



KCBC COMMISSIONERS MEETING MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2024

Citizen Service Center | 3111 Citizens Way Columbus, Ga 31906

KCBC Director:

Lisa Thomas-Cutts

Commissioners Present:

Courtney Johnson, Tracy Walton-King, David Houser, Eddie Florence, Herman Lewis Jr. (KGBC Interim Chairman), Avianca Dowdell, and Dorris Bishop

Members Absent:

Pamela Thomas

Meeting called to order at 9:07AM

Introduction & Minutes

Director, Lisa Cutts, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone back and briefly discussed upcoming initiatives.

Lisa proceeded to ask for approval to accept the last meeting minutes. Dorris Bishop moved a motion to approve the last meeting minutes and Tracy Walton-King second the motion. The meeting minutes from the last meeting were approved, accepted, and admitted into our records.

Financial Report

Treasurer, Herman Lewis Jr., discussed the financial reports in great detail. He gave a comprehensive understanding of the organization's financial health. He conducted a detailed analysis, examining income, balance, and cash flow.

Committee Updates

Shoe Recycling Campaign The campaign was a success. It was ongoing from October until December. We are still collecting shoes. Co-Chairs, David Houser and Tracy Walton-King suggested we start a little earlier next year, and both are willing to Co-Chair for next year. We have collected an estimate of over 10,000 shoes thus far. We're looking to make the campaign bigger and better next year. The packing date is scheduled for February 24, 2024.

Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign (Courtney Johnson/Tracy Walton-King/Pam Thomas) - This initiative was a success with the exception of the removal of some trees from some of the sites. The trees will be placed into Goat Rock Lake. Caryn will share more information on this as it becomes available.

Next year we plan to post signs to deter the removal of the trees. Cameras are being placed in all of the parks. Pictures were taken and posted on social media. Next year, we are considering a drive-thru drop off.

MLK Serve-A-Thon (Lisa Cutts) – We partnered with Trees Columbus for this initiative, and it was a success. We had a lot of volunteers to include some of our Board Members, KCGBC Interim Chairman Herman Lewis Jr., Councilwoman Toyia Tucker, representatives from Columbus Water Works, and First Lady Karon Henderson. We planted ten trees and completed a cleanup afterwards at Carver Park.

MLK Turn Around Columbus (Caryn) – This was the 7th Annual event. We have partnered with them since inception. We had a lot of volunteers and were able to clean up a lot of areas from MLK Boulevard/YMCA to the Carver High School area. We look forward to working with them again in 2025. We have partnered with Ronzell Buckner in the past on numerous initiatives and look forward to partnering with him in the future.

New Business

Remaining 2024 Programs and Projects:

Arbor Day Celebration (Lisa) - The event will be held February 17, 2024 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM at Lakebottom Park. We are partnering with Trees Columbus. Caryn showed a video of last year's Arbor Day Celebration and spoke about how much fun it was. The video gave a sneak preview into what to expect for this year's celebration. The media has already started to show the ad commercials for this year. We have a lot of volunteers coming, community groups, Boy Scouts, Church groups, and we are planting 25 trees this year. We will have Law Enforcement (the Police Department and the Sheriff's Office) onsite. The event will be held at the Band Shell. There will be free food, drinks, games, and a DJ.

Awards Reception (Lisa Cutts) - We're switching the dynamics of the awards luncheon to a reception; a date has not been determined yet. This is due to booking concerns with CSU. We plan to go to the schools to give the awards out and to also give individual awards in a reception either at the Citizens Services Center or in a smaller space at the Cunningham Center. If anyone would like to help with the Awards Reception, please let Lisa or Caryn know. If you know anyone that are doing great things, please nominate them for an award. There will be more to come on this.

Earth Week Activities (Lisa Cutts) -The event will be held April 22nd – 27th. We are looking to have a paper shedding day, a day at the gardens, a cleanup day, recycling bag give away and perhaps partner with a supermarket ex; Target or Walmart. Please let Lisa or Caryn know if you are interested in participating.

KCBC Mayor's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament (Lisa Cutts) - The event will be held on Friday, September 13, 2024. Jason Cooper is the Chairperson. There will be a Friday the 13th theme. We are looking for volunteers to help with this event. We are also looking for teams and individuals to participate. If you know any golfers in the community, please share the information with them. Please let Lisa or Caryn know if you want to join the committee. The funds from this go towards Help the Hooch and other initiative held throughout the year.

Tour of Gardens – Lisa Cutts - We have a Chairperson Dorris Bishop Chair– Midtown will partner with us on this. TBD in either Spring 2024 or in December 2024 as a Tour of Lights.

Litter Law Training – (Lisa Cutts)- Lisa applied for a grant in an effort to support the Litter Law. KCBC played a big part in implementing the Litter Law. We have cameras in place to deter illegal dumping. Community Service is also being put back in place as well. Training will be tentatively held May 22nd or 23rd. More to come on this.

Great American Cleanup (Lisa Cutts) – TBD This initiative runs between March 21 – June. More to come on this.

Community Engagements – (Lisa Cutts) - Please remember to look for things to do in the community. We are gearing to partner with citizens in the community to work with this year.

Closing Remarks

Please continue to participate and stay engaged. We need your help in making Columbus better.

Caryn shared that we will be ordering Polo shirts and jackets for commissioners. More to come on this.

Lisa Cutts closed the meeting by thanking all attendees for their presence and participation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 AM

Next Meeting: April 11, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Walton-King

Tracy Walton-King, Meeting Recorder KCBC Board Commissioner