City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for
May 2017

The City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department is committed to fulfilling our mission of providing quality recreational experiences while administering the values of community image, human development, preservation of environmental resources, health and wellness, economic development and cultural unity.

Bids

♦ Bids were advertised and opened for the Playground Mulch for (8) Eight Structure locations. Ann Cunningham presented the Playground Mulch Bid Summary to Greer City Council on May 9. Approval was requested to award the bid to Bliss Products & Services, Lithia Springs, GA. City Council approved the bid and work began May 29.

♦ Bids were advertised and opened for the South Suber Road Park Drainage System. Ann Cunningham presented the Park Drainage Bid Summary to Greer City Council on May 30. Approval was requested to award the bid to Wilson & Associates, Lexington, SC. City Council approved the bid and work will begin in June.

Department Projects

♦ Quotes were obtained for the Turner Field Batting Cage Slab project. Inside Out Concrete, Taylors, SC was selected and the pad was poured on May 31.

♦ A Pre-Bid Meeting was held on May 2 at Century Park for the Pedestrian Bridge project.

♦ On May 10, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with representatives from Alta Planning + Design and Taylors Town Square to collaborate on a letter of intent for the Healthy Greenville 2036 Grant provided by the Greenville Health System. The proposed project is a trail system connecting downtown Greer, Greer Memorial Hospital and Taylors.

♦ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Robin Byouk reviewed potential architects for the Center for Arts Phase 2 Renovation project. SGA Architecture, Greenville, SC was selected for the project to begin in June.

Department Trainings

♦ On May 5, Department staff attended a demonstration for Civic Rec, a software that provides an array of parks and recreation services.

♦ Justin Miller attended the Greenville County Schools Food and Nutrition Services Summer Feeding orientation and training on May 16. Greenville County will once again provide lunches to our summer camp participants.

♦ Robin Byouk completed Leadership Greer on May 18.
The parent orientation for the Camp Greer Summer Camp at Victor Gym was held on May 30 at the gym. Guidelines, procedures and schedules were discussed for this year’s summer of fun.

Department Participation

The Greater Greer Chamber Greer Family Fest was held on May 5-6 with many staff members assisting with the event. Department staff provided an information tent highlighting programs offered by the department. The Greer Cultural Arts Council provided princesses to interact with the children during the festival.

Justin Miller attended the Wellness Committee meeting on May 18.

Department Highlights

Interviews were conducted for the Grounds Supervisor position.

On May 18, Ann Cunningham gave a tour of the Parks and Recreation facilities and the City of Greer to Mary Steinbach, the new City of Greenville Parks and Recreation Director.

A Quality of Life presentation for Leadership Greer was presented on May 2 by department staff. The presentation included a tour of City Park and Century Park.

Justin Miller and Red Watson interviewed candidates for 10 summer camp counselor positions for Camp Greer and Camp Needmore.

The Grounds Division:
- Prepared Century Park and Country Club Road Park for season ending tournaments.
- Practice and game preparation resumed at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, Sevens Field, Victor Park and South Suber Road Park.
- Removal of Family Fest banners in downtown area and replaced with Greer Station banners.
- Set up of the stage at Cannon Centre for piano recital and Leadership Greer graduation.
- Installed new mailbox and post at the Center for the Arts.
- Facilitated the wood sealing and fall safety material installation at Century Park Kids Planet.
- Prepared sleeves for concrete pad installation at Turner Field batting cage.
- Graffiti removed and covered up on City Stadium interior wall.
- Aerified and topped dressed City Stadium and soccer field #2 at South Suber Road Park.
- Mowing and trimming of parks and facilities continued on a rotational basis.
- Trimmed shrubs at Veterans Park in preparation for the American Legion Memorial Day Event May 29.

Youth baseball, girls’ softball practices/games were facilitated at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, Victor Park, Riverside Middle School and Little Turner Field. The spring season concluded in late May for baseball and girls softball with a regular season tournament.

Baseball (coaches pitch, minors, OZONE) and softball (8U, 10U) all-stars practices were facilitated at Country Club Road Park and Century Park. The all-star teams will participate in district tournaments throughout the upstate in late June. The girls softball district tournaments for 8U, 10U and 12U will be played at Century Park on June 22-24.

On May 10, Cory Holtzclaw and David Holtzclaw attended the Dixie Youth District 1 baseball meeting in Belton, SC. Information was provided about upcoming district baseball tournaments, locations for coaches pitch, minors and OZONE tournaments were selected.

Academy soccer practices and games were facilitated at City Stadium and South Suber Road Park. These teams participate in statewide league play with the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association. The season was completed in mid-May.

Recreational soccer practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park for U6, U8, U10 and U12 divisions on Monday and Thursday nights. The spring season was completed on May 22.

The Foothills Soccer Club of Greer (FSCG) held a board meeting on May 31 at the Parks and Recreation Operations Center. Topics included spring season wrap-up, age divisions for 2017-2018 seasons, academy program and fall recreational league dates.
The Recreation Division:
- Continued to facilitate Senior Action (50 participants daily) at the Needmore Recreation Center every Monday – Friday.
- Piano Performers (36 participants weekly) utilized the Cannon Centre every Monday. The Spring Recital was held on May 21-22 at the Cannon Centre. Over 50 students performed to an estimated 2-day crowd of 225.
- Never Alone (20 participants weekly) met every Tuesday evening at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- The Cutlery Club (20 participants monthly) met on May 2 at the Tryon Recreation Center. The club held their annual Cutlery Knife Show on May 5-6. An estimated 250 people attended the show with folks coming from several states as vendors and show goers.
- The Artifacts Club (37 participants) met on May 22 at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- The Pickleball Program (30 participants each session) continued on Mondays and Wednesday at 6:00pm at Victor Gym.
- The Needmore Recreation Center (21 participants) and the Creative Advancement (61 participants) afterschool programs continued to meet at the Needmore Recreation Center and the Victor Gym respectively Mondays – Fridays.
- The Ham Radio Beginner and Amateur Classes continued during the month of May at the Victor Gym.
- Whole Fitness, a free community workout, continued every Saturday at the Victor Gym and this program started an advanced class at 8:15am and a beginner class at 9:00am every Saturday.
- The Senior Computer Classes concluded on May 19. The 2-hour classes were held for 3 weeks at City Hall with 40 seniors attending. Post class surveys revealed that the participants enjoyed the classes and found them to be very beneficial for them. The request to offer additional classes for continued learning was high on their comments. These classes were offered through a GCRA Grant.

S.O.A.R. (Seniors Out and ARound):
- The Line Dancing Classes have become so popular they were offered on May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 with an attendance each week between 12 and 18 seniors.
- Bingo was held on May 4 and 18 with between 15 and 18 seniors in attendance.
- The Monthly Potluck was held on May 16 with 20 seniors in attendance.
- The highlight of the month was the annual trip to Strawberry Hill. Thirty seniors enjoyed a wonderful breakfast at the Strawberry Hill Café followed by a visit to The Shed to purchase strawberries and other goodies.
- The average attendance for the month was 17.

The Cultural Arts Division submitted two final reports to the Metropolitan Arts Council to receive $3500 in grants.

Robin Byouk, Sara Odom and 2 volunteers continued cleaning and sorting costumes. Four additional truckloads of clothing donations were delivered to Greer Community Ministries.

Robin Byouk, Sara Odom and Artists from the Center for the Arts continued to staff a booth at the Greer Farmer’s Market every Thursday to promote the Center for the Arts and the Parks and Recreation Department activities.

Dance classes, tap, ballet, jazz and beginner tap, continued at the Center for the Arts on Tuesdays during May.

The Events Division hosted 60 events at which 15,885 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

The Events Division hosted the Food Truck Rollout on May 26 at Greer City Park. Approximately 700 people enjoyed the evening with great food and Darby Wilcox live entertainment.

The Events Division is in the process of planning for the following events:
- Moonlight Movies every Thursday evening June 1 - July 27 at Greer City Park
- Tunes in the Park every Friday evening June 9 - July 21 (excluding June 23)
- Freedom Blast on June 24
Upcoming Events

♦ Moonlight Movies, Thursdays June 1 – July 27
♦ Senior Show Choir, June 2
♦ Frohawk Creek Scramble Tournament on June 3-4
♦ Tunes in the Park, Fridays June 9 – July 21
♦ Summer Camps, June 5 – August 4
♦ Greer Upper State Tournament on June 10-11
♦ Tall Tale Tuesday, June 17 – July 17
♦ Dixie Girls District Tournament on June 22-24
♦ Freedom Blast, June 24
♦ Camp ARK on June 26-30, July 10-14 and July 17-28
♦ National Night Out, August 1
♦ Food Truck Rollout, August 4
♦ Friends of Lake Robinson, September 24
♦ Railfest, September 30
♦ Vintage Market at Greer City Park, October 14
♦ Food Truck Rollout, October 19
♦ Halloween Hoopla, October 27
♦ Breakfast with Santa Tickets on Sale, November 4
♦ Christmas in Greer Tree Lighting, December 1
♦ Breakfast with Santa, December 2
♦ Greer Christmas Parade, December 3

Highlighted Projects

♦ Victor Park Batting Cage Installation – Concrete Pad Completed, Quote Being Obtained for Retaining Wall
♦ South Suber Road Park Master Plan
♦ Bicycle Racks for the Downtown Area of Greer – 5 Installed; 12 Racks and 1 Fix-It Station Remaining
♦ Top Dressing Sand – City Park & Suber FY 16/17; Infield Clays at Century Park Completed
♦ Playground Equipment (Neighborhood Parks)
♦ Trash Containment Area (City Park)
♦ Kids Planet Renovations & Woodworking
♦ Country Club Maintenance Area Windscreen – Ordered 4/2017
♦ Removable Bollards Victor Park Received – Installation 4/2017
♦ Pedestrian Bridge
♦ Hard Surface Dugout Covers – Century Park Ordered 4/2017
♦ City Hall Event Hall Chairs – 4/2017 Maybe Carried Forward to FY 17/18
♦ South Suber Road Park Drainage – Bids Obtained and Projected Awarded
♦ Center for the Arts Blinds – Advertising for Bids 4/2017
♦ Playground Mulch – Project Awarded

“Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs”