

# City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

## Monthly Report for March 2015



*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

- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and the Events Division hosted an International Festival planning meeting for participants on March 11.
- ◆ The Project Steering Committee for the GPATS Bicycling and Walking Plan met for the first time on March 26, at Greer City Hall. Alta Planning + Design gave a presentation based on data collected from prior plans relating to this study. Once the Greer Master Plan is completed and presented, the Project Steering Committee will determine a date and time for a community meeting to collect input from the public to develop the Bicycling and Walking Plan that will link residents to downtown, parks, schools and other priority destinations.
- ◆ All department supervisors and staff members continued with recommendations for the budget preparation for FY 2015-16.
- ◆ Replacement of signs at the entrance to the Tryon Recreation Center and George Crossland Tennis Courts have been completed.
- ◆ Resurfacing of the tennis courts has been completed.
- ◆ Survey is in process for the grading of H.R. Turner Park ball fields.

### Bids

- ◆ A Oak Farms was awarded the bid for installation/takedown/storage of the Christmas decorations for City Hall, Cannon Centre and Police/Courts.
- ◆ Received bids for annual concession services at the athletic facilities. The bid was awarded again this year to Allied Partnership.
- ◆ Advertised and received bids for the Pour in Place safety surfacing at the City Park Playground. The bid was awarded to Creative Playscapes, LLC from Matthew, NC.
- ◆ Advertised RFP for Freedom Blast sound system and beverage providers.

### Department Trainings

- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Bruce Viehman and department supervisors attended ADA sensitivity training on March 12.

- ◆ Numerous members of the Parks and Recreation Department staff received Bloodborne Pathogen training on March 17.
- ◆ On March 18, Robin Byouk and Justin Miller attended the MASC Special Events Liability Training in Columbia, SC
- ◆ Travis Durham and Ben Johnson completed the AAA Drive Improvement class at the Police Department on March 31.
- ◆ Staff members in the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training, Dealing with Stress.

## Department Participation

- ◆ On March 3, Justin Miller and Lady Munoz met with Mr. Driggers on behalf of the Wellness Committee to discuss the FY 2015/2016 budget.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the SCPRT State Trails Advisory Committee Meeting in Columbia, SC on March 4. This meeting was for Policy & Procedures Review for trails grants distribution throughout the state.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Justin Miller attended the LiveWell Greenville At-Play work group committee meeting in Greenville on March 16. The work group is planning the Opening Ceremony for the Greenville County Park Hop Scavenger Hunt summer program set for May 16.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham has been asked to serve on the Greenville LiveWell Leadership Team Board. She attended her first meeting on March 25, at the Greenville Metro YMCA. Ann will also facilitate the At-Play Workgroup that is responsible for the implementation of the Greenville County Park Hop Scavenger Hunt summer program as well as other programs that promote health and wellness throughout the county.
- ◆ Several recreation staff members attended the Wellness Committee's Lunch and Learn luncheon on March 19.

## Department Highlights

- ◆ The Grounds Division:
  - Repaired irrigation heads at the clay tennis courts and the solenoid valve on the irrigation system at City Park.
  - Applied pre-emergent herbicides to landscape beds at City Park, Greer Relief and Police and Courts buildings.
  - All athletic fields were prepared for the spring seasons.
  - Spring mowing and trimming of all facilities is underway.
- ◆ Registration for the 2015 Summer Camps began on March 16. Both camps were 2/3 full by the end of the month.
- ◆ The 2015 Eggstastic Easter Event was held at Century Park on March 27. The event was a success despite the 30° temperatures. Participants enjoyed egg hunts, games, face painting, the Easter Bunny, inflatables, crafts and a magic show. Approximately 1400 people attended the event.



- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) traveled to downtown Greenville for lunch at the Brick Street Café and the Reedy River Falls. They also had lunch at Another Broken Egg and enjoyed shopping on Woodruff Road in Greenville. SOAR attended a performance by the Senior Follies in Anderson. They continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during the month was 10. The Senior Action Group continued to meet daily at the Needmore Community Center. Joint activities enjoyed by these two groups were two line dancing sessions at the Needmore Center.
- ◆ The Athletic Division hosted opening day festivities on March 21 at Century Park with all baseball and softball teams in attendance. Activities included a homerun contest, team base running contests and team pictures.



- ◆ Youth baseball and softball recreation and academy practices were facilitated at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, Turner Field, Riverside Middle, Davenport and Victor Park. Various youth baseball academy teams participated in statewide tournament play.
- ◆ Youth soccer academy practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park. Teams from all over South Carolina participated in division games on Saturdays and Sundays. Soccer recreation teams began games on March 23. Foothills Soccer Club of Greer held their practices and games at South Suber Road Park on Monday and Thursday nights. FSCG hosted a youth soccer camp at South Suber Road Park for kids of all ages. The camp was a huge success with over 100 kids participating.



- ◆ Cory Holtzclaw and David Holtzclaw attended a youth football meeting on March 4 with Mauldin and Laurens Parks and Recreation Departments to discuss a partnership for the 2015 season. Camp dates for youth football at Century Park and youth basketball (Paul Lister Camp) at Victor Gym is in the process of being scheduled.
- ◆ Slow pitch softball league is being held at Century Park on Wednesday evenings
- ◆ On March 24, David Holtzclaw attended a South Carolina Youth Soccer Association registrar's meeting in Greenville. New policies and procedures were discussed for the upcoming 2015-2016 SCSA season.
- ◆ Greer Children's Theatre performed Disney's "Aladdin Jr." on March 1, 6, 7 and 8 at the Cannon Centre. On March 6, 7 and 8 all three shows were sold out. A grant was received from the Metropolitan Arts Council to bring 300 children and their families to see the show. A play written by a Greenville Technical Charter High School student, was performed at the Cannon Centre on March 12 and 13.

- ◆ The Cultural Arts Division held the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Art Show, Greer Goes Global, reception on March 27. Grants totaling \$3,000 were received from CPW and Partnership for Tomorrow to be used for the awarding of 21 cash prizes. There were two divisions; Greer Goes Global and Greer: An Upstate Destination. The reception was very well attended. Mayor Danner announced the winners.



- ◆ The Events Division hosted 55 events, at which over 3,860 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ On March 28, the Leadership Greer XXXV hosted their Pets in the Park fundraiser at City Park. This event attracted over 250 people to the park to assist in funding service dogs for veterans in the Greer area affected by PTSD.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2015 events such as: the International Festival and Freedom Blast.



*"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"*