

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for March 2019



Opening Day ceremonies for the 2019 spring baseball season were held on March 29.

"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"

Department Projects

- ◆ The roof stability project at the Cannon Centre was completed the week of March 15.
- ◆ A sidewalk has been installed at Century Park, which connects the pedestrian bridge to the parking lot, along with curbing at the lower entrance from the creek to the batting cages. An ADA sidewalk connecting the bridge to the parking lot was poured, as was curbing along the lower drive.
- ◆ Red Watson worked to complete bid specs for the outdoor restroom buildings at H. R. Turner and Victor Parks.
- ◆ Several trees were successfully removed from South Suber Road site.
- ◆ Bi-weekly construction meetings were held on-site at the Center for the Arts; attendees included staff from the Parks and Recreation Department, IT Department, Public Services, Hogan Construction, and SGA Architecture. Curbing has been poured at the site, with sidewalks to be poured in April. The facility is scheduled to begin occupancy in mid-June and the park in mid-July. This is subject to change due to inclement weather. A Grand Opening is planned for the fall.
- ◆ Red Watson collaborated with Steve Grant and his staff, as well as Mike MacNabb of Bluewater Civil Design, for guidance on how to convert areas at Century Park and South Suber Road Park into additional parking for these facilities.
- ◆ Kids Planet Playground Equipment Proposals: The 2 finalist playground equipment providers gave presentations to the Project Steering Committee on March 18 at Greer City Hall. Upon completion of each presentation, the committee members rated and evaluated each of their proposals. Staff compiled and reviewed all of the proposed elements from each company and made a recommendation to Mr. Driggers on March 26. Additional site work cost estimates will be compiled, and a proposal will be presented to City Council in May.

Department Participation

- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the City Council Retreat on March 4-5 at Greer City Hall. She gave updates on the construction of the Center for the Arts and surrounding park and the Downtown Walking and Bicycling Master Plan project recommendations.
- ◆ On March 13, the Events Division Management Team gave leaders from the Town of Lake Lure a tour of the Events Halls at Greer City Hall, Cannon Centre, and the outdoor venues (i.e. picnic shelter, amphitheater, etc.). Ann Cunningham had the opportunity to welcome everyone as they arrived.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the SCPRT State Trails Advisory Committee Meeting in Columbia on March 20. This meeting was for Policy & Procedures Review for trails grants distribution throughout the state.
- ◆ Robin Byouk, Red Watson, and Ann Cunningham met with Zachary Gasparich, Ian Watson, and Connor Morgan from Sevier Middle School on March 28 about a 2019 Kindness Project to be placed at the Center for the Arts.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Robbie Davis and Brian Wilson attended the weekly ACOG leadership class. The 7-week course ended on March 21 and they received their certifications.

Division Highlights

Grounds Maintenance

- ◆ Carolina Parks and Play performed warranty repair work to the block climber and surfacing at City Park playground.
- ◆ Dreamscape Landscapes installed new landscaping along the Main Street side of the Police and Courts building and throughout City Park. This included mulching all beds at City Park, the J. Verne Smith parking lot, and the Police and Courts parking lot.
- ◆ Division Staff:
 - Prepared baseball athletic fields for the start of spring practice on March 4.
 - Prepared Century Park, Victor Park, and Country Club Road Park for Opening Day activities.
 - Prepared City Stadium for state soccer games.
 - Applied mulch to Stevens Field and Century Park landscape beds.
 - Applied pre-emergent herbicide to City Stadium, Victor softball field, and Veterans Park.
 - Began removing the perennial ryegrass at City Stadium.
 - Maintained all neighborhood parks and recreation facilities.

Athletics:

- ◆ Division Staff:
 - Facilitated youth basketball All-Star team practices at Victor Gym on Monday and Thursday nights. Teams in the 8U, 10U, and 12U divisions competed in the South Carolina Athletic Planners' State Tournament (SCAP). Teams from 5 different regions throughout the state competed. The 8U team won their district tournament in Fountain Inn and competed in the state tournament in Clemson, where they finished second overall.
 - Facilitated spring baseball at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, H. R. Turner Park, Riverside Middle School, and Stevens Field. Age divisions for the spring season include 4U, 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U.
 - Facilitated girls' softball practices at Victor Park. Age divisions for the spring are 8U, 10U, and 12U. Teams competed in the Diamond Dirt Classic preseason tournament held at Tyger River Park. District-wide league games will begin in early April.
 - Facilitated Academy Soccer practices and games at Greer City Stadium and Country Club Road Park for the 2019 spring season. There are 3 spring academy teams that will compete in South Carolina Youth Soccer Association games throughout the state. The season will continue through early May.
- ◆ Baseball and girls' softball Opening Ceremonies were held at Century Park on March 29. There were 42 teams represented at the ceremonies. Two players from each team competed in a homerun derby and all

teams were recognized on the field. Former Major League pitcher Michael Roth threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

Recreation:

- ◆ Summer Camp registration began March 11 for Camp Greer and Camp Needmore. Camp Greer was filled within the first week, and Camp Needmore had 10 spots remaining at the end of March.
- ◆ Summer Camp Counselor interviews for returning and new hire candidates continued. There are 10 spots to fill for the Summer Camp programs.
- ◆ The annual Senior Computer Classes began on March 12 at City Hall. The 3-week course in basic computer functions, navigation, and internet usage was completed by 20 seniors. The second session of the class will be offered to 20 additional seniors in April.
- ◆ 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, Tuesdays and Thursdays (250 participants monthly)
 - Ham Radio Classes – Victor Gym (40 participants monthly)
 - Morse Code Classes – Victor Gym (48 participants monthly)
- ◆ SOAR (Seniors Out and ARound)
 - SOAR held Line Dance Classes on March 6, 13, 20, and 27 with an average of 33 seniors in attendance.
 - Bingo was held on March 7 and 21 with an average of 22 members in attendance.
 - On March 12, a group of 15 seniors participated in a Saint Patrick's Day craft making shamrock pins to wear for the holiday.
 - On March 14, SOAR visited the Buttercream Bakehouse for lunch, followed by a visit to the Carolina Music Museum. This fun outing was enjoyed by 27 seniors.
 - SOAR had its quarterly Potluck Luncheon on March 19 at City Hall. There were 18 seniors who brought their favorite dishes to share with the other members.
 - The monthly Movie Day was held on March 25. This month's movie was the comedy, "Instant Family". There were 21 SOAR members in attendance that day.
 - Lunch Bunch this month was held on March 28 at The Farehouse. There were 26 seniors in attendance to enjoy great food and fellowship.
 - The average attendance for the month was 23.

Cultural Arts:

- ◆ The Greer Children's Theatre held 8 performances of The Lion King Jr. at the Cannon Centre on March 1-3 and 8-10. Half of the performances were sold out. There were 220 seats for each performance.
- ◆ Robin Byouk gave tours of the Center for the Arts to Don and Ellen Wall, Mayor Danner, and Juan Gonzalez of the Spanish Writers Guild.
- ◆ Robin Byouk, Sara Odom, Ann Cunningham, and Travis Durham met at Veterans Park on March 14 to discuss a Call for Artists to create a piece of art to cover the existing fountain.
- ◆ Robin Byouk met with Brandon Higginbotham on March 20 at the City Park amphitheater. He will be providing sound for all the Tunes in the Park events.
- ◆ Robin Byouk met with Pepsi on March 25 to discuss their sponsorship of Tunes in the Park, Greer Idol, and Freedom Blast.
- ◆ The 2019 Greer Goes Global Juried Art Show was judged at the Tryon Recreation Center, and 18 pieces were chosen for awards. The artist reception was held on March 29 in the Wall Gallery at Greer City Hall. Mayor Danner recognized the winners. Background music was provided by 2 cellists from the Foothills Philharmonic. Local restaurants Strip Club 104, Stomping Grounds, and Wild Ace provided hors d'oeuvres for the event.

Events:

- ◆ The Events Division hosted 56 events, at which 3,715 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ The Events Division is in the process of planning International Festival on April 27, Food Truck Rollout on May 17, and Freedom Blast on June 29.
- ◆ The Greer Station Shuttles ambassador program picked up a total of 582 people in March.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Eggstastic Easter Event – April 13 (Century Park)
- ◆ International Festival – April 27 (City Park)
- ◆ Family Fest May 3-4 (Downtown)
- ◆ Friends of Lake Robinson Juried Arts Competition – May 7 (City Hall)
- ◆ Greer Cultural Arts Council “Yart” Sale – May 11 (Tryon Recreation Center)
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout _ May 17 (City Park)
- ◆ Moonlight Movies – June 6 – August 1 (City Park Amphitheater)
- ◆ Tunes in the Park & Greer Idol – June 14 – July 26 (City Park Amphitheater)
- ◆ Freedom Blast – June 29 (City Park)
- ◆ Camp Ark 2019 (Tryon Recreation Center)
 - Beginner Camps (Art & Theater Camp)
 - 6/24-27 (Princesses + Pirates)
 - 7/8-11 (The Great 3 Ring Circus)
 - Advanced Camp (Musical Theater Camp)
 - 8/9-11 & 8/16-18 (Willy Wonka Jr)
- ◆ Beauty and the Beast – August 8-10, August 15-17 (J. Harley Bonds Center)
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – August 17 (City Park)
- ◆ Railfest – September 28 (City Park)
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – October 18 (City Park)
- ◆ Artisan Makers Market – October 19 (City Park)
- ◆ Tree Lighting – December 6 (City Park)
 - Supper with Santa (Cannon Centre)
- ◆ Breakfast with Santa – December 7 (Cannon Centre)
- ◆ Christmas Parade – December 8 (Downtown)

Current Projects

- ◆ Center for the Arts Renovation
- ◆ Kids Planet Playground Renovation
- ◆ Streetscapes Ambassador Program
- ◆ South Suber Road Parking Area
- ◆ Tryon Recreation Center Outdoor Restroom Renovation
- ◆ Century Park Accessible Pathway and Curbing
- ◆ H. R. Turner Field and Victor Park Restroom Facilities
- ◆ H. R. Turner Field Accessible Parking Area
- ◆ Country Club Road Park Shade Structures

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.