

Development Authority of Columbia County

Center for Trade & Tourism

1000 Business Boulevard

Evans, Georgia 30809

(706) 312-1375

www.choosecolumbiacounty.com



DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

Existing Business & Workforce Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES – February 1, 2013

Center for Trade & Tourism

1000 Business Boulevard, Evans, GA 30809

Committee Members (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*) :

Phil Gaffney, Chairman

Sonny McDowell*

Jean Garniewicz

Staff (those absent indicated with an asterisk (*) :

Karen Eyink, *Executive Assistant*

Guests Present:

Michael Rorick, *Citizen*

I. Call to Order & Welcome

Chairman Phil Gaffney called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. for the Existing Business & Workforce Development committee and stated the committee had a quorum.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Gaffney asked the committee to approve the agenda for the February 1, 2013 Existing Business & Workforce Development committee meeting. Motion made by Jean Garniewicz. Phil Gaffney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Phil Gaffney moved that the August 13, 2012 Existing Business & Workforce Development committee meeting minutes be approved.

III. Agenda Items and General Discussion

Chairman Gaffney welcomed Jean Garniewicz, Chair of Columbia County Planning Commission as a new committee member. Adela Kelley, Senior Project Manager of Georgia Department of Economic Development (GEDA) will serve on the committee as well in a "participation role". In addition, Chairman Gaffney thanked George Duehring for his service on the committee.

Old Business:

With the role of the Existing Business & Workforce Development committee, Chairman Gaffney scheduled the DACC's November 28, 2012 board meeting at GIW. The March 27, 2013 board meeting will be held at John Deere Commercial Products in Grovetown. The committee will recommend scheduling additional off-site board meetings to the DACC board, if agreed upon; the committee will seek candidates/locations and schedule meetings accordingly.

The committee revisited the Mission for 2013 and discussed the emphasis for the DACC Existing Business committee in service, retail and manufacturing firms. Discussions included how the committee can help with contacts, support and assistance with the Development Authority's other committees.

New Business:

The Existing Business committee will layout targeted firms and plan quarterly visitations. In addition, the committee will work closely with the new executive director, Karen Eyink and Adela Kelley.

General Discussion:

Michael Rorick, citizen of Columbia County mentioned that Kohl's department stores are going into the furniture business; he has a district contact within the organization. Jean Garniewicz commented that Kohl's is a good asset for the county; the committee agreed that it would be a worthy target for the committee to contact.

IV. Calendar of Events

The next Existing Business & Workforce Development committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, 2013.

V. Adjournment

Chairman Gaffney adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by:

Robbie Bennett, CEcD
Executive Director
Development Authority of Columbia County