

## **Parks Commission - Recreation Division - Report 2/8/2023**

**No COVID-19 cases in Recreation at this time!**

### **Recreation Division - Position status/Vacancy –**

- Asst. Facility Supervisor - Tennis – being advertising
- Asst. Recreation Supervisor - on hold
- Recreation Programmer (Stephens)- reviewing applications for interviews
- JFDAC Fitness Specialist- interviews were held, awaiting approval

### **Community Centers:**

#### **Stephens Community Center:**

- The After School Program at Stephens Community Center is growing. Youth Basketball Program is coming along. Our programs have remained steady in attendance.
- The Men's League Registration has begun.

#### **Dunbar Community Center:**

- The after school program at Dunbar Community Center includes our homework and activity program and basketball. Our programs have remained steady in attendance and revenue. Participants in each program have the opportunity to receive instruction from our on-hand instructors and learn the value of each recreational program.
- This month we resumed play after a brief holiday break. All teams are playing well and looking good. We are preparing to finish up the league in the month of February, we have tournaments for all age divisions except pre-k.
- Spring programs include middle and high school basketball, baseball, softball, blast ball, kickball and soccer. All have begun registration and will start practicing in February. The leagues and programs begin in March and April for competition. It is our goal to have a team in each age group.
- PSC students have returned this semester and actively use our weight room for exercise.

**West Central Community Center:** All team have been participating with no problems. There were no incidents and teams showed up nightly to play games. West Central has a total of 16 team in the basketball program. We us Friday and Saturday for basketball practices for all team.

**Southwest Community Center:** SWCC Youth Choir & Dance – Wednesday 7pm-9pm, Saturday 11:30am- 1pm, Youth Basketball Practice: Times Varies (6pm-9pm) Monday – Wednesday, Youth Basketball Games: Saturday 10am-12pm (3 and 4 years old), Start basketball practices at ELR SWCC Latchkey Afterschool Program- Registrations Open

**Goal** – Increase Latch Key participation (Ongoing)

#### **ELR Community Center:**

- All EStem Elementary & Jr High Schools Practices Monday – Thursday 3:45pm – 7:30pm and some Fridays 3:45pm – 6:00pm. During the winter break their times changed to mornings. Last Week of practice was cancelled DUE TO WEATHER –NO SCHOOL.
- There have been meetings and discussions on the facelift of the Nathaniel Hill Complex with the City and CHI St. Vincent.
- Southwest Community Center Youth Basketball teams practices here Monday/Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:00pm. They will continue until their season is completed.
- East Little Rock Neighborhood Association held their monthly meeting this month and will continue monthly.

- The Clinton School student reached out to let me know they are continuing to do their project and attending various neighborhood meetings. Also, will be researching various areas of the city for recreation, community involvement and service.
- An overnight warming shelter was to be held on January 30, for the sub-freezing temperatures, but was held at an alternate location, due to a neighborhood power outage. Items for warming shelter were picked up and taken to another location on Monday Jan. 30, and will be there for the next shelter, if needed
- Carver Elementary did use the multi-purpose field some this month for their physical education classes, but due to weather and school closed did not use the last week.
- The community groups are still using the outdoor basketball court and other areas to do exercises and fitness. They are there 3 to 5 days per week, with about 5-7 participants. Weather permitting.
- There is still some use of the field/park...daily/weekends, celebrations, family gatherings, tennis court for walking and playing matches, and other activities. Weather permitting. Multi-purpose field Lights are working.

**Senior Programs:** The Aging and Active Groups from Dunbar Seniors, East Little Rock Seniors, Southwest Seniors and West Central sites continue to offer various arts and craft projects, exercise programs, play various games such as dominoes, bingo, bean bag baseball, chair volleyball, etc.

- Dunbar Senior, East Little Rock Senior and Southwest Senior Centers had their annual Assessment with Carelink and all sites passed.
- West Central Seniors had a guest speaker on insurance.
- Mrs. Evelyn Tenpenny of East Little Rock Senior Center was recognized for a presentation at Carver Magnet School, In the Furthering the MLK 2023 vision of teaching.
- Baptist Health Outreach provided health screening for Dunbar Seniors and Southwest Seniors. Monthly check ups.

**The Center at University Park:**

- The Centre had 19 Internal CLR bookings for the month of January of which 5 cancelled 2 of which due to closing per inclement weather on January 31.
- Total attendance **492**.

**Youth Athletics:** Continue to monitor and provide support for Youth Basketball League.

**Therapeutic –** The Therapeutic Recreation Division is in the beginning stages of planning the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Therapeutic Recreation Arts Festival. This event is for children with disabilities to enjoy an event designed especially for them and includes make it-take it crafts, hands on experiences and games, a magician, a dance contest and much more. This year's event will take place on Friday, May 5 and will be housed at the Hall of Industry at the Arkansas State Fairgrounds. All booths are provided by agencies, businesses and organizations in the community that support or work with the disability population so it provides a wonderful opportunity for teachers, parents and students to network and learn about services available in their area. The Branch Out group, our adult day program, is in full swing. This group participates in a variety of activities to include sports, games, arts and crafts, community integration, team building, etc. The TR Division uses these activities to achieve various goals and objectives for each individual. The group also volunteers in the community on a regular basis. In January, they helped out at the new MacArthur Unlimited Playground by picking up rocks in the surrounding area of the playground to assist the Parks department in preparing the area for mowers. Assisting with the needs and vitality of this playground will be an ongoing volunteer project for this group. In February the Branch Out group will be volunteering for the Under the Stars event. This is a community prom event for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities and is hosted by the Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock. Many participants will be attending this event. Sherrie

Shinn, TR Coordinator, will also be in attendance to support participants as well as have an opportunity to network with families in the disability community.

### **MacArthur Military Museum –**

- Museum attendance for January was 2,585. This total includes: (1) After School programming to 253 students at Dunbar and Stephens Community Centers and 21st Century Program outreach at West Central Community Center, (2) Off-Site programming to 20 seniors at Chenal Pines Retirement Resort in Little Rock and to 312 7th grade students at Lake Hamilton Middle School, (3) On-site visitation of 687 persons, and (4) Virtual Programming to 784 students through the Reading Brigade children's program and 529 persons through the museum's virtual mini-documentaries and interviews.
- The museum launched its 2023 "Movies at MacArthur" film program on January 17 with the Ken Burns documentary *The Address*. 42 persons attended the screening. The next film, *The Big Burn*, will be shown on February 21. The film documents the early years of the National Parks Service and its efforts to combat a series of wild fires in the Northern Rockies in the summer of 1910, including the use of African American soldiers in the 25th Infantry Regiment of the Buffalo Soldiers. Movies are shown the third Tuesday of each month through November with free admission, popcorn, and beverages for all screenings.
- Staff continues to work with the National World War II Museum in New Orleans to host the traveling exhibit "Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy." The exhibit is scheduled for May 19 – September 4, 2023. In addition to the traveling exhibit, the museum will develop its own exhibit on the ordnance plants at Jacksonville, Pine Bluff, Hope, Maumelle, and Camden. A preview reception of the exhibit on May 18 will be the museum's 2023 fundraiser and has already raised over \$55,000 in sponsorships, including Stephen's Inc. as the presenting sponsor of the traveling exhibit.
- The museum has been approved to host "The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen," a traveling exhibit by the Women's Military Memorial in Arlington, VA from June 12 - August 26. The exhibit examines the barriers faced by women of color as they struggle to serve their country. The museum is partnering with AARP to provide funding for an opening reception and additional programming for the exhibit.

**Goal:** Continue to work with OnCell, the company that provides the museum's cell phone tour, to discuss options for offering the museum's audio tour in Spanish as well as English. Also, to work with Leland on banners for the light poles along McMath Avenue and Pulaski County Lane.

**Accomplishment:** Worked with Ron Ross in Design to finalize the verbiage and design on a wayside panel for the historic parade grounds and cistern in MacArthur Park.

### **Athletics**

- Field Rental reservation did open up January 15, 2023.
- Registration opened up for the spring softball league on January 15, and run through March 15, 2023. League will start April 10, 2023.
- Planning has begun for the summer playground program registration will start May 1, 2023. Program will start June 12, 2023 and end July 20, 2023. Sites have not been selected. Information was sent to Mr. Darren Smith to lock down school location. Also touch bases with LRSD about transportation for the summer. Also meet with Stephanie Hynes about feeding the playground sites for the summer. Continue doing inventory to see what items to order for the summer

### **Rebsamen Tennis:**

- Trying to finalize new hire!!
- Janan and Raul's junior and adult groups continue as usual

- USTA Team Tennis spring schedule to begin scheduling soon
  - Trying to do some early spring cleaning around the facility inside and outside
  - Janan has her awards ceremony on Sunday at the stadium court
- Goal and accomplishment for the week was to have a good clean-up of the stadium and stadium court and surrounding area.

### **JDFAC – Closed effective 2/1/2023 due to major renovations in the Aquatic Center**

- Starting a new class on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The class is called Yoga and Barre. The class is a mixture of yoga and Pilates. The class starting time is 6:00 pm.
- Start registration on January 17<sup>th</sup> for the 90 day Jim Dailey Ultimate Warrior Fitness Challenge. Registration closes on January 28<sup>th</sup> currently we have 44 people are signed up. Must be a member of Jim Dailey and it is a 90 day challenge to see if one can accomplish 5 physical challenge is in set time. The ages is 16 and up.

**Rebsamen Golf:** Goals: Inspect and Perform Routine Maintenance on Golf Carts; Check/Continue to change any signage that prices have changed on. 02-03-2023; Blow and Spray Green Complexes

### **First Tee –**

- Continuing to learn new things with POS system.
- Continuing to train staff on new POS system
- Starting to put out merchandise for 2023
- Starting to remove bushes and tall grass behind the driving range area