

**Springdale Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Tuesday, September 5, 2023**

On Tuesday, September 5, 2023, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm. Members present were Lori Merz, Steven Brooks, Scott Haungs and Denise Bollinger and Parks and Recreation Director Charlie Wilson.

Minutes from the May 2023 meeting were approved.

Items of **Old Business** discussed were:

- **Personnel**

Mr. Wilson announced that over the summer we hired two new full time personnel with the department. These positions were to fill existing vacancies. Stephen Diacont filled the Park Maintenance position. Stephen comes to us from the public works department where he served the last nine years as our City's Mechanic. Lastly, Jarod Parks has filled the Facilities Maintenance position. Jarod previously worked as a plumber and had his own maintenance contractor job. Both employees are doing very well.

Mr. Wilson announced that the department is accepting applications for part-time positions: Customer Service, Rec Attendant, Fitness Instructor and Teen Advisor.

Lastly, after 14 years Sharon Brooks will step away from the Parks & Recreation Department. The 2023 pool season was her last overseeing the pool. Sharon has accepted a full time position with Bethany School, which will take away her freedom to oversee the pool in the summer months. Sharon has made a huge impact on the department, and she is going to be dearly missed.

- **Sports Programming**

Fall soccer games begin Monday, September 11. We have 10 soccer teams with 113 players participating (2022 – 9 teams & 115 players, 2021- 10 teams, 130 players). There will also be 2 youth volleyball teams this fall with 18 players participating (2022 – 1 team & 11 Players, 2021 -2 teams, & 20 players). Total 2023 fall participation is 131 players. (2022 – 126, 2021-150).

Winter Sports Registration began September 1 for Youth Basketball & Cheerleading.

Men's Golf League went well this year with 24 men participating in the league. The end of the season golf league dinner was held August 23.

- **Club Rec**

Club Rec's next event is Fall Fest at the Community Center on October 6 from 6-8pm. They will enjoy fall games and activities, and the evening will be topped off with s'mores over a campfire.

- **Aquatics**

The pool opened for regular season hours on May 27 through August 13. As of August 13, the pool was open weekends only through September 4. In addition, the City resumed operation of the pool concession stand. The use of a credit card reader continues to go over well. It was a safe summer with no significant injuries or incidents. Current total attendance is 7,511 (2022- 8,577). We started off the summer with our new event "Opening Day at the Pool" on Saturday May 27. For member appreciation, we gave a member the choice of a free hotdog or snocone. We also had a DJ and activities for the family. We had approximately 118 people in attendance. We also had our pool events - Let's Glow Crazy (103 participants) and the GFS (67 participants) this summer. The GFS event was a little less attended than the year prior. We were able to get in both swim lesson sessions, where we had a total of 188 youth swimmers and 17 adult registrants (2022 – 250 & 20, 2021 - 254 & 10).

Cardio Splash was offered in three sessions with an average of 16 participants per class.

The Sailfish were able to complete their swim season with 80 swimmers and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at swim championships this summer.

- **Fitness**

Teen Fit class will be offered Sunday, September 17, 1:30PM - 4:30PM for youth age 13 – 17. This class helps participants gain a better understanding of health and fitness. Additionally, those under 16 years of age will be permitted to utilize the Fitness Center without a parent upon completion of the course.

- **July National Parks & Recreation Month**

Fridays we had a Story Book Stroll at our Outdoor Walking Path. We had Art in the Park in the Amphitheater leading up to the concerts in the park. All seemed to go well.

- **Concerts in the Park**

We were able to have two of the three summer concerts. Both were well attended and went smoothly. One concert was canceled due to rain. We had bubbles and chalk available for the younger kids. Both were a big hit. SYB sold food and beer from the concession stand during the concerts.

- **Neighborhood Yard Sale**

The annual Neighborhood Yard Sale event was held on Saturday, August 12. As in the past, residents were encouraged to hold sales at their homes and take advantage of our marketing efforts.

- **Junior Olympics**

Jr. Olympics took place on Saturday, August 12 from 10:00AM – 12:00PM. The event went well. A magician performed, SYB sold concession food, Jake Sweeney DJ'ed the event, the 501<sup>st</sup> Star Wars group showed up, and we concluded the event with awards and giveaway prizes. Sports balls were donated by SYB and the Bicycles were donated by Neusole Glassworks. Approximately 300 + parents and grandparents attended and over 100 participants. Approximately 40 volunteers helped make the event successful. SYB donated basketballs, soccer balls, and free sports registrations as giveaways. We appreciate everyone's support.

Items of New Business discussed were:

- **Fraudulent Event**

Mr. Wilson brought up a fraudulent event that is being marketed online as a craft show that is being held at the Springdale Community Center. In an effort to combat this, we have flagged the event as fraudulent and notified the group that advertised the event. We have also alerted our staff and posted on our social media that this is not a true event. It was recommended by Scott Haungs and Lori Merz to see what other departments do in these kind of situations.

- **Member Coffee Bar**

We now have a member coffee bar in our lobby for patrons who utilize the facilities. It is open every day until 12:00PM and then the coffee is put away. We have had an excellent response from the community. It was recommended by Scott Haungs and Lori Merz to see what other departments do in these kind of situations.

- **ComeUnity Bash – September 9**

- Family MudQuest 1:00 PM & 2:00 PM (2 Heats)**

- Family oriented muddy obstacle course. Registration open now. Free t-shirt for 1<sup>st</sup> 100 participants.

- Live Bands, Food, Beer, Family Games & Activities 3:00PM - 9:00PM**

- Local non-profits will be selling food and drinks. We will have a climbing wall, inflatable games, face painting, balloon animals, petting zoo, funnel cake food truck, glass blowing demonstrations and two dog trick shows for the community.
      - Team Zoom Shows 5:30PM & 7:00PM

- **Band Shows**

- 6:00PM Just Vince and the Fellas (R & B disco and Funk)
- 8:00PM My Girl Friday (Danceable classic rock and hit cover songs)

- **Family Movie Night in the Park**

SYB will have their free Movie in the Park Friday, September 22. The movie starts approximately at 7:20PM in the outdoor amphitheater. The movie will be Super Mario Brothers. SYB intends to open the concession stand and encourages blankets and chairs.

- **Business Expo & Chili Cook-Off**

Chili Cook-off will take place on Tuesday, October 3 from 11:00AM-12:00PM. This is a free public event, complete with door prizes and free chili samples.

- **Health Fair**

Springdale Health Department is offering flu vaccinations, BMI screenings and blood pressure checks on October 3 at 12:00PM.

- **Active Aging Week**

Active Aging Week will take place Oct. 2-6 during the mornings. During the week, Hamilton County Parks will present, Intro to Sliver Sneakers, Artistic Dance (Pones), plus various free exercise programs throughout the week. Friday they will do OctoberFest where Glendale Place will serve brats, metts, and sauerkraut. They will also have their own version of wiener dog races, a beer mug challenge, music and fun. We usually average around 300-400 participants.

- **Tiny Gym Time**

Tiny Gym Time is scheduled to begin Friday, October 6 from 10:00AM - 12:00PM. This is a free program for kid's 5 years old and under, where kids can tumble, run jump, and play

- **Document Shredding**

Document shredding event will be held on Saturday, October 7, 9:30AM - 12:30PM.

- **Father Daughter Dance Now the Family Dance**

SYB moved their dance from Saturday, October 7 to November 4, 6:00pm - 8:00PM. This will now be a family dance, with a DJ, food and dance game activities. This year's theme will be western. Tickets went on sale in October.

- **Potential Park Donor**

We are in conversations with a potential donor that is interested in revitalizing Underwood Park and Cameron Park. We are waiting to hear back on a quoted amount and then hope to reconnect with the donor and some park revitalization renderings.

## **City Update from the Mayor**

The Mayor announced the Tri-County mall redevelopment is moving along slowly. The developers are still searching to raise funds for the project. The Mayor also mentioned that October 3 would be his last meeting, that he will not be at the November 7 meeting.

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 7:00PM.