

Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee  
Minutes – October 3, 2018  
Garnett City Hall

The Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 in the Conference Room at Garnett City Hall with the following members present: Susan Caron, Laurel Ladewig, Paula Wallace and Travis Wilson. Also in attendance: Susan Wettstein, Director of Community Development, Kris Hix, Director of the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce, and Julie Turnipseed, Director of Economic Development. Absent: Nicole Stevenson and Tom Emerson Jr., Chairman.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### Positive Tourism Observations

Great weather for Cornstock, and excellent attendance.

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Laurel Ladewig and seconded by Susan Caron to approve the minutes of August 6, 2018 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Financial Report

The balance of uncommitted funds as of September 30, 2018 was \$25,600.06 of which \$8,073.30 is available for use in 2018.

#### Old Business

The board is still looking for someone to fill the vacancy. Susan will reach out to April Renfro, manager of the Garnett Inn to see if she is interested.

#### New Business

Copies of the Five-Year Strategic Plan for Tourism was provided to the committee. The goal to increase by one (1) special event annually was met this year by the addition of the Sprint Track Race.

#### Other

Susan is planning to apply for a state marketing grant in 2019. It is a 40/60 grant. Options being considered include a combination of a billboard in a high traffic area along with print, radio and social media marketing- all with a consistent theme. Susan is looking to work with the Long Cedar Golf Club and Garnett Community Foundation to complete the entire construction project that is the Long Cedar Disc Golf Course. There is additional funding needed to complete finish the project, and the club is working on a youth course at Garnett Elementary school. The course needs to be finished so that we can entice a pro or semi-pro disc golf tournament; or such tournament that will bring multiple day/night stays. Also mentioned was the Airport Advisory Board's wish to have an air show and participation in the Kansas Air Tour.

Susan shared that plans were in the works to announce that Recreation Center will be open 24 hours as of November 1, 2018, with possible online registration for programs and activities beginning January 1, 2019.

Discussion was held on the need for improvement with hospitality in Garnett, participation in the Kansas At Your Service Program, and other incentive program that could reward businesses with gifts/publicity.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Susan Caron and seconded by Laurel Ladewig to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Hix, Administrative Assistant.