

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for November 2014



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

- ◆ On November 7, the Request for Proposal (RFP) opening was held at City Hall for the Downtown Bicycling and Walking Plan funded through a matching grant (80%/20%) between Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS) and the City of Greer.
- ◆ Justin Miller met with Councilman Wayne Griffin to continue planning for the 2014 MLK Day of Celebration. This year's program will be held on January 19, 2015 in the Events Halls at City Hall.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Three members of the Grounds Division attended aerial bucket truck extraction training offered by CPW.
- ◆ Staff members in the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training. The courses completed were Stress and Your Health and Volunteers Working with Children and Adolescents.

Department Participation

- ◆ The evening of November 4, found Ann Cunningham and members of the Public Services Department on Trade Street participating in the Chili Cook-off as Team OC.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the Annual Winter Weather Seminar at Spartanburg Community College on November 12.
- ◆ On November 12, staff members met with Mayor Danner and several outside agencies to discuss the preparations for the International Festival to be held on April 11, 2015.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the Inland Port Visit and Tour on November 14.
- ◆ Several staff participated in the Greer Master Plan Workshop at the Cannon Centre on November 18 at the Cannon Centre. The workshop allowed residents to provide feedback on the types of activities and recreational facilities they would like to see in the future as well as the locations of those facilities.
- ◆ On November 19, Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Justin Miller met with David Seifert regarding the D2Tech Information Technology Assessment.
- ◆ Staff members participated in the Wellness Committee's Breakfast featuring speakers from C.O.R.E. Health Centers on November 20 at City Hall.

- ◆ Justin Miller attended the For Fun Committee with LiveWell Greenville at the Greenville Chamber of Commerce on November 6. The committee members discussed LiveWell Greenville's new structure and upcoming expectations.
- ◆ The Recreation Division partnered with Senior Action of Greenville to host a Seniors Talent Show at the Cannon Centre on November 21. All Senior Action sites in Greenville County and the Seniors Out and AROUND (SOAR) group enjoyed the show hosted by their peers. There were 8 acts and a live jazz band. A grand prize winner was awarded by a panel of 3 judges and a luncheon was served to approximately 215 people in attendance.

Department Highlights

- ◆ Red Watson met with Garrick Tada from the Filipino-American Association of the Upstate to discuss the International Festival to be held on April 11, 2015.
- ◆ On November 4, the Parks and Recreation Department welcomed Travis Durham as the new Grounds Division Supervisor.
- ◆ New beds and seats were installed on two gators at City Park. The restrooms and concession building were winterized at South Suber Road Park, Century Park, Country Club Road Park, City Stadium and the Tryon Recreation Center Tennis Courts. Winter annuals and fescue sod were installed at Barnett Bridge. Fans and vent were insulated at Victor Gym and insulation was repaired at the gym.
- ◆ New drive gates and bollards were installed at the entrance to the new property on Suber Road. Soil samples were taken at all athletic fields and sent to Clemson Extension for testing.
- ◆ Trees and shrubs were pruned for visibility at Century Park Kids Planet.
- ◆ The Cultural Arts Division held the Giving Thanks Student Art Show Reception at City Hall on November 6. There were 17 winners from 3 categories including elementary, middle and high school levels. The winning artists received certificates and were recognized at the Greer City Council meeting on November 25. The 33 pieces of art work were displayed in the Wall Gallery through December 8.



- ◆ Greer Children's Theatre held auditions for their spring production of *Aladdin Jr.* There were 55 auditions and 40 performers were cast. Rehearsals are being held 4 days per week. The show will be performed in the Cannon Centre in February/March 2015.
- ◆ The Recreation Division hosted a Police Taser Instructor Class at the Victor Gym on November 7.
- ◆ On November 13, A Oak Farms personnel installed Christmas decorations at City Hall, the Cannon Centre and the Police and Courts buildings.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Justin Miller and Bill Mork met with Ken Strawhorn from Apostolic Construction to discuss the Victor Gym project being funded through the Parks and Recreation Development (PARD) Fund on November 14.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation and Public Services Departments held their annual Thanksgiving Luncheon for staff members on November 18 in the Operations Center warehouse.

- ◆ The Athletic Division facilitated practices and games at Country Club Road Park, City Stadium, Turner Park, J. Harley Bonds, and South Suber Road Park.
- ◆ Foothills Soccer Club of Greer (FSCG) academy division season concluded with the annual Fall Challenge. South Carolina Youth Soccer Association games were hosted on Saturdays at the South Suber Road Park. Teams from all over the state visited Greer to compete.
- ◆ Youth football and cheerleading seasons concluded with the annual Greer Playoffs at City Stadium. Teams from all over Greenville County competed in the playoffs. The Greer 12U football players also had the opportunity to compete in county playoffs and participated in bowl days.



- ◆ Youth wrestling and adult basketball registration for the 2014 winter season were conducted during November. Both programs will utilize Victor Gym on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The wrestlers will compete in local tournaments throughout the upstate beginning in December.
- ◆ All athletic fields were closed for the winter months.
- ◆ The Recreation Division kicked off their 2015 Letters to Santa program. Children were encouraged to write a letter to Santa's mailbox at 446 Pennsylvania Avenue, Greer, SC 29650. All letters received by December 17 were be answered personally by Santa and mailed to each child.
- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) participated in a lunch bunch meeting at El Monterey's in Greer. They traveled to the Gaffney Outlets for a day of shopping and ate lunch at the Cracker Barrel in Gaffney. The SOAR and Senior Action groups held a Pinecone Bird Feeder craft day at the Needmore Community Center and traveled to Chick-Fil-A for lunch. SOAR continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during the month was 15.
- ◆ The Events Division hosted 49 events, at which over 4,605 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ Congratulations to Caleb Creel, Events Assistant, and his lovely bride, Molly, who tied the knot on November 1.



- ◆ The Events Division assisted the Greer Fire Department with their 100 Year Anniversary Dinner at Greer City Hall on November 1.

- ◆ The Events Division hosted the Upper State Codes Enforcement Agency (USCEA) training for the Building and Development Standards Department in Greer City Hall on November 4-5.
- ◆ The Vintage Market returned to Greer City Park on November 8. The event was well attended and plans are underway for a repeat event in April, 2015.



- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2014 events such as: Christmas at the City of Greer.



"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"