



KCBC COMMISSIONER BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Citizen Service Center | 3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

KCBC Executive Director: Lisa Thomas-Cutts

Commissioner Board Members Present: Kara Brakefield, Courtney Johnson, Leasa Hastings, Kristasia Heath, and Avianca Dowdell

Executive Board Member Present: Herman E. Lewis, Caryn Hammond, Kim Tharp, Tracy Walton-King, Terri Council, Chuck McDaniel, Eva Smith, John Brent

Absent Members: Amy Gamble-Coker, Pamela Thomas, Taylor Martin, Devon Moore, and Anthony Johnson

Meeting called to order at 11:29 AM

Welcome & Minutes

Executive Director Lisa Thomas-Cutts called the meeting to order. As this was a joint meeting, each board member and commissioner in attendance introduced themselves, identifying the board they serve on and their respective titles, as applicable.

KCGBC Chairmen's Report- Herman E. Lewis, Jr. - KCGBC Chairman

Herman provided an update on the organization's financial health and commended Lisa and the team for their continued efforts to maintain a strong financial position. He then introduced the new Executive Board Treasurer, Terri Council.

Executive Director's Report- Lisa Thomas-Cutts

Fall Updates

Tee Like a Lady: Golfing Clinic for Women

Lisa provided an update on the launch of Tee Like a Lady: A Golfing Clinic for Women, noting that the inaugural event was sold out. She explained that the program included two golf clinics separated by lunch and a dedicated networking hour. Attendees also enjoyed a musical performance by an actress from The Wiz at the Springer Opera House. The event served as the official kickoff to the annual Mayor's Golf Tournament.

Annual Mayor's Golf Tournament

Chuck McDaniel provided an update on the Mayor's Golf Tournament and highlighted its overall success. Participants enjoyed a memorable experience that included greetings from mascots, the CSU Cheer Team, KCBC swag, a round of golf, lunch from Chester's, and the opportunity to win a BMW with a hole-in-one. He noted that additional details regarding the next tournament and the kickoff committee meeting will be shared at a later date.

Help the Hooch

Lisa provided an update on the 31st Annual Help the Hooch event. She noted that this year's co-chairs were Amy and Stacy and that more than one thousand students registered to participate in school campus cleanups, with the majority of cleanup sites reaching capacity. Following the cleanups, sponsors and volunteers gathered at Synovus Park for the Thank You, Watershed Festival, which was highly successful. Lisa highlighted that access to Synovus Park was made possible through KCBC's new Business Partnership with the Columbus Clingstones.

Upcoming Event Updates

Shoe Recycle Campaign:

Avianca Dowdell provided a detailed update on the shoe recycling campaign, noting that it will continue through December 31, 2025. She shared that 20 schools across Muscogee County, Harris County, and Phenix City Schools are currently participating in this year's initiative. As in previous years, the school that collects the most shoes will receive a schoolwide pizza party. Board members were asked to contribute 125 pairs of gently worn shoes toward the campaign, and those interested in serving on the campaign committee were encouraged to sign up following the meeting.

Magic of Recycling Tour

Lisa discussed the Magic of Recycling event with Arthur Atsma and mentioned this is the first time this event will happen since 2019. Lisa mentioned we have ten elementary schools scheduled and 2 community partners planning to participate. Arthur Atsma swears it will be a great fun show. The show will be geared towards things going on now and more interaction with the kids and participants. Present board members agreed to a date and time they will introduce Arthur Atsma for MOR. A follow up email will be sent with a script for the introduction, a flyer detailing information about the presentation, and asking non-profit board member to fill any unfilled introduction school slot.

Paper Shredding and Shoe Recycle

Upcoming Paper Shred event will be held November 14, 2025 all members are encouraged to volunteer if they are able.

Christmas Tree Recycling

If interested in chairing/ co-chairing this event speak with Roy after this meeting. We will speak more in depth on the roles and responsibilities during Orientation.

New Businesses

We have 3 new Commissioners, 2 new Executive Board members now onboard, and they have already begun working. We welcome Roy Clarkson as the new Administrative Coordinator.

The New KCBC Office will be in City Hall on the ground level

Motion for Joint December Meeting

Christmas Open House- December 10th will be the open house at the Civic Center more details and Save the Date to come.

Meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM

Next Meeting: December 10,2025

Meeting Minutes Recorder Commissioner Board Secretary & Staff Assistant, Avianca Dowdell