

Springdale Parks & Recreation Commission
Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Tuesday, February 2, 2016, Mayor Doyle Webster called the regular meeting of the Springdale Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7pm. Members present were Daryl Dennie, Doug Stahlgren, Meghan Wisecup and Julie Wright. Also present was Recreation Director, Greg Karle, Sharon Brooks, Steve Barnes, and Chuck Johns.

Approval of the minutes from the January 2016 meeting were tabled.

Items of Old Business discussed were:

- Mayor Webster introduced Mr. Daryl Dennie, who was appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Resident, Steve Barnes and Chuck Johns, Kolping Softball Director were introduced and there was considerable discussion regarding the upcoming men's softball tournament. Mr. Karle stated that Recreation Programmer, Charlie Wilson had been in contact with Bill Chard, the Regional WSL Director and the dates of June 11th & 12th were determined to be the date of the Springdale tournament. It was also confirmed that it would be \$175 per team, double elimination, with a \$400 prize to the winning team. Mr. Wilson has also been in touch with an umpire organization to provide their services.
- Mr. Karle stated that the youth basketball is progressing well, and they are beyond the half way point in the season and looking forward to tournaments at the end of the month. Youth volleyball teams have begun their season with 45 children participating on 5 teams.

Spring youth sports registrations began January 2nd for baseball, softball, and spring soccer. There will be a free softball/baseball hitting clinic offered for children ages 7 – 12 on March 6th. 15 minute private instruction sessions will be offered 1:30pm – 2:30pm for softball and 2:30pm – 4:30pm for baseball by coach Brian Honerlaw.

Sharon Brooks, president of the youth boosters said that SYB has decided to offer a "No Late Fee February" in an effort to generate more registrations for the spring sports program. They are also planning a membership drive. They will be handing out flyers during the basketball games February 13th 9:30am – 3:30pm and February 20th 10:30am – 12:30pm. They also indicated that they do not wish to continue the Opening Day Parade due to the low number of spring sports teams and lack of participation by the community in viewing the parade along its route. They would like to replace the event with a Winter Pep Rally in December or January where they would introduce the winter sports teams, display banners, have induction into the coach's HOF and have a membership drive. There was discussion among the commission members regarding the elimination of the parade, but it was ultimately decided that the spring event was no longer viable.

Mr. Karle said that there are 7 teams this year in the Women's Volleyball program up one team from last year. Their games began several weeks ago. The winter racquetball league has also begun with six individuals participating. Registration has begun for the Men's Golf League and 6 on 6 Co-ed Soccer. Registration for Co-ed Softball begins March 1st.

- The AARP Income Tax Help program began on Friday. The one hour appointments are free of charge and designed for simple state and federal returns. Appointments can be made by contacting the Community Center. This service will continue every Friday through April 8th.

Ballroom Dancing will be offered Sundays at 2pm beginning February 7th. The class is designed for beginners.

Drop-in Pickleball will be offered for seniors on Mondays at 1pm. Instruction will be provided by staff for those not familiar with the game.

The annual Book, Movie & Music Swap will be on Thursday, February 4th, 4 – 8pm. Participants may drop off their books, CDs and DVDs that are in good condition February 1st - 3rd at the Community Center. They will receive a coupon for each item dropped off which may be redeemed at the swap. All items must be G or PG rated.

Seniors can enjoy making a snow flake work of art and hear the story of Snowflake Bentley on February 8th at “Tiny Miracles of Beauty Craft Day”. The program is free of charge, but it is asked that you register by February 4th.

The “This & That” series will feature *As the Story Goes* on February 11th at 2pm. Story teller Rita Wetterstroem will share the life of entertainer Jack Benny.

- Winter Extreme Games “Hunger Games Edition” will be offered for SCC members and their guests in 5th through 8th grade on Friday, February 5th.
- Part-time Parks Maintenance Worker Rob Beetz submitted his resignation effective January 8th. Applications are currently being accepted. We have begun accepting applications for the aquatics staff for the coming season. Both the Aquatics Director and Assistant Aquatics Director will be returning this summer.
- The Springdale Youth Boosters are planning their annual Cinema Horse Races for Saturday, February 27th. As in the past, the event will also include various Monte Carlo type games.

Items of **New Business** discussed were:

- Ballroom Dancing will be offered Sundays at 2pm beginning February 7th. The six week class is designed for beginners and is open to both couples and singles.

A new class called Barre Fit is now offered on Wednesdays 7:05 – 8:05pm. The class is designed to improve posture, add muscle, lose weight, increase flexibility and reduce stress.

- The Willows apartment complex would like to sponsor a neighborhood block party at Chamberlain Park on Saturday, May 7th, 1pm – 4pm. The purpose of the event is to provide an enjoyable day at the park to help foster improved relationships and help make them more knowledgeable of services available in the community. Various city departments would be represented such as the police, fire, health and parks & recreation as well as some area churches and social service organizations. They hope to have free food and soft drinks and perhaps some pick up games of soccer on the athletic field. They don’t plan to have any entertainment or amplified music. The event will be open to anyone in the community who would like to attend. The Willows will provide portable restrooms and a certificate of insurance. They estimate less than two hundred in attendance through the day. The Commission approved the request for the Willows Neighborhood Block Party on May 7th.
- The Springdale-Forest Park Lions Club will present their annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 19th.

- In observance of President's Day, the Community Center will be open 1pm – 9pm on Monday, February 15th.
- Mayor Webster requested an update on the progress of the Citizens Advisory Panel from Ms. Wisecup and Mr. Dennie who are members of that committee. They indicated that they are close to completing a final report and hope to finish up most of the details at their next meeting. They identified several theories as to why the youth sports numbers are declining and had a series of recommended steps that could be taken. They said they were finalizing a survey that they would like to have sent to every household in the city. They hope to find out not only why children are not participating, but also why overall membership has declined. There was considerable discussion that many residents may not be aware of the Community Center or the programs available. Suggested ideas to improve marketing were to reinstate the Recreation Department Fun Guide, create a welcome packet for new residents, and install a digital sign on Springfield Pike advertising upcoming events and directing the public to the municipal complex and community center.