



## KCBC COMMISSIONERS MEETING MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2024

Citizen Service Center | 3111 Citizens Way Columbus, Ga 31906

**KCBC Director:**

Lisa Thomas-Cutts

**Commissioners Present:**

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

**Members Absent:**

Pamela Thomas, Dorris Bishop

**Meeting called to order at 9:10 AM**

### **Introduction & Minutes**

Director, Lisa Cutts, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone back.

Lisa proceeded to ask for approval to accept the last meeting minutes. Tracy Walton-King moved a motion to approve the last meeting minutes and David Houser 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. Herman also expanded on four different grants that have been submitted.

Announcement of new candidate coming in to fill Caryn's position.

### **New Business**

April 20, 2024, is Columbus Clean Up Day. We are asking for the community's help in the effort of cleaning up their neighborhoods, schools, parks, etc. We will provide supplies (trash bags, gloves, etc.) If a group calls in have at least 20-30 people that will help with the cleanup we will offer a kit to them that will need to be returned. The goal is to cleanup areas that have illegal dumping as well as areas with a lot of litter in the city. Public Works will gather the trash once collected.

There will be a press release coming out this week showcasing the cleanup and Lisa did a Business Break session about the event. We ask that you please share the flyers on your social media platforms. This is a

partnership with Bikes Columbus and Pratt and Whitney. David will be the KCBC representative serving in the capacity of Chairman for this event.

Lisa shared that Kayla Hunter did a news article entitled; “Why Can’t We Keep Columbus Beautiful?” In this article, Kayla focused on all the issues and problems that we have in Columbus with trash, dumping etc. She also interviewed Lisa, Herman, one of the Macon affiliates, and our Public Works administrators about this problem.

**Earth Week Activities (Lisa Cutts)** The event will be held April 22<sup>nd</sup>, We are having a paper shedding day, a day at the gardens, a cleanup day, recycling bag give away at Piggly Wiggly on 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Please let Lisa or Caryn know if you are interested in participating.

**Awards Reception (Lisa Cutts)** The awards reception is going to be April 29, 2024, at 5:30 PM at Columbus State University (Cunningham Center). Heavy Hors D’oeuvre’s will be served. The Chairman Award will be presented in honor of William Kent. His family will be honored.

**KCBC Sports Council (Lisa Cutts)** This event will be held May 21, 2024. We will partner with the Mill District and Mary Sherman for a cleanup effort around the Softball field. There is a lot of media engagement and opportunity to promote KCBC and cleaning up the area.

**Litter Law Training (Lisa Cutts)** Litter Law Training will be held on May 22, 2024, at the Civic Center. We have invited all law enforcement officers and KCBC Commissioners and Board Members are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided. NAIA will be the trainer. We have 600 cameras that are being installed throughout the city in an effort to deter litter and illegal dumping.

**MLK Turn Around Columbus (Caryn)** The Beautification Project with the Lutheran Church and G.W. Carver Victory Garden will be held on June 1, 2024 from 1:30 Pm until 3:30 PM the contact is Ronzell Buckner.

**KCBC Mayor’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament (Lisa Cutts)** KCBC Mayor’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, September 13, 2024. We will have a spooktacular theme. We are planning for this event and things are being tweaked.

## **Old Business**

**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 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, KGBC 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Remaining 2024 Programs and Projects:**

**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.

**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.

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

**Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM**

**Next Meeting: TBD**

Respectfully submitted,

**Tracy Walton-King**

Tracy Walton-King, Meeting Recorder KCBC Board Commissioner