

St. Marys River Management Committee
P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

MINUTES OF MEETING
April 7, 2008

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its regularly scheduled meeting on April 7 2008, at the Nassau County Building, in Callahan, Fla. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed on a separate sheet. A quorum of members was present.

Call to Order

Committee co-chairman Dean Woehrle called the meeting to order at 7:11 P.M. The Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$ 9,761.27 in the main account and \$526.50 in the management account. Minutes from the March 3, 2008 meeting were approved.

Chip Campbell reported that he had custody of a quantity of memorabilia from Hap Harrigan's estate, that he was storing for the committee.

Report on St. Marys River Celebration

Dean Woehrle gave a report on the river cleanup: 729 people participated, with 35,000 pounds of trash collected. Good news was that Scott's Landing and Tompkins Landing sites were much cleaner this year than in previous years. Special thanks to Barbara Ryan and her group of 93 people (St. Marys Earth Keepers) for their help at the St. Marys city boat ramp area. Expenses were \$3,322.50 for T-shirts and \$131.11 for supplies (paid out of pocket by Dean) plus a bill for approx. \$1,700.00 from White Oak Plantation (not paid yet.) White Oak fed 550 people lunch. Donations totaled \$1,800.00.

Guest Speaker: Barbara Ryan from St. Marys Earth Keepers

Barbara Ryan, publisher of the *St. Marys Magazine* gave a presentation on the St. Marys Earth Keepers. The group was formed to promote curbside recycling in the City of St. Marys. They were able to start a program to recycle aluminum, newspaper, plastic, glass and cardboard with curbside pickup at no increase in cost to either the City or the taxpayers. She introduced also Frank Quinby, chairman of the board of directors of the Earth Keepers, and other members of their group. The organization is now working on the problem of roadside litter in the City of St. Marys.

Atlantic Sturgeon Update

Chip Campbell reported that the University of GA is presently sampling to determine whether any sturgeon remain in the St. Marys River. Environmental studies to determine suitability of the river for restocking will involve the GA Wildlife Federation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries.

Dean reported that a permit for "deadheading" timber harvesting (sunken logs in the river) permit had been issued for the Prospect Landing area on the Florida side of the river.

J.D. Hunter reported on a road built across wetlands, to access the river, using asphalt road millings in Nassau County, Mulberry Landing area. Apparently this project was stopped by local authorities, but now the asphalt has been replaced with concrete rubble.

Further discussion of the twelve priorities in the River Management Plan was deferred until next meeting, due to the late hour.

On April 22 at 5:00 P.M., a TMDL meeting will be held in the Folkston Senior Citizen Building.

Kelly O'Rourke reported that the St. Marys Greenprint will be available in April.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M.