

Development Authority of Columbus, GA
118 W. 11th Street, Suite 102
Columbus, GA 31901
January 8, 2026– 8:30 AM

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Selvin Hollingsworth Charles Ray Sheffield
 Will White Laura Gower
 Audrey Tillman Doug Jenkins
 Geniece Granville

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rob McKenna (Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford, PC), Missy Kendrick (DACGA), Michelle Phillips (DACGA), Andy Hilmes (DACGA), Madison Hilmes (DACGA), Bill Dudley (Dudley Strategies), Ben McMinn (StartUp), Sheree' Tovey (MCS), Pat Donahoe (CSU) and Dr. Dae Woo Lee (CSU)

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mr. Selvin Hollingsworth called the meeting to order, and a quorum was present.

Minutes

Mr. Hollingsworth presented the minutes from the meeting on November 13, 2025. Upon correction of the wording in legal matters, Ms. Laura Gower made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Ms. Audrey Tillman seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Charles Ray Sheffield, Mr. Will White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Doug Jenkins and Ms. Geniece Granville all voted in favor.

Mr. Hollingsworth presented the minutes from the called meeting on December 4, 2025. Upon correction of the wording in legal matters, Ms. Tillman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Mr. White seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Granville all voted in favor.

Finance Report

December 2025 – Ms. Missy Kendrick presented the financial report for December 2025 with Total Assets and Equity of \$22,906,811.40 and Net Income of \$242,920.52. Ms. Tillman made a motion to approve the financial report and Mr.

White seconded. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Granville all voted in favor.

Economic Development Report

MTP Clearing/Grading Update

Ms. Kendrick updated the board about the clearing and grading of MTP sites 12, 13 & 19. The wetlands delineation has been done and there are no wetlands onsite. The bid process will begin soon for the clearing and grading.

Project Golden – South Commons Planning

Ms. Kendrick stated there is an RFQ for Project Golden. The RFQ will close on January 16th, and review of the submissions will begin soon thereafter.

Strategic Planning – December 12, 2025

Ms. Kendrick thanked the Board members who attended this year's Strategic Planning session. She reminded those who were unable to attend to complete and submit the Strategic Planning survey. At the February 12, 2026 Board meeting, Ms. Kendrick will present the key initiatives the Development Authority will focus on in the coming years.

Leadership Presentation at GP Experience Center

Ms. Kendrick stated that Columbus has been invited to the Georgia Power Experience Center to do a presentation on Columbus. The visit is scheduled for March 5, 2026 and the board members were invited to attend.

Board Member Training Certificates

Ms. Kendrick presented Ms. Tillman and Mr. Hollingsworth certificates for the completion of the required board member training.

Office Build Out

Ms. Kendrick received a quote regarding the build-out of the Development Authority's office space. She noted that additional details will be shared with the Executive Committee.

Economic Outlook

Ms. Kendrick informed the board that she will be providing a community response to the Economic Outlook luncheon on January 27, 2026. Ms. Kendrick invited the board to sit at the Development Authority table.

Workforce Development/Military Affairs

A&P (Airframe & Power Plant Maintainer) Update

Mr. Hilmes provided a short update concerning the restructuring of Fort Benning. The Commanding General (CG), General Tuley of Fort Benning, has been designated as the Army's Portfolio Acquisition Executive (PAE) for Ground Maneuver. Mr. Hilmes has scheduled a meeting with Senator Ossoff's staff to discuss implications for Fort Benning and the Columbus area. A near-term opportunity for city engagement is the upcoming association of the U.S. Army's Industry Day at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center on February 25, 2026.

Fort Benning Restructure

Mr. Hilmes updated the Board on the A&P (Airframe and Power Plant) Maintenance School. He reported that the target remains for the first five classes to be operational in Fall 2026. Columbus Technical College is currently raising funds to support the remaining classes.

City Update

There was no city update.

Georgia Power Stipulated Agreement

Mr. Jenkins updated the board on the Stipulated Agreement signed by Georgia Power and the Georgia Public Service Commission.

StartUp Columbus Presentation

Mr. Ben McMinn updated the board on the initiatives that StartUp is focused on. Mr. Hollingsworth reminded the board of the financial support provided by the Development Authority.

First Robotics Program Presentation

Ms. Sheree' Tovey with Muscogee County Schools made a presentation regarding the importance of the First Robotics Program and preparing K-12 students for the workforce. She informed the board of the upcoming FIRST Robotics Competition. Mr. Hollingsworth asked the board to approve a donation to the First Robotics Program in the amount of \$10,600 to cover the cost of renting the Civic Center for the Robotics Competition. Mr. White made the motion, and Mr. Sheffield seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Granville all voted in favor.

Korea Georgia Dialogue

Mr. Pat Donahoe and Dr. Dae Woo Lee, both of Columbus State University, made a presentation about the upcoming Korea-Georgia Dialogue that will be held on May 20, 2026. The Dialogue is intended to further strengthen the ties between Korea and Georgia for business attraction in Columbus. Mr. White suggested the board approve a donation in the amount of \$20,000 to Columbus State University to benefit the Korea-Georgia Dialogue. Mr. White made the motion to approve the donation request. Mr. Sheffield seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Granville all voted in favor.

Legal Actions

Mr. Rob McKenna presented Blue Cross Blue Shield's Ground Lessors Consent, Non-Disturbance, Attornment and Estoppel for approval. Mr. Sheffield made a motion to approve. Mr. Will White seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman, Mr. Jenkins and Ms. Granville all voted in favor.

Ms. Granville left the meeting.

Executive Session

Ms. Gower made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and litigation. Ms. Tillman seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman and Mr. Jenkins all voted in favor.

Mr. Sheffield made a motion to come out of executive session. Ms. Gower seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman and Mr. Jenkins all voted in favor.

Choose Columbus Committee

Ms. Tillman resigned from the Choose Columbus Committee due to work obligations. Ms. Gower made a motion to appoint Mr. Charles Ray Sheffield as the Development Authority of Columbus Georgia member on the Choose Columbus Committee. Ms. Tillman seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman and Mr. Jenkins all voted in favor.

Ms. Tillman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gower seconded the motion. Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. White, Ms. Gower, Ms. Tillman and Mr. Jenkins all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Missy Kendrick
President/CEO