

St. Marys Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2014

The meeting of the St. Marys DDA was called to order by Straight at 8:35 am.

Members Present: Gary Straight, Charlie Smith, Cheri Richter, Councilman Dave Reilly, and Terry Landreth

Members not Present: Jerry Brandon, Jim Lomis

Guest in attendance: Simon Scott, Councilman Sam Colville, Mayor John Morrissey, Councilman Bob Nutter and Tina Hutcheson, Regional Manager, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Staff: Steven S. Crowell, Jr.; Interim Economic Development Director, Renée Coakley; Executive Assistant

Minutes: The board reviewed the January 13, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Smith and seconded by Landreth. All were in favor.

Treasurers Report: Smith reviewed the financials and motion to approve was made by Smith and seconded by Landreth. Renée noted that she had a response from the Finance Director in reply to the question from last month with the negative figure on the DDA financial reports in response to the recent land sale. The board requested that the response be added to the minutes verbatim. The Finance Director's response was as follows: Several years ago, the City of St. Marys transferred land to the Downtown Development Authority. The property was recorded on its books at the appraised value. The Authority sold the property last year. It was sold at a lower price than the amount (appraised value) that was recorded on the books. Because the DDA is no longer the owner of the property, the property has to be removed from the balance sheet as an asset. The sale of the property created a loss on the sale of land for the financial statements, and close out to fund balance as of June 30th. All were in favor of approving the financials.

Additions to the Agenda: There were not additions to the agenda.

BUSINESS DISCUSSION:

St. Marys Intracoastal Gateway (SMIG): Straight reported that there was no new information. The group will have its next meeting on February 13th at 5:00 pm.

Maritime Heritage District (MHD): Richter reported that the draft proposal and the ordinance have both passed Council approval. Signs will be installed soon. The Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG) has been completed. Permits for the pavilion, fixed dock and city dock will be written by end of February. No funds are required and permits have been verbally approved by DNR for the city docks. The cleats will be re-installed at the pavilion dock for stop and go traffic, and the hours for the fireworks dock have been extended to a 72-hour stay. Permits for the buoys will be written by the end of February with possible approval by end of April. Two large buoys will be re-anchored/repared and two more will be purchased. Two dolphins will be installed at the pavilion dock. The St. Marys Street widening project could possibly be funded with SPLOST 7 funds (approximately \$500,000) by end of year. The mill site is presently zoned mixed use with

no barges on the North River. City Council will address changing to light industrial use at a future meeting. There are currently three interested parties in the mill site.

Straight announced that Jerry Brandon submitted his resignation prior to today's meeting due to obligations with his business. Brandon will be sending a formal letter to the City Clerk.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Businesses and Updates: The City Manager had nothing to report.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am with a motion by Reilly and seconded by Smith. All were in favor.

DDA Planning Session: The DDA Planning Session commenced with Ms. Tina Hutcheson, Regional Manager of Georgia Department of Community Affairs facilitating. A report from Ms. Hutcheson will follow at a later date.

Charlie Smith, Secretary
Prepared by Renée Coakley, Executive Assistant