

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for June 2015



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.

Department Projects

- ◆ The GPATS Project Steering Committee for the Bicycling and Walking Plan held their second meeting on June 18, at Greer City Hall. We have made great progress in identifying our opportunities and constraints as well as our proposed priority corridors in the outlined study area, within the boundaries of Highway 80, South Buncombe Road and Highway 29. A Public Meeting has been scheduled for September 3, 5:30pm-7:30pm, at the Cannon Centre.
- ◆ Grading at Turner Field was performed by Capitol Construction of the Carolinas LLC.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended a meeting with Mr. Driggers and Mike Sell regarding potential uses/programming possibilities for the city owned property located on Snow Street. Plans for cleaning up the property include tree and stump removal, debris removal throughout the park area, and removal of any materials left in the building. A final cleaning of the building will be conducted after this process has been completed.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Mark Owens and Reno Deaton met with Dr. Bob Brookover regarding the Economic Activity Study that Clemson University is conducting on four festivals held in Greer annually. The third event included in the study is Freedom Blast, followed by Oktoberfest.
- ◆ Red Watson began writing specifications for the upcoming projects at Victor Gym, City Stadium and Century Park.

Bids

- ◆ Bids for the Century Park Concession/Restroom Building Demolition and the City Stadium Drainage Project were advertised.

Department Trainings

- ◆ On June 2, Ashlyn Stone and Robin Byouk attended Palmetto Retailers Education Program (PREP) alcohol training in preparation for selling alcohol at Tunes in the Park and Freedom Blast. Five GCAC board members and six Blue Star Mothers also attended the training sponsored by GCAC.
- ◆ Members of the Parks and Recreation staff completed MASC online training.

Department Participation

- ◆ Cory Holtzclaw attended a credentials meeting for Dixie Youth Baseball in Clemson on June 15.

- ◆ Several members of the Parks and Recreation staff attended a Greenville County Needs Assessment meeting at Greer City Hall on June 16.

Department Highlights

- ◆ Red Watson obtained his Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) accreditation through the National Recreation and Parks Association.
- ◆ The Grounds Division:
 - Replaced the foot valve on irrigation at Country Club Road Park.
 - Replaced electrical receptacles at the Needmore Recreation Center.
 - Removed spring banners and installed patriotic banners at City Park.
 - All athletic fields were prepared for practices and games.
 - Spring mowing and trimming continues at all facilities.
- ◆ The Recreation Division began the 2015 Summer Camps on June 8 at Victor Gym and the Needmore Recreation Center. Approximately 145 kids are attending the camps each week. The camps will be held Monday – Friday from 7:30am-6:00pm and will finish on August 7.
- ◆ The Tumbling program met at the Tryon Recreation Center on Wednesday evenings. The Cutlery Club and Artifacts Club also meets on one Tuesday each month and the Never Alone group meets every Tuesday evening at the Tryon Recreation Center. Several activities and programs continue to meet each month: Senior Action meets at the Needmore Center every Monday – Friday. Piano Performers continues to be facilitated every Monday at the Cannon Centre. The new Pickle Ball program continued to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the Mothers In Common met on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- ◆ On June 21, the 18th Annual 3 ON 3 Father's Day Basketball Tournament was held at the Needmore Recreation Center. A fun afternoon was enjoyed by many of the Needmore Community.
- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) traveled to Asheville, NC to the new outlets and had lunch at Chick-Fil-A. SOAR met at Mr. Salsa in Taylors and traveled to Fisher's Orchard to pick fresh peaches. Soar teamed up with Senior Action and participated in line dancing classes and the Walking Buddies program. SOAR continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during the month was 8.
- ◆ A youth basketball camp at Victor Gym was facilitated on June 1, 8, 15 and 22. The camp was free for kids ages 6-13. More than 40 participants attended the camp each night.
- ◆ On June 2, the Athletics Division staff met with representatives from Mauldin and Laurens Recreation Departments to discuss rules and scheduling for the upcoming fall football season.
- ◆ A free youth football clinic was facilitated at Country Club Road Park for kids' ages 6-13 on June 9, 11, 16 and 18. Recreational football coaches instructed the participants in speed, agility and conditioning drills for the upcoming football season. The camp averaged 60 kids each night.



- ◆ Regular season adult softball league play was held at Century Park on Wednesday nights. The league consists of 8 teams, playing 10 regular season games and a post season tournament was held on June 10.
- ◆ The Athletics Division hosted the Frohawk Creek Scramble (June 6-7) and the Greer Upper State (June 13-14) baseball tournaments at Century Park. More than 40 teams from the Upstate and Western North Carolina participated in the tournaments. The Greer Baseball Club was represented in 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 17U and 19U for sanctioned district and state tournaments. The 10U and 14U teams won their district tournaments and will advance to the state tournaments.
- ◆ Baseball academy meetings were held during the month. This fall the Greer Baseball Club (GBC) will have 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 14U and 16U teams representing our program in tournament play. There will also be a 7U team which will practice on weekends but not compete in state wide play.
- ◆ The 2015 Dixie Girls Softball District Tournament (June 19-21 and 29-30) was hosted at Victor Park for 8U, 10U and 12U teams. The Greer Heat 10U won the district tournament and advanced to the Dixie Girls Softball State Tournament in Seneca. A Girls Softball meeting was held to discuss upcoming camps and league dates. Preparation for a Girls Softball Summer Camp was also discussed.
- ◆ Tall Tale Tuesdays began on June 9 and will be held every Tuesday evening through July 28 at the Cannon Centre. The program includes physical activities, story time and a craft.
- ◆ Tunes in the Park, with Greer Idol Teen and Greer Idol competitions, began on June 19. Tap and jazz classes were held on Thursday evenings at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- ◆ Perry Williams' photography was hung in the Wall Gallery at Greer City Hall for the summer.



- ◆ The Greer Cultural Arts Council held Camp ARK (Arts Reaching Kids) on June 20-24 at the Tryon Recreation Center. BMW and the Metropolitan Arts Council are the sponsors for the Cultural Arts Division's summer camps. The Foothills Philharmonic visited the camp and introduced the children to their instruments.



- ◆ Greer Cultural Arts Council was the beverage provider for Freedom Blast on June 27. Their profit was approximately \$3300 which was \$300 more than the prior year.
- ◆ The Events Division hosted 73 events, at which over 25,458 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center in June.
- ◆ The City of Greer's Moonlight Movies has been in full swing every Thursday evening in June and will continue through July 30. The corporate sponsor, Wells Fargo, has been very involved bringing crafts and prizes each week for the children in attendance. Partners such as Home Depot, the Greenville County Library and the Church at Greer Station have participated in supplying crafts and activities.
- ◆ Freedom Blast was held on June 27 with an estimated crowd of 10,000 participants throughout the day. The National Guard, Army Aviation Support, Disabled American Veterans, United States Marine Corp Historical Company, Military History Club of the Carolinas, AMVETS, and Service Dogs for Veterans generously supported this event by providing military vehicles, a Lakota helicopter, equipment and staff members throughout the day. Spartanburg County EMS brought their volunteer corp., Spartanburg County CERT, which provided approximately 30 volunteers throughout the day to help with crowd control and directing pedestrian traffic. Robin Byouk completed 2 murals, with the assistance of some of the Needmore Summer Camp attendees and the Greer Cultural Arts Council Camp Ark participants, for display during the event. The fireworks and entertainment were well received and the adults and children seemed to enjoy the numerous activities, food and inflatables in the park.



"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"