

Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee
Minutes – June 6, 2018
Garnett City Hall

The Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, June 6, 2018 in the Commission Room at Garnett City Hall with the following members present: Tom Emerson Jr., Chairman, Laurel Ladewig, Paula Wallace and Travis Wilson. Also attending was Susan Wettstein, Director of Community Development. Absent: Susan Caron and Nicole Stevenson.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Positive Tourism Observations

Congratulations to Nicole Stevenson on the birth of her baby girl. Tom Emerson Jr. reported that over 600 tickets have been sold for the current dinner theatre with only 6 tables left for the second weekend. Laurel Ladewig was pleased with the number of candidates that attended the Democratic forum.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Paula Wallace and seconded by Travis Wilson to approve the minutes of May 2, 2018 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

The ending balance of uncommitted funds the end of May was unofficially \$22, 338.87. The amount yet to be awarded through the TGT Program Budget, less commitments: \$10,353.30.

Old Business

2019 Kansas Travel Guide Listings: There are 22 renewals and 2 new listings. The city owned facilities and half-price incentives for new listings total \$880. The other listing participants (attractions, businesses, restaurants) totals \$1,240. Susan reported there are 2 special events that want to purchase also. Those will be added with the costs charged to those events.

New Business

Discussion of Transient Guest Tax:

Susan shared a report with the committee the list of grant awards and reported that in communicating with the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival, they will not be submitting a request for funds as they feel the money should go to another entity that might need it more. The Anderson County Fair does not plan to ask for these funds this year. The only other events that have expressed interest in applying is the Greeley Smokeoff and the Friends of the Library for the Homes Tour.

The Greeley Smokeoff submitted an application and copies had been distributed to the committee by email prior to the meeting. Susan reported that she attended a meeting last Thursday in which the Greeley Smokeoff organizers had invited sponsors, members of local government and volunteers to attend. A good round table discussion was had on how to make

the event better. The committee reviewed the application requesting \$2,000 in Transient Guest Tax funds for the purpose of advertising the 18th Annual Greeley Smokeoff to be held on September 7-8, 2018. Upon no further discussion a motion was made by Travis Wilson to recommend to the City Commission to approve the funding of this request as written. Paula Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Vacancy: Susan had asked Ruth Pracht to see if any of members of the Anderson County Fair Association were interested in serving on the Tourism Advisory Committee. She said she would share the invitation with the board. We will continue to advertise the vacancy.

Staff Report:

Susan shared with the board the Community Development Report as submitted to the City Commission.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Travis Wilson and seconded by Paula Wallace to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Wettstein