

**Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**January 3, 2018**

The Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee met in the Commission Room at Garnett City Hall with the following members present: Tom Emerson Jr., Chairman, Susan Caron, Nicole Stevenson, Travis Wilson and Laurel Ladewig. Also attending: Desiree Donovan, Chamber Director/Deputy Director of Community Development. Absent: Paula Wallace, Bob Risch, and Susan Wettstein, Director of Community Development.

*Meeting was called to order by Tom at 5:30 p.m.*

**Positive Tourism Observations:**

Susan Caron stated that Garnett had wonderful Christmas decorations community wide this year.

Desiree informed the board that she was contacted by Wes Skillman who is wanting to open the sprint track back up at the North Lake Park. She stated that she has been in touch with him on his needs to make this happen. Wes plans to bring at least two racing events to Garnett by reopening this track.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Susan Caron, seconded by Travis Wilson, to approve the minutes of December 6, 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financials:**

The Transient Guest Tax Report for December, 2017 was presented. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The balance of uncommitted funds was \$22,639.09.

**Old Business:**

*TGT After Event Reports were emailed out prior to this meeting for committee review.*

*Chamber Players Community Theatre* – Tom stated that attendance was down for the 2017 shows as compared to 2016. He stated that they had two Gary Stapp shows in 2016 and only one this year. Tom also reported that they were still up in the air on whether or not they will use the Lawrence World Journal again in 2018.

*Friends of the Library* – It was discussed that their attendance was slightly down from past years. It was attributed to the fact that the event is on a Sunday. This was discussed earlier in the year with the Friends of the Library.

*Chamber of Commerce* – Desiree mentioned the increased attendance and participation during the Christmas Parade . She stated that the Sidewalk Sales and Tastes and Talents were both unsuccessful. She also stated that the Chamber has no plans of continuing events in 2018.

**New Business:**

Nothing to report.

**Staff Reports:**

*Reports have been emailed prior to this meeting to committee members.*

Desiree informed everyone about the Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet and encouraged attendance from the Tourism Board. The banquet is January 25, 2018 with guest speaker Kendall Gammon. Tickets are \$25 for members, \$180 for a corporate table of 8. She also informed everyone of the nominees for Business, Volunteer and Organization of the Year awards and asked everyone to vote.

Desiree spoke on behalf of Susan and informed the advisory board that the Garnett Inn was wanting to have a meeting to discuss ways to become more involved in Garnett. Desiree mentioned that she was unsure if this was a meeting between just Susan and the Garnett Inn staff or if it would be something the Tourism Advisory Board would be involved in. The board agreed that they would be happy to meet with them.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Travis, seconded by Laurel adjourn. Chairman Tom Emerson, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Desiree Donovan.