

MINUTES

Evansville Tourism Commission Thursday, December 11, 2025 At Creekside Place, 102 Maple St.

1. Call to order at 6:31pm.
2. Roll call: Abbey Barnes, Jim Brooks, Shawn Dunphy, Brandi Vanfossen, Sue Berg (chair). Excused: Lindsey Kennedy, Kelly Shannon. Also present: Colette Spranger, Quinn Brooks Ward.
3. Motion to approve the agenda made by Jim Brooks, seconded by Abbey Barnes. Motion carried.
4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from October 9, 2025, and approve them as printed was made by Shawn Dunphy, seconded by Brandi Vanfossen. Motion carried.
5. Citizen appearances: None.
6. Tourism Commission updates: Alderperson Ben Corridon has stepped off the commission. Alderperson Kelly Shannon has been appointed as a new member.
7. Old Business
 - a. Mural #3: Artist Jim Richter sent another update reporting ongoing difficulties with weather and scheduling conflicts in completing the “Rex Theater” mural. He now hopes to finalize the mural in the spring.
 - b. Mural #1: Sue Berg reported that Sign Art Studio is temporarily housing the five ladies mural while negotiations continue for a new location to display them. Lindsey Yoder, studio owner, is taking the lead on coordinating a promising new location.
 - c. Website: VisitEvansvilleWi.com: Shawn Dunphy shared a report from the web site manager regarding an increase in site visits and clicks. Sue Berg proposed hiring a contractor to develop additional content for the web site.
 - d. Lamp post banners: Abbey Barnes reported that the new banners will be displayed when the snowflake / winter light decorations come down late this winter.
8. New Business
 - a. Tourism promotional/social media campaigns: Shawn Dunphy reported on successes with social media both for Fall Fest and Olde Fashioned Christmas. The commission discussed options and themes for 2026 campaigns. Brandi Vanfossen reported that Creekside Place is exploring the development of a “Best of Evansville” event for summer 2026. Guest Colette Spranger gave a brief summary of the status of retail and restaurant businesses.
 - b. Potential Mural: Brandi Vanfossen reported that artist Jim Richter proposed a theme for a mural for Creekside Place, and suggested that the stucco exterior wall would work. Funding needs further discussion, as well as board approval.
9. Activities with Tourism Potential
 - a. Evansville Underground Music – check calendar
<https://evansvilleundergroundmusic.org/calendar/>
 - b. Concerts on Allen Creek
<https://www.facebook.com/allencreekcoffeehouse>
 - c. Hop Garden music
<https://www.facebook.com/HopGardenEvansville>
 - d. Evansville Jays Hometown Baseball League
<https://www.facebook.com/EvansvilleJays>

- e. Chocolate Extravaganza Feb. 21
 - f. FFA Farm Toy Show March 1
 - g. Vintage Shop Hop March 6-7
 - h. Hop Garden Winter Games March 7
 - i. Creekside Casino Night March 14
 - j. EHS High School Musica April 17-19
 - k. Creekside Cruise Night May 7
 - l. Art Crawl May 8
 - m. Historic Home Tour May 16
10. Next meeting dates February 12, and April 9, 2026
11. Motion to adjourn at 7:22pm by Jim Brooks, seconded by Abbey Barnes. Motion passed.