



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Commissioners Present: Pace Halter, Chair; Sherricka Day, Vice Chair; Dan Gilbert, Secretary/Treasurer; Lauren Becker, Amy Bryan, Miles Greathouse, and Michelle Spivey

Commissioners Absent: Pete Jones, Alex Nais, and Mayor Skip Henderson

Staff Present: Peter Bowden, Shelby Guest, Kim Gonzalez, Joel Slocumb, and Ashley Woitena

Call to Order Peter Bowden

- The January 2025 meeting was called to order by Peter Bowden at 4:03pm for the annual election of officers. Mr. Bowden presented the slate of officers with Pace Halter as Chair, Sherricka Day as Vice Chair, and Dan Gilbert as Secretary/Treasurer. He then asked for nominations from the floor and there being none, a motion was made by Lauren Becker and seconded by Michelle Spivey to accept the slate of officers as presented. A vote was taken, and the motion was passed. Mr. Bowden then adjourned the meeting and turned it over to Pace Halter.

Call to Order Pace Halter

- The meeting was reconvened by Pace Halter at 4:07pm.

Secretary Treasurer Report Sherricka Day

- Sherricka Day presented the consent agenda that included minutes for the December 2024 meeting and financials for December 2024. She asked if there were any questions or discussion. There being none, a motion was made by Michelle Spivey to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Lauren Becker. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair Report Pace Halter

- Mr. Halter thanked Lauren Becker for her service to the Board. He then suggested a new time for the monthly Board of Directors Meetings. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the meetings would occur at 8:30 AM beginning in February 2025.
- Additional items discussed were keeping Board Meetings to an hour out of respect and convenience to the Board members as well as convening the Executive Committee the week prior to each regular meeting. This meeting will be virtual.

- Mr. Halter then asked the Board to review and sign the Conflict-of-interest and the Board Agreement documents before leaving the meeting.
- Returning to previous month’s discussion, Mr. Halter presented a resolution by VisitColumbusGA to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation inviting them to Columbus, GA to honor their heritage, provide opportunities for cultural sharing and education, promote awareness, and celebrate unity and mutual respect. He asked if there were any questions or discussion. A motion was made by Michelle Spivey to approve the resolution, seconded by Sherricka Day. A vote was taken, and the resolution was approved.

President’s Report.....Peter Bowden

- Next, Mr. Halter turned the meeting over to Peter Bowden. Mr. Bowden began by explaining that during the December 2024 Board Meeting, Gray Research Solutions (GRS) had commented on the detail and the amount of data that is collected and reported by VisitColumbus. He asked Ashley Woitena to review the processes and tracking for monthly reports and key performance indicators. She went over the process of how the monthly reports are generated and information is obtained from various departments within the organization to create the documents the Board receives monthly – see attached PowerPoint.
- Mr. Bowden continued again, referencing the GRS report, specific to meeting space and additional rooms to support meetings and convention. He discussed convention hotel concepts, possible sites, and other factors that clients have commented in regard to hotel rooms adjacent to the Trade Center and “under one roof” requirements.
- Hayley Tiller, Executive Director of the Columbus GA Convention & Trade Center offered plans for new parking infrastructure, a master plan for the immediate area surrounding the Trade Center, and other logistics supporting the Trade Center.

Adjournment.....Pace Halter

- With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.