

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for August 2019



Cheer for Greer began practices in August at Greer City Stadium.

"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"

Department Projects

- ◆ Center for the Arts:
 - Bi-weekly construction meetings were held.
 - Hogan Construction is working on the completion of punch list items for the park. Installation of building signage was started by SignSouth.
 - Staff met with A-Oak Farms on August 14 to discuss Christmas decorations for the building.
 - Staff is installing FF&E items as they are received.
- ◆ Kids Planet:
 - BlueWater Civil Engineering is finalizing grading and site documents. They plan to submit them to the Parks and Recreation Department and GCRA for review in mid-September and advertise for bids the following Sunday.
 - Final color selections for the playground equipment have been submitted. A surveyor was brought back to add detail to the survey for the Civil Engineer to finalize plans and construction documents. Shealey Electric submitted a photometric plan for park lighting to Recreation staff for review.
 - Kids Planet will officially close on Tuesday, September 3. Department staff will be on site that day to begin the removal of pickets, tiles, painted boards, etc. Staff met with Chad Richardson of the Police Department and Steve Owens, the City's Communications Manager, last week to discuss security and communication for the project. Kudos to Steve for creating a Kids Planet page on the FutureGreer website and for designing banners that will be displayed on the fence along Brushy Creek Road. An LED sign was placed in the parking lot in August announcing the impending closure.
- ◆ Entrance sign installations at Country Club Road Park and South Suber Road Park are complete, as is the repairing and repainting of the entrance sign at Victor Gym.
- ◆ New lines were purchased for the clay tennis courts at Tryon Recreation Center.
- ◆ A bid opening was held at City Hall on August 7 for the HVAC system at Victor Gym. City Council gave approval to award the project to RSI of the Carolinas on August 13.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Department employees attended NAMI training in August.

Department Participation

- ◆ A Recreation Board meeting was held at City Hall on August 22.
- ◆ Department staff met with members of the Police Department and Public Services as well as Chamber staff on August 23 for a build-out meeting regarding Blues on the Green, and again on August 26 for an on-site walk through.
- ◆ Justin Miller met with the Park Hop Committee on August 26 to discuss the closing ceremonies and park hop levels for various prizes for the 2019 summer program.

Division Highlights

Athletics:

- ◆ Division Staff:
 - Facilitated Greer Baseball Club practices at Century Park, Little Turner, and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Games will begin in September and the season will conclude in October.
 - Facilitated Greer Baseball Club academy practices at Century Park and Country Club Road Park. Tournament seasons begin in September at various parks around the state.
 - Facilitated girls' softball practices at Century Park and Victor Park on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. These teams will compete against teams from District Five, Woodruff, District Six, Boiling Springs, and Inman. Games will be played at Victor Park, Tyger River Park, and various Spartanburg County Parks in September and October. Age divisions include 8U, 10U, and 12U.
 - Facilitated adult baseball games at Stevens Park on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights.
 - Facilitated FSCG academy fall soccer practices and games at South Suber Road Park and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday nights. These teams compete in the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association and travel throughout the state.
 - Facilitated FSCG recreational soccer practices at South Suber Road Park on Monday and Thursday nights. Age divisions are U6, U8 U10, and U12. Games will begin in mid-September and conclude in October.
 - Hosted FSCG board meeting on August 5 at the Operations Center. Topics that were discussed include spring 2019 season, player registration, and any rules modifications prior to upcoming fall season.
 - Facilitated FSCG recreational soccer drafts with coaches at the Operations Center on August 12 and 13. Coaches selected players for the upcoming fall season.
 - Facilitated flag football practices at Country Club Road Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Age divisions for flag football are 6U, 8U, and 10U. The Greer Parks and Recreation Flag League is completely in-house this season. Games will begin in September and conclude with playoffs in October.
 - Facilitated youth tackle football and cheerleading practices on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights at Greer City Stadium. Age divisions are 8U, 10U, and 12U. Games will begin in September and conclude with playoffs in October.
 - Completed fall sports schedules for tackle football, flag football, baseball, girls' softball, and soccer.

Recreation:

- ◆ Interviews were held for the Recreation Coordinator position. Questionnaires were sent out to 18 candidates. The final round of interviews was conducted on August 27.
- ◆ The 2019 Summer Camps concluded on August 9. Over 140 kids participated in an 8-week summer camp at Victor Park and the Needmore Recreation Center with tons of field trips, activities, games, and crafts.
- ◆ Rentals for the month of August:
 - Kids Planet: 24
 - Recreation Centers: 6

- ◆ The Recreation Division continued to facilitate the following programs:
 - Senior Action – Needmore Recreation Center, Mondays-Fridays (200 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)
- ◆ SOAR (Seniors Out and ARound)
 - Bingo was held on August 1 and 15 with an average of 22 members in attendance.
 - There were 3 Line Dance Classes this month on the 14, 21, and 28 with an average of 32 seniors in attendance.
 - The monthly Movie Day was held on August 19. This month's movie was the comedy, "Poms". There were 48 seniors in attendance to watch this fun movie.
 - On August 22, SOAR visited the Greenville State Farmers Market. This fun day began with a trip to Stax Original for a delicious lunch. After the meal, members traveled to the Farmers Market, where they had the opportunity to purchase fresh produce and homemade items. There were 20 in attendance that day.
 - Lunch Bunch this month was held on August 27 at Harbor Inn in Greenville. There were 17 seniors in attendance to enjoy delicious seafood and great fellowship.
 - SOAR finished out the month with a Book Swap at Victor Gym on August 29. Seniors brought books they love and exchanged them for new books to read. The leftover books were taken by Mr. and Mrs. Reimer to be donated to the Greenville Literacy Association. There were 14 in attendance that day.
 - The average attendance for the month was 26.

Cultural Arts:

- ◆ Robin Byouk and Sara Odom moved into the new Center for the Arts facility on August 1.
- ◆ Robin and Sara - with the help of Seth Williams, Lamar Whitman, Adam Burns, and Taylor Scott of the Grounds Division - sanded down the 100-year-old Knabe baby grand piano in order to refurbish it. The piano will be on display in the performing arts lobby at the Center for the Arts.
- ◆ Three artists moved into their studios at the Center for the Arts. Kim Gilmore, a painter in Studio 5, and Blaine Owens, a photographer in Studio 7, are returning artists from before the renovation. Jim Simon, a painter, is new to the Center for the Arts and is occupying Studio 2.
- ◆ Tours of the new facility were given to Gene Krcelic with the Premier Foundation, Jennifer Jones with Citizens Building and Loan, Stanley Widener with Greenville Concert Band, John McClimon with the Greenville Jazz Ensemble, Kelsey Crum with Greenville Dance Collaborative, Scott Stephens with Greer Event Rentals, and Allison Ringer, a neighborhood representative.
- ◆ The Arts Division interviewed 10 arts instructors to teach classes. They also interviewed 4 people for a part time position within the division.
- ◆ The last Tunes in the Park was held on August 2, with the band Rock n Roll Reunion performing. The finals of Greer Idol and Greer Idol Jr were also held during this event. Kendall Landford won Greer Idol and Brady Green won Greer Idol Jr. The event was held inside City Hall due to inclement weather and it was standing room only.
- ◆ The Greer Children's Theatre performed Willy Wonka Jr. at the Cannon Centre on August 9-11 and 16-18. This was a free show, and 4 of the 6 shows were "sold out" with people eventually being turned away. The show was performed by the advanced campers from Camp ARK, who learned the entire play in 2 weeks and rehearsed for 1 week.
- ◆ The Greer Children's Theatre started rehearsals for the fall show, Beauty and the Beast. This is a full production show with 62 cast members. Rehearsals are being held at the Tryon Recreation Center.
- ◆ Robin Byouk and Sara Odom toured the SC Inland Port on August 28 with one of the student winners from the 2019 Juried Art Show, whose piece was purchased by the Inland Port.
- ◆ GCAC has been planning the Fundraising Gala for the Center for the Arts to be held on September 20. There will be a full slate of internationally renowned performers including: Emile Pandolfi, pianist; Jared Emerson, painter; Noah Guthrie, singer/songwriter; Greenville Dance Collaborative; and Christina Laurel, paper artist.

- ◆ The Arts Division is putting together the entertainment for the Grand Opening of the Center for the Arts on Saturday September 21 from 11am-4pm. Performers include Main Street Band, Royal Blue Band, the Quatrophonics, Sonny G, Greenville Jazz Ensemble, the cast of GCT's Beauty and the Beast, Marcie the Balloon Fairy, and JJ's Magic. There will also be food trucks, inflatables, and beer sales.

Events:

- ◆ The Events Division hosted 83 events, at which nearly 8,815 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ The City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department assisted in the National Night Out event held at Greer City Hall on August 6. The community was invited to come to the park to learn about City Services and spend time with the Greer Police Department.
- ◆ The Greer Farmers Market will continue on Saturdays through October with assistance from the Events Division. The weekly market averages 35 vendors every Saturday and about 500 guests in attendance.
- ◆ The Events Division Ambassador program has continued to build awareness, with over 1,600 riders in August. The shuttles run Tuesday – Saturday 11am-2pm and 6pm-9pm and Sundays 10:30am-3:00pm.

Grounds Maintenance

- ◆ Division Staff:
 - Aerated and top dressed the fields at South Suber Road Soccer Complex and Country Club Road Park.
 - Lined City Stadium for football, Stevens Field for baseball, and South Suber Road Soccer Complex fields for soccer.
 - Dragged baseball fields for practices.
 - Delivered bollards, pottery wheels, and indoor site furnishings to the Center for the Arts.
 - Moved the Construction Tube Dude to a new spot uptown.
 - Prepared Century Park for the Police Department's annual softball tournament.
 - Repaired an irrigation leak at Century Park.
 - Continued to perform routine maintenance at all of the City's parks and facilities.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Center for the Arts Grand Opening – September 20-22
- ◆ Railfest – September 28 (City Park)
- ◆ Food Truck Rollout – October 18 (City Park)
- ◆ Artisan Makers Market – October 19 (City Park)
- ◆ Beauty and the Beast – November 8-10, November 15-17 (J. Harley Bonds Center)
- ◆ 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
- ◆ H. R. Turner Field and Victor Park Restroom Facilities
- ◆ H. R. Turner Field Accessible Parking Area

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.