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 Century Park Dugout Covers. Ann Cunningham presented the Dugout Covers Bid Summary for Century Park to Greer City Council on March 28. Approval was requested to award the bid to Greer Awning and Siding, Greer SC. City Council approved the bid and installation will begin in April.

♦ Bids were advertised and opened, on March 3, for Concessions Vendor at Athletic Events. The contract was awarded to Knuckies Dog House, Taylors, SC.

Department Projects

♦ On March 28, Ann Cunningham introduced Dr. Thomas McAbee, who presented to Greer City Council, the Bankhead Highway Roadside Marker to be in the sidewalk adjacent to the landscaped bed at the corner of East Poinsett Street and Depot Street. The marker will recognize the historical significance of East Poinsett Street and Depot Street, once part of the Bankhead Highway – the first “all weather” transcontinental highway in the United States. City Council approved the placement of the marker.

♦ The Grounds Division staff painted portions of the fence lining the entry ways into Century Park.

♦ Staff began compiling information requested for the ICMA Analytic Survey.

♦ Work began on the budget requests for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018.

♦ An application was submitted for the City of Greer Accommodations Tax Grant, requesting funds to assist with the purchase and installation of blinds for the Center for the Arts.

Department Trainings

♦ On March 2, Red Watson and Sally Wise attended training for software which processes FOIA requests.

♦ Brian Wilson and Lamar Whitman attended a Stress Management Workshop at Greenville County Square on March 14.

♦ All staff completed MASC quarterly training.

♦ Parks and Recreation Department staff attended training for Substance Abuse Awareness Training.
Department Participation

♦ David Holtzclaw attended the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association President’s and Registrar’s meeting in Columbia, SC. The annual meeting was held at the Embassy Suites on March 4. The meeting was held to discuss the 2017-2018 season including rule changes, fee changes, tournament dates and officer elections. David serves as the President and Registrar of our Foothill Soccer Club of Greer.

♦ Ann Cunningham, Justin Miller and Sally Wise attended the 1st Annual LiveWell Greenville Duathlon to promote events and programs within the department. The duathlon was held on March 11 at the Donaldson Center in Greenville.

♦ Justin Miller attended 2 At Play Workgroup Meetings on March 10 and March 30 for LiveWell Greenville in preparations for the Park Hop program kicking off on May 19.

♦ On March 16, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with Eddie Weeks from Knuckie’s Dog House to review the concessions at the athletic facilities.

♦ Justin Miller attended the Wellness Committee meeting on March 16 to discuss past and upcoming events and program changes.

♦ Ashlyn Stone, Robbie Davis, Ann Cunningham and Justin Miller met with Cammy Lee from Texas Roadhouse, on March 22, regarding the 2017-2018 sponsorships.

♦ Parks and Recreation Department staff members attended the Wellness Breakfast at Greer City Hall on March 23. Wellness Nurse, Ashley Summers spoke on the topic of Family Physicians.

♦ The City of Greer partnered with the Mary Black Foundation in a grant called Healthy Community 50 where 50 counties in the nation are selected to participate. City of Greer and 6 other locations in Spartanburg County are hosting quarterly walks titled, “Walk with your Local Elected Official”. The 2nd walk was held at Greer City Park on March 25. Councilwoman Albert and 5 residents attended and walked a 1.5-mile loop through downtown Greer. The next walk is tentatively scheduled for the evening of July 11, hope to see everyone there!

♦ Ann Cunningham attended the Bike and Pedestrian Focus Group Meeting on March 28 at Greenville County Square in Greenville.

♦ Members of the Grounds Division provided Parks and Recreation Department equipment and participated in the Touch a Truck on Trade Street on March 28.

Department Highlights

♦ Unified AV Solutions, Marietta, GA installed a new PA System at Century Park the week of March 27.

♦ New shade structures were installed at Century Park.

♦ The Grounds Division:
  • Rebuilt picnic table tops at Tryon Recreation Center tennis area.
  • Applied pre-emerge weed preventative to all facility flower beds.
  • Installed new trash receptacles at Century Park.
  • Hung new field signs at Century Park.
  • Moved ADA wheelchair lift from the American Legion to the Operations Center. The lift was donated by the American Legion.
  • Moved black panels for art display from Tryon Recreation Center to Greer City Hall.
  • Prepared athletic fields for Opening Day on April 1.
  • Mowing of all facilities and fields continued on an as needed basis.

♦ Youth basketball (8U, 10U and 12U) was completed for the winter season. The teams completed 8 regular season games and a post season tournament at the Mauldin Sports complex.

♦ Youth baseball and girls’ softball practices were facilitated at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, Victor Park, Riverside Middle School and Little Turner Field. Opening Day is scheduled for April 1.
♦ 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 regular season will run through April and end with the State Cup in early May.

♦ Recreational soccer practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park for U6, U8, U10 and U12 divisions. Opening Day for the spring season was on March 25 and the season will be completed in late May.

♦ The football and cheerleading boards held a meeting on March 8 to discuss the upcoming football and cheerleading camp. The Greer High School coaches, players and cheerleaders will assist in offering 3 free football and cheerleading camps, to promote the upcoming season, that will be held in April at Greer City Stadium.

♦ 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.
  - Never Alone (20 participants weekly) met every Tuesday evening at the Tryon Recreation Center.
  - The Cutlery Club (20 participants monthly) and the Artifacts Club (37 participants) met on one Monday/Tuesday of each month 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 March at the Victor Gym.
  - The newest program, "Weigh Less to Feed More", concluded in March.
  - The 4th and 5th Piano Guilds of 2017 were held at the Needmore Recreation Center on March 4 and March 25.

♦ S.O.A.R. (Seniors Out and ARound):
  - Bingo was held on March 2 with 20 seniors in attendance.
  - On March 8 and March 22, the monthly Line Dancing Classes were held at the Tryon Recreation Center. Twenty seniors attended the 1st class and 12 attended the 2nd class.
  - On March 10, eight SOAR members started the day with lunch at Tommy’s Country Ham House. After lunch, they visited the Upcountry Museum in Greenville where they enjoyed exhibits including the Art of Dr. Seuss and photographs from Ansel Adams.
  - Twenty-six seniors attended a special St. Patrick’s Day Bingo at the Victor Gym on March 16. The attendees all wore green to celebrate the occasion and enjoyed lots of sweet treats.
  - On March 17, eight seniors attended a Hearing Seminar, where they learned about the effects of hearing loss on your body.
  - The Monthly Potluck was held on March 21 with special guest speaker, Sharon Martin, from Spartanburg Rehabilitation Institute. Ms. Martin provided all the desserts for the luncheon and spoke to 16 attendees about the fantastic facility at the institute.
  - The month ended with a Brunch Bunch trip to Eggs Up Grill in Greer. Fourteen SOAR members enjoyed a delicious breakfast and time with their SOAR friends.
  - The average attendance for the month was 15.

♦ The Recreation Division began interviews for 10 Summer Camp Counselors for the Needmore Summer Camp and the Summer Camp at Victor Gym.

♦ Cultural Arts Division, with the assistance of the Ground Division, moved their offices to the Center for the Arts on March 2.

♦ The Greer Children’s Theater concluded their performance of Madagascar on March 5. Six shows were held at the J. Harley Bonds Career Center on February 24-26 and March 3-5. Approximately 80% of the ticket sales came from new customers.

♦ The 3rd Open Studio was held on March 16 at the Center for the Arts. Four Resident Artists along with 3 guest artists were available for the community to meet and purchase their artwork.
The City of Greer 2017 Juried Art Show was judged on March 20 at the Center for the Arts.

The 2017 Juried Art Show reception was held on March 24 at Greer City Hall. Mayor Danner announced the winners. Greer CPW, the Partnership for Tomorrow, Laurenda’s Catering, Stomping Grounds and Bin 112 sponsored the event. Entertainment was provided by Kay Young’s Piano Performers, Mary Margaret St. John (Violinist), Diana Moscoso (Printmaker) and Bakkia Jeyaraman (Painter).

Dance classes were held at the Center for the Arts on Tuesdays during March.

The Events Division hosted 60 events at which over 3,565 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

Upcoming Events

- Needmore Summer Camp Registrations (until capacity is reached)
- Vintage Market in the Park, April 29
- Greer Family Fest, May 5 – 6
- Food Truck Rollout, May 26
- 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
- Center for the Arts Blinds – Advertising for Bids 4/2017
- Playground Mulch – Advertising for Bids 4/2017

“Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs”