

Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019

The regular meeting of the Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee was called to order at 4:35 p.m. with the following members present: Tom Emerson Jr., Chairman, Paula Wallace, Vice-Chairman, Susan Caron and Travis Wilson. Laurel Ladewig arrived later. Absent: April Renfroe and Nicole Stevenson. Also present: Susan Wettstein, Director of Community Development.

Positive Tourism Observations

Tom commented the recent grant writing workshop was wonderful, and the facilitator did a great job in engaging participation. He learned a lot and is very appreciative of the opportunity. Susan Wettstein reported that over 50 people were in attendance. Tom also complimented the room at the First Christian Church used for the workshop saying it was a very nice place to hold a meeting such as that.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Travis Wilson to approve the minutes of February 6, 2019 as written. Paula Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. A copy of the notes taken during the March 20, 2019 meeting were shared. There wasn't a quorum and therefore no formal minutes to approve.

Financial Report – No report, no change from last month.

Old Business

Discussion was held on what the status of the disc golf club having a tournament or asking for TGT funds.

Review and Recommendation – Transient Guest Tax Application for Cornstock

Chairman Tom Emerson asked if everyone had reviewed the application and if there were any questions about the application or if Susan had anything to add. With no further discussion, a motion was made by Paula Wallace to recommend the approval of the TGT application request as submitted in the amount of \$4,500. Susan Caron seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

There were no other applications received for this meeting.

Tom explained the process of the discretionary Transient Guest Tax funds that were budgeted for the Tourism Department's use in 2019. Susan Wettstein will submit application outlining the projected use of those funds at a later meeting. The Tourism Committee will consider a recommendation on that proposal for the governing body to approve.

New Business

Tourism Committee Member Reappointments – Tourism Committee members Tom Emerson Jr., Nicole Stevenson and Paula Wallace have terms expiring on May 8, 2019. At or before the last meeting, each of them had agreed to serve another term. Tom and Nicole had concurred at the last meeting in person and Paula expressed in person at this meeting the desire to serve again. Tom explained the process the Commission desires to invite all citizens to express interest in a position on an advisory board if they so choose. Travis shared that the Commission will vote on several board appointments at the April 9th Commission meeting. Travis also told the Committee that a steering committee and other sub-committees may be formed in the near future to launch a strategic plan and vision for Garnett.

Laurel Ladewig entered the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Susan Wettstein presented the Garnett Champions cups and certificates to Susan Caron, Paula Wallace and Laurel Ladewig and thanked them for their service as advisory board members. They missed receiving these at the event and last meeting.

First Impressions Public Meeting – April 15th. Susan Wettstein encouraged everyone on the Committee to attend the First Impressions Public Meeting to be held at Town Hall Center on Monday, April 15 at 7 p.m. The reveal of findings from the visiting group participating in this program will be shared by Nancy Daniels of K-State Research and Extension. The public is invited to hear the “good and the bad”.

Staff Reports

Staff has been busy with spring event promotions, Town Talk, and the patriotic banner project. They have also done some code enforcement assessment.

Susan Wettstein asked the group if they were interested in touring an attraction for their May meeting. Tom suggest the parks or Cedar Valley Reservoir.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Travis Wilson to adjourn the meeting. Laurel Ladewig seconded the motion. The motion passed, 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Susan Wettstein.