COTTER-GASSVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes – November 18, 2014 General Meeting

General membership meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Chamber President Marcia Taylor. Meeting held at Cotter Public School 198 Mable Street.

Speaker – Paul Gigliotti of White River Marathon addressed the members with news of the annual White River Marathon this weekend. There are 722 entries from 36 states and they sold out in 2 weeks so the Marathon has grown each year. Friday the School will host the runners with a pasta dinner and pre-registration event but the public is also invited to attend. Saturday runners will line up at 6:45am with the race starting at 7am. Chamber volunteers will need to be at the booth at 6:30am.

Sponsor/Speaker – Don Sharp. He has been doing this for 39 years. This campus has pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and each year they grow. There are 700 students on campus this year which is up by 40 from last year. The school is a leader in tech and they are a wireless campus and every student for 7th grade through 12th has an iPad. They received a grant from Verizon to help train teachers with the emerging technology.

With the school growing they are seeing more and more need to help feed the student. The Food Bank of North Central Arkansas has the Back-Pack program at the school which helps feeds children over the weekend and has raised $4000 so far this year. There are 178 days to the school year so there is a real need to help feeds the kids when they are on and off campus. The school has the largest transportation and food service in Cotter-Gassville and has 105 employees.

Public School Program – Ms. Hughes heads the Genius Program which is a 9 week program for 7th and 8th graders. They also have a career readiness program which ends with the students that complete the program receiving a certificate.

OLD BUSINESS

Marketing Materials – Brent with Vision Amp on hand with updates to the website and chamber brochure, website update done online with library’s assistance and rack card handed around for all to see.

2015 Shawnee Supreme Tournament Update – Applications will be mailed out at the end of November. Shawnee Owner Rob to consider offering three boats with winner being able to choose one of the three.

2015 Trout Festival Update – Jane Darr will head up the event again this year and is building the committee now.

White River Marathon Update – 6 to 8 volunteers needed to man the Chambers station.

NEW BUSINESS

Big Thanks to the 2015 nominating committee – Jane Darr, Beth Harmon, Shella Hagan and Tommy Hagan for all of their hard work.

Presentation of Board Nominees – Those slated have all agreed to serve again this year. Jane Pietz made a motion to vote in the whole slate at one time. General Membership all voted unanimously to accept.

Paula Flippin to head the inauguration Bash

December Sponsor/Speaker – Martha Grant CPA

Meeting came to a close at 9:11am