

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for April 2018



The 5th Annual International Festival

"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"

Department Highlights

- ◆ On April 5, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson, along with the project team from SGA Architecture, attended the PAC meeting at Greer City Hall to review plans for the Center for the Arts renovation project. The Center for the Arts Construction Project is a Design/Build project, and a Request for Qualifications for General Contractors was advertised on April 15. A mandatory pre-submittal meeting for contractors interested in the Center for the Arts renovation was held on April 12, with 13 different companies attending. This process involves city staff, architects and the general contractor working together to finalize design of the facility and park to ensure we are getting the best product for our money. All RFQs were due on April 27. On April 30, the Project Team reviewed and documented the submitted packets from eligible contractors. On May 2, the Project Team will evaluate and rate the contractors and will select contractors to interview.
- ◆ A Kids Planet Master Plan Subcommittee, comprised of city staff and consultants with Alta Planning + Design, was created that visited with children from 6 local elementary schools and gathered input as to what types of playground elements, structures and facilities they would like to have in a renovated site. A Community Drop-In was held in Greer City Hall on April 17 and the public was invited to come and give feedback as to how a new Kids Planet should be designed. Surveys were distributed throughout the city as well as through links on our website and social media. The deadline to complete all surveys is May 4.
- ◆ On April 12, Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Travis Durham and Brian Wilson participated in a Skype meeting with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc, a planning, engineering, and design consulting firm, to review irrigation and landscape designs for the Downtown Streetscape Project.
- ◆ Budget preparations are underway for the department. All department supervisors/coordinators are involved in the process.
- ◆ On April 2, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson toured facilities and reviewed park properties, with South Carolina Parks Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) staff, that were renovated/purchased with state and federal grant funds.

Department Participation

- ◆ Department staff:
 - Attended planning meetings for Freedom Blast and Greer Family Fest.
 - Participated in the annual Project Pinwheel by placing blue pinwheels in landscaped beds at Greer City Hall, Century Park, Victor Park, and the Needmore Recreation Center. Blue pinwheels are the national symbol for child abuse prevention. The purpose of Project Pinwheel is to celebrate the small things families, neighbors, and community members can do to help keep children safe.

- Participated in Hope Week 2018 during the week of April 2-6 by hosting 2 daily Basketball Camps at the Victor Gym and the Needmore Recreation Center; flower beds were planted at Needmore Recreation Center, Greer City Park and Greer City Stadium; and restrooms were painted at Victor Gym. Community Block Parties were held at Needmore Recreation Center, Victor Gym, and B.P. Edwards Park.
- Attended the second quarter Greer Recreation Association Board meeting held on April 26 at Greer City Hall. Ann Cunningham introduced the new trustee, Amanda Hopper (District 3), to the board.

Division Highlights

Grounds Maintenance

- ◆ Division Staff:
 - Applied new pine straw at Country Club Road Park and new mulch at South Suber Road Park.
 - Built new landscape border rock wall at Century Park.
 - Applied stain and wood sealer to Century Park concession building stairs and deck.
 - Installed new flag pole at the Operations Center.
 - Removed Victor Gym vent insulation panels and installed fan motors.
 - Began removal of ryegrass from South Suber Road Park and Greer City Stadium.
 - Trimmed trees along Trade Street, the Depot parking lot and Greer City Park promenade.
 - Planted annuals at Barnett Bridge.
 - Acquired spring pre-emerge herbicide, fertilizer and fire ant prevention application from Wilson and Associates.
 - Continued to prepare athletic facilities for games and practices.
 - Continued to maintain parks and facilities on a rotational basis.

Athletics:

- ◆ FSCG Academy soccer was facilitated at South Suber Road Park and Greer City Stadium. Academy teams compete Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Greer City Stadium, South Suber Road Park, and various facilities throughout the state and southeast. These teams will complete their season with State Cup tournaments in May.
- ◆ Recreational soccer practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park for U6, U8, U10, and U12 age divisions. Each team played 10 regular season games.
- ◆ A spring break soccer camp was hosted at Greer City Stadium on April 2, 3 and 5 for kids ages 4-13. The soccer academy director, Anthony "Speedy" Solomon, conducted the camp along with several other members of the U18 boys' academy team. Over 50 kids attended the camp throughout the week.
- ◆ Baseball practices were facilitated at Country Club Road Park, Turner Park, Century Park, and Riverside Middle School. Opening Day ceremonies were held on April 13 at Century Park with all of the baseball and girls' softball teams in attendance. Players participated in a homerun contest during the night and teams were introduced. The Speedy Gregory Coach of the Year was awarded to Will Grugan, who opened the 2018 spring season by throwing out the first pitch. Teams took part in pictures on April 14 along with season opening games.
- ◆ Dixie Girls' Softball 8U, 10U, and 12U practices and games were facilitated at Victor Park. Teams competed against district teams from Woodruff, Byrnes and Dorman at Victor Park and Tyger River Park.
- ◆ Cory Holtzclaw attended the District 1 Dixie Youth Baseball meeting on April 6 at Belton-Honea Path Parks and Recreation. Representatives from throughout the upstate met to discuss the upcoming season and rule changes, and to select district tournament sites.
- ◆ Baseball teams attended GBC Night at Blue Ridge High School on April 10. Players were able to meet players and coaches on the high school team, take the field with them and enjoy a fun night supporting one of the local high schools. This was the second high school game that GBC teams attended as they also supported the Greer High School baseball team in March.

Recreation:

- ◆ On April 24, Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Justin Miller met with Patrick Wood (Tennis Instructor, City of Greer) and Sam Crossland to discuss planning and future use of courts for shared usage between tennis and pickleball.
- ◆ The Recreation Division continued to facilitate the following programs:
 - Senior Action – Needmore Recreation Center, Mondays-Fridays (200 participants monthly)
 - Piano Performers – Cannon Centre, Mondays (220 participants monthly)
 - Never Alone – Tryon Recreation Center, Tuesdays (80 participants monthly)
 - Cutlery Club – Tryon Recreation Center (20 participants monthly)
 - Artifacts Club – Tryon Recreation Center (74 participants monthly)
 - Pickleball – Victor Gym and Tryon Tennis Courts, Mondays-Thursdays (250 participants monthly)
 - Whole Fitness – Victor Gym (60 participants monthly)
 - Senior Whole Fitness – Victor Gym (20 participants monthly)
 - HAM Radio, Beginner and Intermediate Classes – Victor Gym (104 participants monthly)
 - Creative Advancement After School Program – Victor Gym (280 participants monthly)
 - Needmore After School Program – Needmore Recreation Center (100 participants monthly)
- ◆ SOAR (Seniors Out and ARound)
 - Line Dancing Classes were held on April 4, 11, 18 and 25 with an average attendance of 18 seniors.
 - Bingo was held on April 5 and April 19 with an average of 29 members in attendance.
 - On April 9, 16 SOAR members enjoyed watching "Just Getting Started".
 - Lunch Bunch enjoyed a fantastic lunch at Chicken Salad Chick, on April 13, with 13 seniors attending.
 - The monthly Potluck Luncheon was held, on April 17, with 17 SOAR members attending.
 - SOAR rounded out the month with an annual trip to Strawberry Hill USA on April 27. This was a great trip with 29 seniors attending.
 - The average attendance for the month was 20.
- ◆ Senior Computer classes began on April 5 with 20 seniors attending a three-week course on Thursdays at City Hall. At the conclusion of the three-week course, 20 additional seniors will enroll to complete another three-week course that will carry into the month of May.
- ◆ The Needmore Summer Camp continued accepting applications throughout the month.

Cultural Arts:

- ◆ The artwork of Jennifer Mills, local artist, was hung at Greer City Hall.
- ◆ Robin Byouk, Robbie Davis and Ashlyn Stone met with Cammy Lee at Texas Road House to discuss sponsoring summer events. Robin also met with representatives for Fox Carolina social media and The Greenville Journal about sponsorship partnering.
- ◆ The Greer Cultural Arts Council rented costumes and props to Green Charter School, Tigerville Elementary and Woodmont High School.

Events:

- ◆ The Events Division hosted 56 events, at which nearly 9,200 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department hosted the 5th Annual International Festival on April 14 at Greer City Park. This year was the biggest and most exciting yet with over 5,000 people in attendance. The Greer Cultural Arts Council provided 30 volunteers for 10 craft tables.
- ◆ The Events Division is in the process of planning for the following events:
 - Moonlight Movies on Thursdays from June 7 through July 26 at Greer City Park.
 - Freedom Blast 2018 on June 30 from 6pm-10:30pm at Greer City Park.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Tall Tale Tuesdays – June-July
- ◆ Moonlight Movies – June 7-July 26 (Thursdays)
- ◆ Needmore & Victor Summer Camps – June 11-August 10
- ◆ Tunes in the Park/Greer Idol – June 15-July 23 (Fridays)
- ◆ Freedom Blast – June 30
- ◆ National Night Out – August 7
- ◆ Camp ARK Performance – August 10-12 and August 17-19
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – August 17
- ◆ Walk With Your Local Elected Official – August 18
- ◆ Railfest – September 15
- ◆ Artisan Makers Market – September 29
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – October 19
- ◆ Halloween Hoopla – October 27
- ◆ Walk With Your Local Elected Official – November 10
- ◆ Christmas in Greer Tree Lighting – December 7
- ◆ Breakfast with Santa – December 8
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – January 18

Current Projects

- ◆ Bicycle Racks for the Downtown Area of Greer – 5 Installed; 12 Racks and Fix-it Stations in Storage Awaiting the City Streetscape Project
- ◆ Center for the Arts Renovation – Phase 2 (Conceptual Design Phase)
- ◆ Kids Planet Master Plan – Alta Planning + Design (Awarded Design Phase)
- ◆ Bankhead Highway Historical Marker for Poinsett and Depot Street Intersection – Received on February 6 – To Be Installed During City Streetscape Project

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.