

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA  
April 7, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Selvin Hollingsworth, Alfred Blackmar, Charles Sheffield, Dallis Copeland, Genice Granville, Chris Wightman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Heath Schondelmayer

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Pam Hodge, Tom Horn, Rob McKenna, Conner Miller, Jerald Mitchell, Tiffany Newsome, Joe Sanders, Brian Sillitto, Josh Beard

Selvin Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman, noting that a quorum was present and proper notice had been given in accordance with the requirements of Georgia law, called the April 7, 2022 meeting to order.

**MINUTES**

**Upon motion made by Alfred Blackmar and seconded by Charles Sheffield, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the March 3, 2022 meeting attached as Exhibit "A".**

**FINANCES**

- Finances March 2022 – Alfred Blackmar commented on the revenues and expenses. He reported there were no unexpected variances. **Upon motion made by Charles Sheffield and seconded by Geniece Granville, the Authority unanimously approved the March 2022 Financial Report attached as Exhibit "B".**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

- Brian Sillitto reported there were 4 leads in March and there are 3 active projects and 22 suspects. He commented on 4 projects and 5 prospects. Meghan Richardson commented on 2 prospects.
- Jerald Mitchell reminded the members of the Chamber goals of 6000 new jobs by 2026 and 500 new members in 5 years. He also reported on the Chambers major upcoming initiatives: Growing Membership, TSPLOST support, Columbus 2025 campaign, support of the 2022/2023 World Kayaking Cup events, and celebration of the Chamber's 175<sup>th</sup> year. He also spoke about the upcoming GA Chamber event taking place on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Jerald announced changes to Chamber Board Executive Committee, and gave updates on the Governmental affairs/ Legislative session. This year's session will end on April 8. The Chamber will be hosting meet and greet sessions for both Mayoral candidates to allow for community to ask questions, however the chamber itself will remain neutral throughout the campaign.
- Jerald and Conner Miller provided an update on ongoing workforce development initiatives.

**CITY OF COLUMBUS REPORT**

- Pam Hodge reported that the SPLOST took effect April 1<sup>st</sup>. This represents roughly \$400M in projects. She also reported that the City hopes to be fully relocated into their new offices by 2024. It was also noted that the City is still struggling with critical vacancies (Police, bus drivers, CDL drivers, etc), so they are conducting a pay compensation study to help combat this.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Selvin formally introduced Charles Sheffield as a new member of the Development Authority Board.
- Brian announced that this is Alfred Blackmar's last meeting as a Development Authority board member. He has served 6 years total.
- Pam announced that City Council has approved Tyson Begley to take Alfred's place.
- Department of Community Affairs will be in town on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Brian requested that the Authority contribute \$2500 towards a reception or dinner for the group. Approved: D. Copeland, S: Alfred Blackmar

**LEGAL ISSUES**

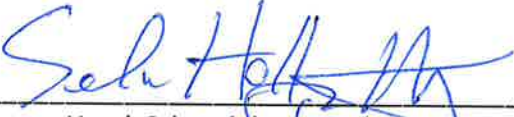
- Upon motion made by Dallis Copeland and seconded by Alfred Blackmar, the Authority approved the Application for Inducement Resolution and Project Agreement for Project Burgeon.
- Upon motion made by Charles Sheffield and seconded by Alfred Blackmar, the Authority approved the amendment of the Kysor Warren Bonds to include all 3 property areas.
- Upon motion made by Genice Granville and seconded by Charles Sheffield, the Authority approved the issuance of replacement bonds for the Hobby Lobby, Ashley, and Best Buy property. This will allow for each lot to have its own bond.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business the Authority was declared adjourned by the Vice Chairman.

  
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~~Heath Schondelmayer, Chairman~~  
 Selvin Hollingsworth, Vice Chair

By:   
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~~Alfred Blackmar, Secretary/Treasurer~~  
 Brian Sillitto, Assistant Secretary