

# Parks & Recreation Department Monthly Report for November 2020



Robin Byouk and Sara Odom  
"Share Your Thoughts" chalk mural at the Center for the Arts

"Creating Community through People, Parks, and Programs"

## Department Projects

### Kids Planet

- Paving of lower parking has been completed.
- Hillside slides were installed into the bank. Grading around the slides and PIP surfacing with rock climbing apparatus is rescheduled to be installed in December.
- Electrical wires were pulled to decorative park lights with parking lot lights remaining to be installed.
- The remaining PIP surfacing areas are scheduled for installation: mister stations, (1) outdoor fitness station, hillside slide.
- Staff met with Joe Smith, GCRA (Greenville County Redevelopment Association) to evaluate concrete sidewalks in areas throughout the park.
- Raby Construction is preparing a quote for concrete sidewalk repair.
- Staff continues to work on restroom renovations and park signage.

### Victor Park and Victor Gym

- The Fitness and Shade area was completed at Victor Park.
- Victor Gym floor was refinished.

### Additional Projects

- Working with Ruthie Helms, ADA Coordinator, on ADA Renovations at Springwood Park.
- Replacing the upper deck on the press box/concession building at Country Club Road Park.
- Replacing park entrance signs at four parks:
  - Tryon Park
  - Victor Heights Community Park
  - Greentown Park
  - Century Park (lower entrance)
- The Events Division hosted two pre-bid meetings on November 20. The projects include the Event Hall ceiling tile replacement and Cannon Centre floor renovations.
- Athletic Division met with Grounds Maintenance Division, Ann Cunningham, and Red Watson to discuss the new Rugby program in 2021. It was determined that after some minor upgrades, Big Turner Field will be suitable for this program.

### Greer Golf

- Staff prepared and advertised bid specifications for mower fleet purchase, installation of additional doors to our cart barn, and for our early order of turf care products.
- ClubProphet Software went live on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Grounds Maintenance spent a considerable amount of time picking up debris from Hurricane Zeta.
- Warm weather brought increased play for this time of year, which is a pleasant surprise. However, the recent increase in COVID numbers has resulted in additional requests for single user carts.
- ClubProphet Software was installed and being used by staff. The public is using the “reserve your tee time online” option heavily and we have received numerous compliments.
- Staff worked on specs for the maintenance shed expansion and also worked with our architect to develop specs for the front 9 sprigging project.

## Department Training

- Robin Byouk and Sara Odom continued Light Board Training with Greg Trykowski.
- Robin Byouk and Sara Odom attended a webinar given by the American Academy of Community Theatre (AACT).
- On November 17<sup>th</sup> Robin Byouk and Sara Odom attended the American Academy of Community Theatre Roundtable webinar.
- On November 18<sup>th</sup> Robin Byouk attended a Zoom call with the Peace Center about promotions and travels with professional’s theatre in the next year.
- Gary Melton completed his Master Pond Certification Course.

## Department Participation

- Department staff hosted a Recreation Association Board meeting via Zoom.
- Staff met with members of the PD, Greer Development Corporation, Communications, and Public Services Department to discuss logistics for the upcoming Christmas events.
- Staff met with members of the Public Services Department to discuss ideas for the Operations Center renovation.
- We held our Thanksgiving luncheon with the Public Services Department on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Operations Center.
- Staff met with Dan Dodd (Landscape Architect), Brandon MacMahan, and Mr. Merriman on November 20<sup>th</sup> at Greer Golf and Country Club Rd. Park to discuss trail connectivity/wildlife corridor between the two facilities.

## Division Highlights

### Athletics

- Division Staff
  - Completed Foothills Soccer Club of Greer Academy soccer practices/games at Country Club Road Park and South Suber Road Park on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Teams (13U, 14U, 16U) finished the season inside the top 3 of their divisions. Academy soccer will take a quick break in December with tryouts and evaluations starting in January 2021.
  - Facilitated youth basketball practices at Victor Gym on Tuesday-Sunday. The basketball program is once again at maximum capacity for the 2020-21 season. The program will be completely in-house for all age divisions this season. Teams will begin games on January 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Facilitated Tomahawk Youth Wrestling practices at Tryon Recreation Center on Monday/Thursday nights. Practices were moved to Tryon Recreation Center this season due to not being able to utilize Riverside High School wrestling room due to current protocols with Greenville County Schools.
  - We celebrated the 2020 Cheer for Greer participants with a dinner ceremony at Pelham First Baptist Church. Each participant was recognized by our volunteer board and staff.



### Recreation

- The Recreation Division continued to facilitate the following programs:
  - Senior Action – served lunch outside of Needmore Recreation Center, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
  - Needmore Afterschool Program- meeting Monday-Friday at Needmore Recreation Center with 15 kids in attendance.
  - Programming continued meeting in facilities. These programs with participant numbers included:
    - JOAD Archery (30)
    - Artifacts Club (20)
    - Cutlery Club (25)
    - Pickleball Clinics (43)
    - Never Alone (30)
  - Creative Advancement Organization continued at Victor Gym every weekday with 40 kids in attendance.
  - Held the General Election on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Needmore Recreation Center with 994 voters.
  - Completed annual sub-recipient grants report for Greenville County Redevelopment Association (GCRA) 19/20 program year.
- SOAR (Seniors Out and ARound)
  - SOAR resumed Line Dancing Classes this month for the first time since COVID-19. We had classes on November 4th, 11th & 18th. We had an average of 23 seniors in attendance.
  - We met for in-person BINGO twice this month on November 5th & 19th. We had an average of 14 seniors in attendance for these two days.
  - SOAR met for our monthly Movie Day on November 16th this month at City Hall. We had 10 SOAR members in attendance to watch the true story, “Ride Like A Girl”.
  - The average attendance for the month was 18 members.
- Recreation Rentals for November:
  - Recreation Centers- 2
  - Mobile Stage Rental- 1

### Cultural Arts

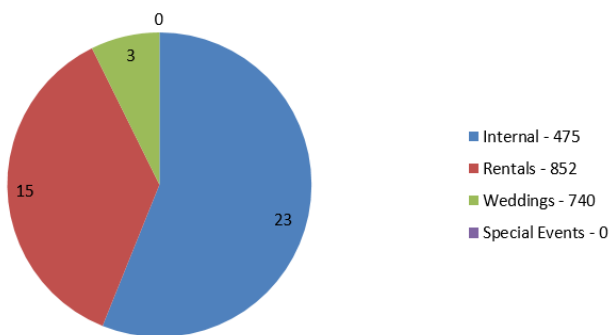
- Division Staff
  - Welcomed a new resident artist in Studio 7. Christina Laurel is a regionally known collage artist.
  - Hung new artwork at Greer City Hall. The artist featured is Tom Forrester.
  - Cecilia Ho’s felt creations will be on display in the main gallery until the end of January.
    - On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Cecelia held two free wet felting classes with 8 people in each class.
  - With the help of the Grounds Maintenance division, the *Share Your Thoughts* Chalk Wall was put up outside the Center for the Arts.
  - On November 21<sup>st</sup> the Foothills Philharmonic Brass Quintet held a concert at our facility.
  - JJ Pearson was transformed into Santa Claus with the help of Robin Byouk. He was recorded reading the Night before Christmas story that was released on Social Media.
  - On November 30<sup>th</sup>, chefs from Plate 108, along with Christina Laurel, judged the Gingerbread House contest. With the help of Taylor Crouch and JJ Pearson as Santa Claus the winners were announced. The video was posted on Social Media.

## Grounds Maintenance

- Division Staff
  - Assisted in working the final Dine On Trade event.
    - Two staff members worked 6:00 pm-11:00 pm to assist in the cleanup during and after the event.
  - Prepared for and worked the car show on Trade St.
    - Staff members worked this event, a total of 22.97 labor hours.
    - This car show was put on by Pour Sports.
  - Completed installation of all Christmas decorations, pole wraps/garland, and banners throughout the City.
  - Changed the City Park fountain lights to red and green for the Christmas season.
  - Installed flag pole at Kids Planet.
  - Prepared and cooked the turkeys for the Department Thanksgiving luncheon.
  - Assisted setup for bingo at Victor Gym.
  - Began taking soil samples of those areas maintained under the in-house turf management program.
  - Installed murals for Center for the Arts parking lot art piece.
  - Removed graffiti from Tryon men's restroom stall wall.
  - Made application of second round of pre and post-emergent to:
    - Country Club Road Park
    - Century Park
    - Victor Park
    - Little Turner
    - Completion of this application to Veterans, Center for the Arts, Downtown turf areas, and Brushy Creek sod will happen the week of December 7, 2020.

## Events Division

### Rentals



- The Events Division hosted 41 events, at which 2,067 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- On November 9, Breakfast with Santa tickets were available for purchase. Due to COVID-19, the Events Division sold tickets online and via phone. Registrants were encouraged to set up their accounts ahead of time to ensure a faster checkout experience. Tickets (250 tickets) sold out within 2 hours with the 9:30 am session selling out in less than a minute.
- The Ambassadors picked up 571 passengers in November at an average of 25 passengers per day. A total of 40 pick-up requests were made via mytraxgps. In 2019, we picked up 1,095 passengers.

- Public Testimony

★★★★★ a month ago

Great place for events. Staff is friendly...

(source: Google Reviews)

## Upcoming Events

- Kids Planet Dedication/Opening-(Date TBD)
- Martin Luther King Day of Celebration Luncheon- January 18, 2021
- GCT's Spring Production of the Twelve Dancing Princesses-March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Food Truck Rollout-March 19, 2021
- Eggstastic Easter Event-March 27, 2021
- Opening Day-March 27, 2021
- International Festival-April 17, 2021
- Food Truck Rollout-May 21, 2021
- Freedom Blast-June 26, 2021

## Current Projects

- Kids Plant Playground Renovation
- Greer Golf Grass Sprigging Project
- H.R. Turner Field and Victor Park Restroom Facilities
- Springwood Park ADA Renovation
- Victor Park Fitness Equipment 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.*