

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS GEORGIA  
June 6, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Selvin Hollingsworth, Charles Ray Sheffield, Geniece Granville

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Travis Chambers, Dallis Copeland, Laura Gower

ALSO PRESENT: Jerald Mitchell, Joe Sanders, Ryan Wylie w/Fort Moore. Pam Hodge, Rob McKenna, Conner Miller, Alison Nalley, Helen Williams, Jennifer Bickerstaff w/C4C, Dr. Deb Kidder w/CSU, Joshua Beard w/Mayor's office, Ashley Gresham w/Flint Energies, (Rob McKenna interns: Levi Wolff, Trent Swinehart)

The meeting was called to order by Selvin Hollingsworth at 8:32 AM. Not enough board members for a quorum, unable to vote on meeting items.

I. WELCOME

- a. May 2, 2024, Minutes - **Having been distributed during to the meeting and upon motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ the Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the May 2, 2024, meeting attached as "Exhibit A."**

II. FINANCES

- a. May 2024 Financial Update – Joe Sanders reviewed the P&L and balance sheet. **Upon motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the Authority unanimously approved the May Financial Reports attached as "Exhibit B."**

III. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

- a. Jerald Mitchell introduced Col. Ryan Wylie, Fort Moore Chief of Staff
- b. Col. Wylie provided the following updates:
  - i. The Army is in a period of modernization and designated Ft Moore and the Maneuver Center of Excellence as the lead for Robotics
  - ii. Robotics is Ground & Air including: Drones' technology, AI and HMI (Human Machine Integration)
  - iii. The Army is designing and developing a concept for how HMI Robotics will be integrated into the future – looking at the year 2030 and beyond
  - iv. The military units enabled by robots, ground & air will need people/workforce to determine how we power and maintain the robots
  - v. Testing & experimenting at Carnegie Mellon University with Army staff on campus
  - vi. We are hosting the Bee Hive Classic, downtown Columbus Iron Works, this Fall 2024
  - vii. Partnership between Ft. Moore and CSU Engineering & Robotics department, giving them space in the lab for testing and experimenting
  - viii. There will also be a Maneuver and Innovation Lab for students and academia's to provide a space for testing (inside and out on the ranges)
  - ix. Opportunities for partnership with the new Innovation Lab, the Army would like more community involvement

- x. Looking for something similar to Georgia Cyber Center
  - c. Jerald provided an Economic Development update on the following slides:
    - i. 2024 Project Pipeline
    - ii. Barge Parcel 11 – 64 acres continues in the site development process
    - iii. Parcel 19 – 62 acres to develop soon
    - iv. Jerald reviewed the Project Sectors slide
    - v. Alison Nalley, ED Director is in San Diego for the Bio Conference to focus on life sciences for the two medical schools in Columbus, Mercer and Morehouse and the local hospitals
  - d. Robotics update:
    - i. Ted Maciuba, retired military is contracted with the Chamber and has been attending the Robotic conferences
  - e. Jerald provided the Small Business updates during Tracey Herring's absence
    - i. Small Business Quarterly Roundtable w/Mayor "Skip" Henderson invites small businesses the opportunity to collaborate with the mayor one-on-one
    - ii. The next Roundtable with Mayor Henderson is July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9am at the Chamber
    - iii. Small Business Toolkit in progress
    - iv. Small Business 2024 Summer Series is coming up in June, July and August
  - IV. Government Affairs:
    - a. Jerald also provided the May 21<sup>st</sup> election results
  - V. C4C Update: Jennifer Bickerstaff provided an update:
    - i. United Way Chips-4-Chips submitted the final application for the Recompete Grant in mid-May and had an official interview 2 weeks
      - a. The application is called: Prosper Chattahoochee with a focus on creating:
        - i. Tech Nexus GA
        - ii. Tech Nexus AL
        - iii. Connect Chattahoochee
    - ii. Dean Kidder w/CSU spoke about the Chips Summer Camp with 120 students (60 from Ala and 60 from GA)
    - iii. Partnership w/CSU, Columbus Tech, Ga Tech, Troy, Tuskegee
    - iv. Offering Semiconductor and Robotics Training
    - v. CSU received a \$550k for a semiconductor curriculum
    - vi. Working with K-12 in Robotics
- VI. CITY REPORT
  - a. Pam Hodge provided updates on the following items:
    - 1. Mayor's Summer Youth Program June 3 – July 19
      - a. 120 students participating
      - b. Partnered with Urban League for 2 days of Soft-Skills training
    - 2. City Council to vote on the \$366 mil budget on June 11
    - 3. Baseball Groundbreaking scheduled Tues, June 11
    - 4. Judicial project moving along
    - 5. The administration building should be ready by late summer

6. Approval from the City Council to purchase the old Ga Power Bldg on Veterans and 11<sup>th</sup> to provide space for the Fire/EMS administration as well as the future location for Fire Station 1

VII. LEGAL ISSUES

- a. Rob McKenna was unable to obtain votes on the following legal items because we didn't have a quorum:

- Ratification of Option Extension
- Discussion of Lease Option with Waggoner's Family Trucking

**Upon motion made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the Authority unanimously approval \_\_\_\_\_.**

VIII. Upcoming Events

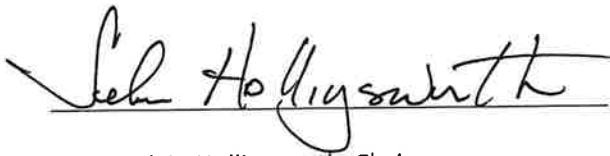
- a. Inter-City Leadership Conference – September 25 - 27

IX. NEW BUSINESS – Nothing to report

X. OLD BUSINESS – Nothing to report

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XII. MEETING ADJOURNED



Selvin Hollinsworth, Chairman



Charles Ray Sheffield, Vice Chair

