

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA
July 1, 2021
Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Russ Carreker, Selvin Hollingsworth, Lisa Smith, Chris Wightman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Alfred Blackmar, Jacki Lowe, Heath Schondelmayer

ALSO PRESENT:

Ben Adams, Josh Beard, Austin Gibson, Pam Hodge, Tom Horn, Sendreka Lakes, Rob McKenna, Jerald Mitchell, Luke Paul, Joe Sanders, Brian Sillitto, Katherine Kelly

Russ Carreker, Chairman, noting that a quorum was present and proper notice had been given in accordance with the requirements of Georgia law, called the July 1, 2021 meeting to order.

MINUTES

Upon motion made by Lisa Smith and seconded by Chris Wightman, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the June 3, 2021 meeting attached as Exhibit "A".

FINANCIAL REPORT

Joe Sanders reviewed the revenues and expenses and explained some variances. Year-to-date net income is ahead of budget. Joe Sanders answered some questions. The audit is scheduled to begin in July. **Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Lisa Smith, the Authority unanimously approved the June 2021 Financial Report attached as Exhibit "B".** Russ Carreker asked members to review the proposed budget for FY 2021-2022 which will be on the August agenda.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

- Jerald Mitchell reported on two recent visits. Clifford Pyron, the Chief Commercial Office of the Georgia Ports Authority visited to learn more about Columbus. Information was shared about making sure prospective companies would be able to move products and how pandemic has affected the ability to import/export products and delays. Pat Wilson, Commissioner of Georgia Department of Economic Development, and Brittany Young visited to learn more about Columbus. Discussion took place about efforts in workforce development and expanding efforts in site development. Brian Sillitto reported on take away about large sites. Project activity is being driven by expected electric vehicles production. They also spoke about effects of COVID-19. Brian Sillitto reported on a proposal from the Property Committee. **Upon motion made by Lisa Smith and seconded by Chris Wightman, the Authority unanimously approved allocating the remaining \$400,000 in the SPLOST and an additional \$265,000 from Authority funds for grating MTP Parcel 5.**
- He reported that there were 6 leads in June with 2 of them from the State, 5 projects, 15 prospects and 16 suspects. He reported the Osceola Court building is going on the market. He gave an update on Project Diego.

CITY OF COLUMBUS REPORT

Pam Hodge reported that the State has contacted the City about expanding food banks throughout the State. One requirement would be that the land be owned by probably the Development Authority. She will bring information as project develops. There would be no cost to the City of the Authority. All proposed projects for the T-SPLOST have been forwarded. The projects submitted from our 16-county region totaled \$1.4B and T-SPLOST funds available are about \$400M. The SPLOST will be on the November 2 ballot and includes \$9M for economic development of infrastructure and site development in MTP and South Columbus redevelopment. She spoke about the judicial center and government center proposals.

OLD BUSINESS

Done earlier

NEW BUSINESS

None

LEGAL ISSUES

None


EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upon motion made by Selvin Hollingsworth and seconded by Lisa Smith, the Authority meeting was adjourned.

By:



Brian Sillitto, Assistant Secretary

Approved by:



Russell D. Carreker, Chair