



CITY OF ST. MARYS

418 OSBORNE STREET
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA 31558

St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau
Ward Hernandez Building, St. Marys Welcome Center, 400 Osborne Street
Minutes: **July 23, 2024**, 3:30 p.m.

- I. Called to Order by Darlene Landreth at 3:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Present: Judy Thurner, Tyler Carpenter, Allen Rassi, Valerie Fautz, Georgia Lee, Darlene Landreth. Absent: Mardja Gray, Sugar Yadav, Jane Alexander
Quorum: Yes
- III. Approval of the May 2024 Minutes
Motion to Approve the Minutes by Allen Rassi. Seconded by Tyler Carpenter.
APPROVED.
- IV. Granting Audience to the Public (any speakers should provide name and address)
Wes Wolfe with the Tribune & Georgian was welcomed.
- V. Approval of the Agenda
Motion to Approve the Agenda by Tyler Carpenter. Seconded by Valerie Fautz.
APPROVED.
- VI. Other Business
 1. Cumberland Island & Crooked River State Park Updates – Angela Wigger shared that Melissa Trenchik, NPS Superintendent was invited but was not available. She will plan to attend a future meeting, and the August meeting is penciled in on her calendar. No other island updates. Regarding Crooked River State Park Manny has moved to another park, Gavin is at a training conference, and Patrick is still serving as the assistant park manager. They expect to have a new park manager in the coming months. The 2nd Annual Woodstork Festival has been scheduled for April 12, 2025 and Angela will work with the committee on their marketing needs and assist where needed. This is also one of the events we budgeted sponsorship for. A festival flyer is included in your packets.
 2. Birding Discussion by Wendi Ledford – Wendi asked to get on the agenda to talk about birding and learn what we are doing and get connected. Wendi introduced herself as the gifted teacher at Sugarmill Elementary School. She just attended a teacher workshop on St. Simons with a grant from Birds Georgia. She started a chess club last year and thought that she might like to work birding into the classroom this year. She has ideas about a pollinator garden or a butterfly garden. Angela shared that the NPS and the library have gardens on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Garden Trail and that the Crooked River State Park (CRSP) birding festival would probably love help. Birds Georgia, the Sierra Club, and several Audubon Society clubs attended. Angela let her know that we do enjoy seeing a lot of birders visiting the area and that CRSP and Cumberland Island are both also listed on the Colonial Coast Birding Trail. Angela said she would follow up with Wendi with some local contacts.

VII. Old Business

1. Community Market Report – Valerie Fautz all is going well but a lot of vendors are taking a pause due to the heat. She is working towards meeting with Ashley of The Bug & the Bean and working with her as the onsite coordinator. For now, Misty Kline is still handling vendor questions and payments.
2. Community Market marketing discussion – Angela Wigger and Valerie Fautz have discussed how to spend the budgeted marketing money for the market and will be doing a split between the Coastal Shopper and the Money Pages this year.
3. Wayfinding signage and other project updates – Angela Wigger said there are no new updates.
4. New billboard vinyl at Exit 1 Georgia VIC (Visitor Information Center) – Angela Wigger shared that a new vinyl has been created and installed to more closely mirror our I-95 billboard. A photo was included in the packet.

VIII. New Business

1. Discussion and Approval of budgeted travel to Georgia Governor's Conference on Tourism (September 14-17, Atlanta) – Angela Wigger asked for a formal motion to approve her and Darlene Landreth's conference attendance and related fees. Tyler Carpenter made the motion to approve conference attendance and Valerie Fautz seconded.
APPROVED.
2. CVB Meetings discussion: October 22nd Meeting will be at Mainstreet Office; Holiday date changes: November 19, 21, or 26 due to Thanksgiving being November 28th; Plan December 17th or plan to cancel due to lack of agenda items and call meeting if agenda items come up that need to be addressed. We had just an initial discussion on upcoming dates. November 19th worked for all to hold the November meeting. We will look at December closer to the date.

- IX. Hotel/Motel Tax, St. Marys Financials – Angela Wigger –Bank balance was \$318,149.00 with \$333,721 year to date total revenue and \$281,071 year to date total expenditures. That will change as the finance department finalizes invoices.
- X. Business & Event Updates/ Other/Marketing – Angela Wigger shared Osborne Trading has new owners, Pam who previously owned The Merry Mermaid and Hello Mary clothing boutique and Kraken Coffee Kitchen are opening soon.
- XI. Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn by Tyler Carpenter and seconded by Allen Rassi.
ADJOURNED.

Minutes by Angela Wigger