so there will be a dedication of them on Memorial Day of 2009.