



# CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA

November 14, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

### ST. MARYS INTRACOASTAL GATEWAY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER at 5:00 pm by Mr. Gant
- II. ROLL CALL: *Mr. Craig Root; Mr. John Morrissey; Mr. Phil Jones; Mrs. Teddie Lockhart; Mr. Gary Straight; Mr. Jim Gant; Ms. Kay Westberry; Mrs. Mary Neff; Mr. Roger A. Weaver; Mr. Steve Crowell; and Mr. David Keating* QUORUM: YES XX NO       
  
Absent: *Mr. Sidney Howell*  
  
Guests: *Mr. & Mrs. Bob Nutter and Mr. Tom Canning*
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Review and approval of minutes of September 12, 2013 - Motion by Mr. Craig Root; Seconded by Mrs. Kay Westberry. All were in favor.*
- IV. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – *Mr. Bob Nutter asked if the committee had approached Mr. Charlie Smith in regards to joining the committee. Mr. Gant will address this question later on the agenda during his report.*
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
  - A. Update on the Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG): *Mr. Weaver reported that the signs have been printed and he will be picking them up in the next few days. The permit has been signed off on and a report should be received soon after the 30 day appeal period. Once the appeal period is over, the barricades can be removed and signage can be installed.*
  - B. Update on the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant: *Mr. Weaver reported that the grant is still working its way through all of the approval channels. The design drawings are being created so that once approval is made the next steps can transition quicker. Mr. Gant reminded the committee that the last hurdle was the ecology report that was needed. Mr. Weaver reported that the archaeology report has been completed and the remainder of the entire report will be completed soon.*
  - C. Status of Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Permit and proposed property subdivision: *Mr. Gant noted that this was discussed earlier and the permit should be received soon. Mr. Gant noted that the dockage and the walkway will be public areas and the upland where proposed development will take place will be private. The proposed property subdivision needed to be created in order to submit applications for permitting.*
  - D. Foram MOU: *Mr. Gant reported that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed by both parties; the city and Foram Group, Inc. Also noted was that Foram Group, Inc. has recently met with a very prominent hotel owner. Foram Group Inc. will be requesting a meeting sometime in the future with the designated subcommittee of the SMIG Committee to discuss and plan potential partners visits. Formation of the subcommittee will be discussed later in the agenda.*
- VI. NEW BUSINESS:
  - A. Marketing Gateway for Public Use Discussion: *Mr. Gant reminded the committee of a past discussion of coming up with ideas to market the SMIG property for temporary public use. The committee requested*



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*that the property be marketed on the city website and temporary signage be created to market the property for rent. A suggestion was also made to offer the property to local scouting troops for camping possibilities. Mr. Phil Jones volunteered to contact local troops for utilizing the property. Mr. Steve Crowell will have signage placed on the property. Mr. Roger Weaver will handle having the marketing information for city properties added to the website. The committee was asked to come up with some more ideas by the next meeting on ways to market the property for temporary public use.*

- B. Forum Subcommittee Discussion: *Mr. Gant noted that Mr. Gary Straight is the official nominee for the DDA board for the subcommittee membership. Mr. Gant noted that it was recommended to him that Mrs. Alyce Thornhill be on the subcommittee because of her job and connections with the state. Mr. Phil Jones expressed his concern with adding too many people to the subcommittee who are not on the SMIG committee. Any members to this subcommittee should only be added as advisors. Others on the SMIG committee agreed. After discussion, motion for the subcommittee members, (Mr. Gary Straight, Mr. Jim Gant, Mr. Craig Root and Mr. Phil Jones), who will work with Forum Group, Inc. as liaisons on prospective developers/projects was made by Mrs. Mary Neff and seconded by Mr. John Morrissey. All were in favor.*

Mr. Craig Root left the meeting.

### VII. REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEES: NONE

- VIII. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC—ANY ITEM RELATED TO THE SMIG MISSION: *Mr Tom Canning asked a question about the 25 foot walkway along the sea wall. Mr Weaver noted that the property is zoned C-1 and there are no set-backs for sides of the property. Mr Weaver will provide Mr. Canning with a copy of the associated map. Mr. Steve Crowell will have letters sent to local vendors who are involved with weddings or event planning to market the property. Mrs. Mary Neff asked how many tours have been taken on the property since the last meeting and the possibility of realtors showing the property to clients. Mr. Gant noted that for a realtor to show the property for development they will need to work with Forum Group, Inc. per the MOU agreement. Mrs. Neff also asked how the Economic Development Director position will be filled on the committee. Mr. Gant noted that since no decision has been made on that position it will be discussed at a later time. He did note that Mr. Sidney Howell's position and Mr. John Morrissey's position will need to be discussed as far as replacing those two members due to recent elections. It was noted that Mr. Sidney Howell's position was in place because of the Property Committee and since there is no longer a Property Committee this position should be dissolved. Mr. John Morrissey requested to remain on the committee, if possible, since he has been involved since its inception. Discussion was had to approach Mrs. Alyce Thornhill to determine if she would be interested in sitting on the committee as an ex-officio member. Mr. Gant will discuss this with her. Mr. Roger Weaver will review documents to determine how the Property Committee member was placed on the committee to determine if that position needs to be filled or removed.*

- IX. ADJOURNMENT: *was at 6:30 pm with a motion by Mr. Gary Straight and second by Mrs. Teddie Lockhart. All were in favor.*

### NEXT MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE

*Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.  
William Jennings Bryan quoted at the Council presentation on June 14, 2010 regarding the 100 Ready Street Project*