

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for July 2014



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 opened for the infield renovations at Stevens Field. The job was awarded to Wilson & Associates Sports Turf in Lexington, SC.

Department Projects

- ◆ The South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism has notified Mr. Driggers they have recommended the City of Greer's Century Park project to the National Park Service for the \$200,000 grant from the 2014 Land and Water Conservation Fund. The City of Greer has committed to match this grant giving the project a total of \$400,000 for the renovations at Century Park.
- ◆ Quotes were received for the treatment of the pond at City Park for aquatic weed/algae control. Estate Management Services, Inc. in Brunswick, GA was the low quote.
- ◆ Red Watson submitted the final report to Ten at the Top for the \$5,000 grant received to assist in the funding of the International Festival.
- ◆ The Grounds Maintenance Division repaired the emergency lights at Stevens Field, the exterior lighting and picnic tables at City Stadium and the play structure steps at City Park.
- ◆ The erosion control and electrical service to the maintenance buildings at Country Club Road Park was contracted. Plumbing fixtures at the Needmore Community Center and the water fountain at Victor Gym were repaired.
- ◆ The Grounds Division removed dead trees and limbs at Century Park Disc Golf in conjunction with contracted assistance. Park benches were replaced on the lower playground at the Needmore Community Center and bulbs were replaced and lighting repaired at Greentown Park and Victor Heights Park.
- ◆ Justin Miller interviewed several candidates for the Recreation Leader position at Victor Gym. Phil Hembree was selected and began his employment on July 16.
- ◆ The new facility sign was installed at Turner Field.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Several members of the department attended the Drivers Improvement Training Program training during July.

- ◆ Several members of the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training. The courses completed were Sleep and Your Health and Dealing with Intoxicated Individuals.
- ◆ David Holtzclaw attended the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association (SCYSA) President's preseason workshop in Columbia, SC. The workshop provided insight on all SCYSA policies and mandates for the 2014/2015 season. Every SCYSA club in South Carolina was in attendance.
- ◆ The Upstate Jackets youth football program's player safety coach, Ron Johnson, attended a one day USA Football clinic on teaching "Heads Up" football. All youth football coaches were required to obtain Level 1 Youth Tackle Certification. This course teaches how to run a practice, the injuries that may occur, how to handle parents, hydration, and concussion awareness.

Department Participation

- ◆ A Freedom Blast recap meeting was held on July 9 at the Events Halls in City Hall to solicit feedback from all parties involved in the celebration. A survey was sent utilizing Survey Monkey to obtain feedback from the public regarding the Freedom Blast event. Contracts have been signed with Zambelli Fireworks and East Coast Entertainment for the band 20 Ride for the 2015 Freedom Blast.
- ◆ On July 10, Red Watson attended the final 2013/2014 school year meeting and awards ceremony for the Construction Advisory Committee at the J. Harley Bonds Career Center.
- ◆ Greer Recreation Association Board meeting was held on July 17 at the Operations Center Conference Room.
- ◆ Red Watson and Bruce Viehman attended a meeting at Greer Relief on July 18 to prepare for the Societ Relief BBQ to be held in August.
- ◆ Several members of the Parks and Recreation Department attended the Wellness Breakfast at City Hall on July 18.
- ◆ The Grounds Maintenance Division continued preparing athletic fields for games and practices. Neighborhood parks were mowed and trimmed on a rotational schedule.

Department Highlights

- ◆ Ann Cunningham participated in a South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (SCRPA) Past President legislative agenda for 2015.
- ◆ Mr. Driggers and Ann Cunningham met with Mr. Tuttle from CPW to review the continuation of the partnership for rooftop lighting and Christmas decorations throughout the City of Greer. Ann will be contacting the designated building owners in the downtown area for permission to add rooftop lighting.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Bruce Viehman met with Margaret Turner and residents to discuss making improvements in Greentown Park on July 28.
- ◆ On July 30, Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Randall Ballenger met with a representative of Tapco to discuss the purchase of a full color sign to be used by both the Parks and Recreation Department and the Police Department for notification of events.
- ◆ The Athletics Division registered the fall season participants for Foothills Soccer Club of Greer, Upstate Jackets Youth Football, and Cheer for Greer, Greer Baseball Club and girls' softball. All sport will begin practicing the first week in August at Country Club Road Park, City Stadium, H. R. Turner Park, Century Park, Victor Park and South Suber Road Park.
- ◆ Youth football books for all participants were prepared to assure eligibility for all youth football players. Eligibility, set by Greenville County Recreation, requires all football participants to obtain a physical, have a birth certificate, picture, waiver and code forms complete and on file with the county and attend a weigh in.

- ◆ The Athletics Division hosted a wooden bat showcase tournament in partnership with other local Parks and Recreation Departments at Sevens Field. Teams were based out of Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Unfortunately, the tournament was shortened due to weather, but numerous visitors from all over the southeastern region enjoyed our great city.
- ◆ A free youth football clinic was held at City Stadium on 4 nights from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. More than 50 players participated each night in several drills to prepare them for the upcoming football season. All football recreation coaches were on hand to run and oversee each drill.



- ◆ The Greer Cultural Arts Council (GCAC) and the Recreation Division completed the summer storytellers series, “Tall Tale Tuesdays” on July 15. The event was free and featured 30 minutes of stories followed by 30 minutes of crafts relating to the stories.
- ◆ Tunes in the Park were rained out for 2 of the 4 events in July. “Jim Quick and Coastline” performed on July 11 and “Encore” performed on July 25. The other 2 bands were rescheduled for August and September. Greer Idol and Greer Idol Teen contestants performed at both events with the finals scheduled for August 8.
- ◆ The Cultural Arts Division began theatre camp and advance theatre camp. Thanks to grants from the Metropolitan Arts Council and BMW totaling \$4000, 12 campers from the Needmore Summer Camp attended the beginner theatre camp and 15 additional children received scholarships to attend the advanced camp.
- ◆ Greer Children's Theatre held “Shrek the Musical” auditions the third week in July. There were approximately 100 children and adults from 6 years of age and up who auditioned for the 70 roles that were cast.
- ◆ The Recreation Division continued to facilitate several activities and programs at the recreation centers. Senior Action meets at the Needmore Recreation Center Monday through Friday and Kay Young's Piano Performers were facilitated every Monday at the Cannon Centre. Never Alone and the Cutlery Club met every Tuesday evening at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) participated in a lunch bunch meeting at IHOP and Della Ventura's in Greer. They traveled to Furman University for “Music by the Lake “ on July 17. Soar continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during July was 7.
- ◆ Summer camps at both Needmore and Victor continued during July. Victor Summer Camp attendance is 75 children each day and the Needmore Summer Camp attendance is 50 children each day. The campers are enjoying weekly field trips, games and activities.
- ◆ The Needmore Summer Camp participated in Dynamite's Day on July 25. Dynamite's Day was founded by Darron Moore a local Greer Citizen. It was named in honor and memory of Brandon “Dynamite” Talley, a local Greer celebrity who passed away a few years ago from sickle cell anemia. Darron's purpose in this day is to give the kids some fun activities, food and to speak to them on positive influences in their lives as well as to always chase their dreams. The Parks and Recreation Department thanks Darron and his wife, Kayla, for all their hard work and dedication in putting this together. Please enjoy the video by clicking on the link below:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vvu6-2Wxxs>
- ◆ The Events Division hosted 47 events, at which over 9,468 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

- ◆ Thursdays in July, continued with the Events Division's Moonlight Movies series. On July 3, "Brave" welcomed large crowds and a baby bear cub from Hollywild Animal Park. The July 10 showing of "Frozen" brought out our largest crowd of the season with 1,000 viewers in the amphitheater. Showings of "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" and Despicable Me 2" saw large crowds as well. The final movie, "The Lego Movie", scheduled for July 31 was unfortunately rained out.



- ◆ The Events Division hosted the SC Quarterly Fire Marshal Training in Greer City Hall on July 8. Approximately 120 fire marshals from around the state attended the training.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2014 events such as: Black History Gala and Halloween Hoopla.

Save the Date
Black History Gala



Friday, August 29
 7:00pm-11:00pm
 Cannon Centre
 204 Cannon Street
 \$5.00 Ticket Admission
 Purchase tickets at the Operations Center
 446 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Questions? Call 864-968-7004



"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"