

# City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

## Monthly Report for February 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 Project Steering Committee for the Bicycling and Walking Plan funded through GPATS was created and the first meeting will be held at City Hall on March 26. Consultants with Alta Planning + Design, will present data collected through preexisting documentation and the committee will review and make recommendations for the study. The Public Meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 7 and the location has not been determined at this time.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with department supervisors to review upcoming budget deadlines on February 20. Budget preparation for FY 2015-16 has begun and all department supervisors and staff members have been asked for recommendations.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Julia Harrill hosted an International Festival planning meeting for participants at City Hall on February 3.
- ◆ Justin Miller and Red Watson finalized and submitted two grant applications for the Greenville County Redevelopment Authority, sub-recipient funds. These grants, if obtained, will assist with financing the Needmore Summer Camp and Senior Computer programs.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and the Athletic Division met with the Human Resources Department to review background check policies and procedures for all youth sports volunteers on February 3.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with Riverside Middle School staff to review the joint use agreement for athletic fields at Riverside Middle School on February 6.
- ◆ Bid proposals were received from A-Oak Farms and By Design, LLC, for annual quotes on the installation/takedown of existing facility Christmas decorations at City Hall, Cannon Centre and Police/Courts. Additional quotes are for storage, new decorations as well as live poinsettia bids.

### Bids

- ◆ Advertised for annual concession services Request for Proposal.

### Department Trainings

- ◆ Cory Holtzclaw and David Holtzclaw attended the American Heart Association training conducted by Justin Miller on February 5. Cory and David obtained certifications in AED usage and CPR/First Aid.

- ◆ Numerous members of the Parks and Recreation Department staff received Bloodborne Pathogen training on February 24.
- ◆ Staff members in the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training. The courses completed were Dealing with Stress, Defensive Driving Basics, Basic First Aid, Ethical Behavior for Local Government, Stress and Your Health and Volunteers Working with Children and Adolescents.

## Department Participation

- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Travis Durham, skipper Burns and Jim Ridgill attended a Live Web Presentation of Facility Dude on February 4.
- ◆ Justin Miller attended the LiveWell Greenville at Play work group committee meeting in Greenville on February 9. Ann Cunningham was appointed co-facilitator of the work group.
- ◆ Ashlyn Stone and Julia Harrill attended the annual Southeast Festival and Events Association conference in Chattanooga, TN on February 16-18. The conference offered an entertainment showcase and several educational sessions on topics such as social media, relationships with media and networking and jump-starting new events.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the annual Council Retreat hosted at Greer City Hall on February 24-25.
- ◆ Justin Miller attended the 2015 Program Summit Conference in Myrtle Beach on February 25 – 27. State wide programmers in the field participated in learning ideas and activities regarding new programs for their agencies.

## Department Highlights

- ◆ Ann Cunningham met with Mr. Driggers regarding her annual performance review on February 2.
- ◆ Luke Bowling, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary shadowed the Recreation Division and the Events Division on February 4.
- ◆ The Grounds Division:
  - Due to cold weather the booster pump and water line at City Park was damaged and need repaired.
  - A new bulletin board was installed at City Stadium.
  - Annual draining and cleaning of the pond at City Park was completed. Many thanks to the City of Greer Fire Department for the use of their hoses and connections and to Greer CPW for permission to use the water from the hydrants on Cannon Street
  - International Festival banners were installed in City Park and the downtown area.
  - The concrete Cricket Pitch was removed at H. R. Turner Park.
  - Began preparing all athletic fields for the spring seasons.
  - Ice and Snow was removed from sidewalks at City Park, Cannon Centre and the Police and Court facility.
  - Continued winter pruning of trees and shrubs at all facilities.
- ◆ Justin Miller continued preparation for the 2015 Summer Camps. Registration is set to begin on March 16.
- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) participated in a lunch bunch meeting in Clinton and enjoyed a day of shopping. They continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during the month was 12. The Senior Action Group continued to meet daily at the Needmore Community Center. They are currently in the process of hiring a new site coordinator. Joint activities enjoyed by these two groups were a Valentines craft, 2two line dancing session and an Entertainment and Lunch Day at the Needmore Center.
- ◆ The Athletic Division conducted youth soccer drafts on February 10 and baseball team drafts on February 12. Several Greer Baseball Club (GBC) board meetings were held in preparation for the spring season.
- ◆ Youth baseball and softball recreation and academy practices were facilitated at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, South Suber Road Park, Turner Field, Riverside Middle, Davenport and Victor Park. Player evaluations for the GBC teams were held at Century Park on February 7. GBC board members

evaluated players on hitting, pitching and field skills. Each player was sized for a team jersey and hat during evaluation check in. Opening day will be held on March 21 at Century Park.

- ◆ The Upstate Dixie Girls softball league was formed for the spring season. This league is a partnership between Greer, D5, D6 and Woodruff. This new league will offer local play, decrease travel and promote the games of girls softball.
- ◆ Youth soccer academy practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park. Teams from all over South Carolina participated in division games on Saturdays and Sundays. Soccer recreation team's season will begin the middle of March.
- ◆ Cory Holtzclaw and David Holtzclaw attended a youth football meeting on February 20 with Mauldin and Laurens Parks and Recreation Departments to discuss a partnership for the 2015 season.
- ◆ Foothills Soccer Club of Greer (FSCG) facilitated academy practices at Country Club Road Park. Teams from all over the state will visit Greer on select Saturdays throughout the spring season.
- ◆ Registration for the spring adult softball and adult basketball leagues were conducted throughout February. The leagues will begin play the middle of March.
- ◆ Wrestling season concluded with the state tournament. Wrestlers from throughout the state qualified for the tournament.
- ◆ The Cultural Arts Division hung photos from the "Friends of Lake Robinson" photo contest in the Wall Gallery at City Hall.
- ◆ Greer Children's Theatre performed Disney's "Aladdin Jr." on February 27 – 28 at the Cannon Centre. Cultural Arts Council sponsored the auditions for Case Closed, a play written by a Greenville Technical Charter High School student. The play will be performed at the Cannon Centre in March.



- ◆ The Events Division hosted 35 events, at which over 2,051 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ The Events Division hosted the Police Department's Valor Training in Greer City Hall on February 3. Approximately 175 police officers from around the state attended the training.
- ◆ On February 4, The Events Division hosted the Upper State Codes Enforcement Agency (USCEA) training for the Building and Development Standards Department.
- ◆ The winners of the annual Black History Month Essay Contest were recognized at a reception prior to the City Council meeting on February 10. All 6 certificate recipients were present to meet the member of City Council and to be recognized. This year's contest received over 130 essays from 7 different upstate schools. Carolina Lar was the first place winner in the High School Division.

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2015 events such as: the International Festival and Freedom Blast.



*"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"*