

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA  
November 4, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Russ Carreker, Selvin Hollingsworth, Heath Schondelmayer, Chris Wightman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Alfred Blackmar

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Pam Hodge, Tom Horn, Jamie Loyd, Rob McKenna, Jerald Mitchell (via phone), Joe Sanders, Brian Sillitto, Katherine Kelly

Russ Carreker, Chair, noting that a quorum was present in person and proper notice had been given in accordance with the requirements of Georgia law, called the November 4, 2021 meeting to order.

**MINUTES**

**Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Chris Wightman, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the October 7, 2021 meetings attached as Exhibit "A".**

**FINANCES**

- Finances October 2021 - Heath Schondelmayer reported on some variances. Brian Sillitto explained about the balance for MTP line item. **Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Chris Wightman, the Authority unanimously approved the October 2021 Financial Report attached as Exhibit "B".**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

- Brian Sillitto reported there were 2 leads in October with 48 leads to date in 2021. He spoke about the scopes of the leads. He reported on the 6 projects, 8 prospects and 19 suspects.
- Jerald Mitchell commented on the \$9M in the SPLOST for economic development and the significance of having those funds. He talked about the Chamber's strategic plan going forward and the goals of 6000 new jobs by 2026, 500 new members in 5 years, having a stronger regional impact, increasing talent and employer connectivity and growing external influence. He reported on the progress in filling the open chamber positions. There are two good candidates for the economic development position and a third person with site selection experience is recently on the radar. He reported that Conner Miller has accepted the workforce development manager position and gave some background information about him. There were a few questions and answers.
- Brian Sillitto reported that EDA has some funds for site development. This will be investigated further to see if EDA could be a source of matching funds for more site development in MTP

**CITY OF COLUMBUS REPORT**

Pam Hodge reported that the SPLOST passed. She stated that the funds for economic development will require a MOU between the City and the Development Authority similar to the one for the current SPLOST. She reminder the members that the T-SPLOST will be on the ballot in May 2022. The nominees for the two open Development Authority members will be on the agenda at the next City Council meeting – D Copland and Geniece Granville have been nominated. She spoke about the ARP one-man garbage collection.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**LEGAL ISSUES**

- Rob McKenna explained that the grant for Feed the Valley will be handled similar to the grant for NIM where the Development Authority grant funds will flow through the Authority. **Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Chris Wightman, the Authority unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding and an Intergovernmental Agreement with the for the Feed The Valley grant.** Documents are on file.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**OTHER ITEM**


Jamie Loyd they have moved back to training center. He reported on all the new programs and state of the art training that are available or being developed. New simulators are available. He sees the future going towards skills training. They are looking at having a small business focus of 30-35 courses which would be beneficial. He has already spoken with Josh Beard and will be contacting the surrounding counties.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

**Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Heath Schondelmayer, the Authority meeting was adjourned.**

By:   
Brian Sillitto, Assistant Secretary

Approved by:

  
Russell D. Carreker, Chair