

GENERAL REPORT

March 22, 2016

1. Representatives from Blue Cross/Blue Shield will attend the meeting to present the Blue Chip award I talked about at the last meeting. Phil Bures and some of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members may attend.
2. The Tourism Advisory Board met and approved a recommendation that the transient guest tax application, as submitted for Cornstock, be approved by the Governing Body. Their request is for \$3,700. In 2015, they received \$3,650.
3. The Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival committee met to continue their discussions on improvements to the lake road. They have finally settled on trying to improve 1,000 feet of road surface in 2016. This will be 500 feet north and 500 feet south of the golf course entrance. C. B. Harris reported that the Kansas City group was unable to obtain any major, financial sponsors so the committee plans to approach the city commission in April with a proposal. They also want to prepare some type of road improvement plan for each year until the entire road is done.

The committee members took specific assignments because I want to have some firm commitments on everything that needs to be done before we go much further.

4. As requested, I contacted the cities that have been approached by KsFibreNet. The responding cities indicate that while most of them have signed the franchise ordinance, no service has been provided to them so far. I discussed this with Debbie Edwards and she said their timeline for Garnett is to run the fiber down Highway 169 which is currently planned for fourth quarter 2016. Running fiber into Garnett depends on when the potential customers are ready to subscribe to their service. After the franchise agreement is approved, they will start working directly with potential customers in the area to determine the level of interest. Once they get several people lined up who want service, they will use those customers to prove their business case to start the actual build into the city. I imagine this is the same for each city.

Terry has some questions about the franchise agreement and would like to wait another meeting before bringing it to the commission for your review.

5. Attached to my report is a letter from Jennifer Sibley, Library Board President, concerning the appointment of Linda Huettenmueller and Sandra Moffatt to replace Glenda Tastove and Mrs. Sibley on this board as they both have completed two (2) four year terms which is the maximum term limit provided in their bylaws.

6. Both Marcia Wiltsey and Phyllis Adams would like to be reappointed to another term on the Walker Art Committee. This group has become very active over the last year and is working hard to help fulfill a tourism goal to make Garnett an arts destination community. The second juried art show will be April 4 – May 28, 2016 with the opening reception held on April 9th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. A total of 50 entries have been selected and will be on display in the west wing and community galleries. Two (2) local artists have been chosen.

7. I recently had a visit from two (2) VYVE cable television representatives. I did tell them of the commission's disappointment in their company's failure to meet all the promises that were given to the governing body at least a year ago. Of course, there were explanations and more promises that things will be better so I guess we'll see how things go over the next few months.

I questioned when they plan to get the remainder of their wire and services off the Walnut Street poles so we can continue dismantling the old service along the southern portion of this street. I am waiting for a response to that question.

8. Desiree has compiled the PRIDE surveys. I will give copies of this information to the commission at the meeting Tuesday night. Please take whatever time you need to review what the 106 people said. While I know this is a very small portion of our population, their comments are important. One very positive thing coming out of the survey is we received the names of several people who indicated their willingness to serve on a committee if the commission makes the decision to become a PRIDE city once again. As I stated at a prior meeting, this was one of the most engaging and hardworking committees Garnett had. An additional plus was the involvement of several young people who had their own projects which allowed them to place high on the state level several times.

Please take whatever time you need to review the stat sheet and let me know when you would like the matter listed on a future agenda. If you agree that it would be a good idea to start the PRIDE committee again, the next step would be for the city commission to adopt a resolution.

PRIDE has different levels of community participation and the availability of some grant money which differs from what they did in the past. They no longer have their annual meetings.

9. Work continues on the stadium building. As of today, approximately 95% of the electrical work is done. The park department will replace the particle board on the north end and install tin on the roof. That will leave the window enclosures to be done followed by painting the entire west side. The local contractor plans to start on the stadium Monday.

Park crews will then concentrate their efforts on the Legion ballfield backstop then move on to the new concession stand at the swimming pool to finish the inside. You might recall that this building was donated by the Lions Club.

10. The employee committee had a very successful lunch for Roy Salazar and his family. Many employees, both city and county, as well as family and friends attended the lunch. It is things like this that make our city family so special – kindness and caring abounds.

#

#

#