



KCBC COMMISSIONER BOARD MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 12, 2026

City Hall | 1111 1st Avenue Columbus, GA 31904

KCBC Executive Director: Lisa Thomas-Cutts

Commissioner Board Members Present: Devon Moree, Avianca Dowdell, Courtney Johnson, Pamela Thomas, Kristasia Heath, Anthony Johnson

Absent: Taylor Martin, Kara Brakefield, and Leasa Hastings

Meeting called to order at 9:06 AM

Welcome & Minutes

Executive Director, Lisa Thomas-Cutts called the meeting to order. Avianca Dowdell motioned for the approval of the October meeting minutes and Courtney Johnson seconded the motion.

KCGBC Chairmen's Report- Herman E. Lewis, Jr.

Executive Board Chairmen, Herman E. Lewis, Jr., phoned in and provided updates from the Executive Board. He shared that, from a nonprofit perspective, KCBC is in a financially strong and healthy position. He commended Executive Director Lisa Thomas-Cutts for her outstanding leadership and dedication. Herman encouraged commissioners to remain engaged and involved whenever possible, noting that there are many upcoming events and opportunities to support. He shared news of the new Treasurer, Terri Council, and introduced the formation of the Advisory Board as an added layer of support and guidance for the organization.

Executive Director's Report- Lisa Thomas-Cutts

Lisa Thomas-Cutts welcomed attendees and invited everyone to introduce themselves, noting that this was the first commissioners' meeting of 2026. She introduced Roy Clarkson, the new Administrative Coordinator, and commended him for hitting the ground running since joining the organization in October. Lisa also provided a brief overview of KCBC's history and outlined the roles and responsibilities of a commissioner. She shared that there will be an opportunity to vote for the Chair and Vice Chair positions at the next meeting, with additional details to come.

Projects and Programs Recap

Shoe Recycling Campaign- Devon Moree and Avianca Dowdell provided an update on the campaign, sharing that this year's school collection winner is Hannan Magnet Academy, which will be recognized with a pizza party on April 17th. Devon expressed gratitude to everyone who tapped into their networks to help collect and donate shoes and highlighted the success of the campaign overall. Avianca also shared information about the upcoming volunteer shoe-packing days, encouraging anyone interested in helping to reach out to her directly.

Christmas Tree Recycling- Lisa reported that the campaign was a strong success, made possible through partnership with Columbus Water Works. Event Co-Chairs Courtney and Anthony also shared their appreciation for the campaign's positive turnout and overall impact, noting how successful the effort was from start to finish. Key outcomes included a donation of trees from a local Christmas tree farm, the collection of more than 300 trees, and the repurpose of those trees.

MLK Events- KCBC participated in two MLK service initiatives, including the MLK Serve-A-Thon in partnership with Trees Columbus, which resulted in the planting of 66 trees at Shirley B. Winston Park with the help of volunteers, including students from Hardaway High School and Downtown Elementary. KCBC also joined Turn Around Columbus for a community cleanup,

Let's Grow STEM- KCBC participated in Let's Grow STEMX at the Columbus Convention & Trade Center, following an invitation from Robbie Branscomb. Roy Clarkson shared how much he enjoyed being part of the event, noting the positive response KCBC received, the increase in social media followers, and the encouraging interest from teens who expressed a desire to volunteer with KCBC.

Upcoming Events

Arbor Day- Our Arbor Day event is scheduled for February 21, 2026, at the Chattahoochee Promenade from 11AM until 1PM. If you are willing to donate chips or volunteer, please let Roy know as soon as possible.

Earth Week Celebration- Earth Week is held Saturday, April 18 through Friday, April 24, 2026, this year, and we are in the early planning stages. Additional details will be shared as plans are finalized.

New Business

Golf Tournament – Kickoff Golf Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25th. Additional details to come.

Help the Hooch- Kickoff Help the Hooch Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11th. Additional details to come.

KCBC Guild- Lisa introduced the KCBC Guild, a new public-facing initiative designed to expand volunteer opportunities, including assisting with office and event needs, supporting cleanup efforts, and more. Additional details will be shared soon!

America's 250th Initiative- In honor of America's 250th anniversary, KCBC has a pledge initiative encouraging individuals to collect 250 pieces of litter between now and July 4, 2026.

KCBC 40th Gala- KCBC will celebrate 40 years of service next year, and we want to celebrate in a grand way. Planning is still in the early stages, but current plans include a commemorative Gala and the incorporation of the KCBC Awards Reception. Details to come about the kickoff planning meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM

Next Meeting: April 9, 2026

Meeting Minutes Recorder Commissioner Board Secretary & Staff Assistant, Avianca Dowdell