



**City of St. Marys
Master Plan Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2016 6:00 -8:00 PM
Senior Center**

Attendees:

William DeLoughy
Tanya Glazebrook
Joseph Holler
Elaine Powierski
Michael Rich
Joseph Antao

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM. A quorum was present.

A motion to approve the minutes from the August 4th meeting was made, seconded, and unanimously approved with Elaine Powierski abstaining.

Mike noted that Connie Cooper of Cooper Consulting Company, the zoning subcontractor, spent two days in St. Marys meeting with city officials and staff, the Committee, the Planning Commission and public on August 22nd and 23rd. A summary of Connie's activities was emailed to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

Rachel Hatcher and Bev Davis of RS&H, the transportation subcontractor, presented and discussed the transportation issues and the draft opportunities and strategies that their firm is intending to place into their final report that will be completed and provided to EPG on or before October 15, 2016. Rachel and Courtney Reich stated that the transportation report will likely appear as an appendix to the final Master Plan. The Committee and EPG may incorporate all, none or parts of the report into the Master Plan.

The major subject areas that were presented dealt with:

- Golf carts
- Trails
- Bicycle and pedestrian options
- Transportation
 - Multimodal
 - Roadway
 - Parking
 - Intersection operations
 - Safety
 - Community needs

Due to the length of the presentation, there was insufficient time for the Committee and public to substantially comment on or provide recommendations with respect to the issues, opportunities and strategies that Rachel presented. After discussing how the Committee members might most effectively provide input, it was decided that the Committee would conduct a work session at 3 PM on Thursday September 15th in the Planning Department's conference room at City Hall after which the Committee would provide written comments for the final transportation report. As a result, the Committee took no action with respect to the draft opportunities and strategies contained in the handout which identified the issues, opportunities and strategies that RS&H proposed. Rachel noted that the identified issues in the PowerPoint presentation would not be included in the final transportation report but that the opportunities and strategies would be in the report.

Courtney provided a PowerPoint presentation related to Georgia Sea Grant's Flood Resiliency Plan for St. Marys which discussed sea level rise and flooding issues that the city may face over the next fifty years from a workshop conducted on August 15th by Dr. Jason M. Evans. Of particular concern to the city is the finding that sea levels in the South Georgia area could rise anywhere from 8 inches to 6.6 feet by the year 2100. The presentation also noted that certain areas of St. Marys could face flooding problems if the sea level rises above the existing drainage levels in the downtown area. Jeff Adams, the city's Community Outreach director, briefly outlined some of the steps the city is already taking to address possible flooding issues.

There was insufficient time to bring up the agenda item related to the process of drafting the Master Plan. That item was continued to the next meeting.

There was no public comment. The next regular meeting will be held on October 6, 2016 at the Senior Center at 6:00 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.