



# CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA

February 13, 2014 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; Mrs. Teddie Lockhart; Mr. Gary Straight; Mr. Jim Gant; Mrs. Kay Westberry; Mrs. Mary Neff; Mr. Steve Crowell; and Councilman Bob Nutter*  
QUORUM: YES XX NO

Absent: *Mr. Roger A. Weaver; Mr. John Morrissey and Mr. Phil Jones*

Guests: *Councilman Dave Reilly; and Johna Rush, Tribune and Georgian*

Mr. Jim Gant began the meeting by welcoming new member Councilman Bob Nutter and by announcing that this would be the last meeting for Mr. Steve Crowell. Mr. Gant also noted that Mr. David Keating is no longer with the JDA and the JDA board is currently recruiting for that position. The replacement will join this committee as an Ex-Officio member once hired.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Review and approval of minutes of November 4, 2013 - Motion by Mr. Craig Root; Seconded by Mr. Gary Straight. Mr. Bob Nutter abstained from the vote. The remaining members were in favor of the vote.*
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: *The agenda was approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Craig Root and seconded by Mrs. Kay Westberry. All were in favor.*
- V. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – no comments at this time.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:
- A. Update on the Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG): *Mr. Gant announced that as far as he was aware everything has been finalized on this grant. He announced that the signs were available for everyone to view and to let him know if there are any changes to be made to the signs. The signs will eventually be mounted on the pier if all are agreeable to the current status of the product.*
  - B. Update on the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant: *Mr. Gant announced that he does not have any updates on this grant at the current time but as far as he knows it is still moving forward.*
  - C. Marketing Gateway for Public Use: *a. City Website –Mr. Gant reported that the application for the property was hard to find. The application for the property can be located on the City Website at the top of the page clicking Rental Properties. On this page all of the available city properties are listed. b. Temporary Signage and Letters to Local Vendors –Mr. Gant reported that this signage is very small and has lost some of its letters. It was requested that this sign should be redone. Letters to local vendors were mailed out shortly after the last SMIG meeting. c. Local Scouting Troops for Camping – Mr. Phil Jones was not available to report on this marketing plan. d. Other ways to Market Property: Mr. Gant asked if there were any other ideas of ways to market the property. One suggestion was to remove the gate surrounding the property. It was also suggested that the chairperson for the Mardi Gras event be contacted to determine if they would be able to utilize the property during the Mardi Gras celebration. Mrs. Lockhart will contact the chairman for Mardi Gras to utilize the property during this event.*



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- D. Ex-Officio Members: *Mr. Gant discussed ex-officio members on the committee and reminded the group that at the last meeting it was suggested that Alyce Thornhill be contacted to serve as this type committee member. Mr. Gant has spoken to Mrs. Thornhill and she has agreed to serve in this capacity if the committee was agreeable to adding another member. Mr. Gant asked for a motion to making Alyce an Ex-Officio member. Motion was made by Mrs. Neff and seconded by Mr. Craig Root. All were in favor.*
- E. Foram Report: *Mr. Gant reported that at this time the Foram Group is not ready to present to the committee. However, Loretta Cockrum did report that she is currently pursuing a very accomplished and financially able potential partner and is hopeful that she can provide a positive report at the next Gateway meeting.*

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Georgia Leadership Program Visit of 9 May: *Mr. Gary Straight discussed a possible opportunity for the SMIG property. A group of people in the Georgia Leadership Program will be visiting the area in May and an idea was presented to have a catered lunch for the visitors set up on the SMIG property prior to their visit to the submarine base for a tour. Funds will be needed to sponsor this event successfully. After discussion the committee approved Mr. Straight to move forward with negotiations of obtaining this event for the SMIG property. More information will come at a future date.*
- B. Private vehicle and golf cart access: *Mr. Gant noted that he has received some concerns that vehicle access on the Gateway Property should be discontinued. Originally the entry gate was left open for golf cart access but the property has recently been receiving a lot of trucks and cars on the grounds. After brief discussion about possible safety issues and the possibility of vehicles damaging the property, Councilman Nutter made a motion that the City look into delineating a temporary parking area near the entrance of the property and sectioning that area off with some type of material to preclude vehicles driving on the property and to the water's edge. The motion also included installing a post at the opposite entrance to preclude golf cart access through that entrance. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Teddie Lockhart. All were in favor.*

### **VIII. REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEES: NONE**

### **IX. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC – ANY ITEM RELATED TO THE SMIG MISSION:**

- X. ADJOURNMENT: *was at 6:00 pm with a motion by Mrs. Kay Westberry and second by Mr. Bob Nutter. 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*