



DACC Board Meeting Minutes		
02.25.2015	7:30 a.m.	DACC Conference Room
Meeting called by	Chairman, Mark Wills	
Type of meeting	Board Meeting	
Facilitator	Chairman, Mark Wills	
Note taker	Anne Benton	
Adjourned	8:20 a.m.	
Attendees	Mark Wills, Rick Evans, Phil Gaffney, Hugh Hollar, Eric McIntyre, Douglas Batchelor, Mike Holliman, Anne Benton, Robbie Bennett, Columbia County Commissioner Bill Morris, Andrew Strickland, Columbia County Deputy Administrator, Glen Kennedy, Thom Tuckey, Stan Shepherd	
Minutes of Previous Meeting		
2 minutes	Mark Wills	
Discussion	None	
Conclusions	Minutes of January meeting approved. Motion: Phil Gaffney/Second: Mike Holliman	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	Anne Benton	N/A
Meeting Agenda		
2 minutes	Mark Wills	
Discussion	None	
Conclusions	Agenda of February meeting approved. Motion: Phil Gaffney/Second: Eric McIntyre	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	Anne Benton	N/A
GAAC Financial Report		
10 Minutes	Rick Evans	
Discussion	<p>Rick Evans discussed changes in the December 2014 financial statements stating that there was an adjustment in the reclassifications in the budget line items. In the 7-months January 31, 2015 statement there was one change made on the balance sheet under net assets --\$200,000 SRS- CRO funding was pulled out and is now shown as "restricted" item in net assets.</p> <p>Rick Evans reviewed the financial statements for January 2014. Mr. Evans discussed financial actions since the January Board Meeting noting total assets of \$1,001,491.18 and \$144,440.84 in Accounts Receivable in the GAAC account. In the 7 months-ended statement, 46% of appropriations are left for the next 5 months; regarding expenses, 48% of the budget in expenses left for next 5 months, so we are tracking fairly closely to budgeted items. Lastly, we will be spending down another \$15,000 or more for the Showcase marketing event.</p>	

Conclusions	Financial report approved: Motion: Phil Gaffney /Second Mike Holliman	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	N/A	N/A
Chairman's Report		
15 Minutes	Mark Wills	
Discussion	Mark expressed thanks to Eric McIntyre for putting together the Plant Vogtle tour. The other event we had was the Chamber dinner--it was a great event with an extremely good turnout.	
Conclusions	None	
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline
None		
DACC Committee Reports		
12 minutes	Stan Shepherd	
Discussion	<p>Stan Shepherd gave an update from the February 10th Business Recruitment committee meeting, which he Chaired: 1) Discussions are currently taking place regarding the DACC's level of involvement with the Lake Thurmond/Clemson University study; the study will look at the economic Impact of the economy below Thurmond Dam in response to water quality and water quantity constraints was discussed as a potential project we decide to fund 2) the State of Georgia is having a marketing trip that is going to focus on the cyber security sector - "GA Cyber Trip to Israel" in March - the committee feels we need to have a representative from the community present. The total cost of the trip will be around \$8,000.00 --\$3500 will come from our operating budget and we can use CRO-match funding for the remainder.</p> <p>Stan recommended to the Board to make a motion to approve the \$3,500 from the DACC's operating budget and \$3,500 from CRO funding.</p>	
Conclusions	The Board approved funding for the Georgia-Cyber Trip to Israel: Motion-Mike Holliman, Second- Phil Gaffney	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	N/A	N/A
Economic Development Update		
10 Minutes	Robbie Bennett	

Discussion	<p>Robbie Bennett gave an update on economic development: Activity has been good and things have been quite busy; we have had several new leads on the retail side as well as the project side --many are local expansion projects. The warehouse project is still moving forward. We are looking at the impact of our building permit fees and will report back as we know more.</p> <p>Robbie discussed the upcoming Master's week and expressed his satisfaction with a great group of consultant coming in from both the retail and traditional economic development side. Robbie further discussed GIW's progress on their project and stated that Nutritional Resources went in front of the Commission for rezoning for a 6-acre tract they have at Horizon South for the 25,000 Square Foot building to relocate GIW's storage needs in the spec building to a new facility, giving them space to move in and operate.</p>		
Conclusions			
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Old Business			
5 Minutes	Robbie Bennett, Mark Wills		
Discussion	Robbie and Mark discussed plans to host a dinner reception for the Board on the week of Masters this year and gauge Board availability and willingness to participate.		
Conclusions	None of the Board members have an interest in having the dinner on Sunday/Easter evening.		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
Robbie will talk to Randy regarding this event.	Robbie Bennett	March 18 th , 2015	
New Business			
0 minutes			
Discussion	None		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Calendar of Events			
2 minutes	Mark Wills		
Discussion	The March meeting is being moved to the 18 th .		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
Robbie to talk with Committee Chairs this week and send an update with new times/dates for meetings.	Robbie Bennett	March 18 th , 2015	
Closed Session			

0 minutes			
Discussion	None		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
None		N/A	N/A
Public Comment			
28 minutes			
Discussion	<p><u>Tammy Shepherd</u>- The Chamber has voiced our positions on bills in session right now --HB 170/Transportation Bill, the Board voted to oppose and the Chamber will make a public statement soon; we will also be opposing the following: HB 8 and 15 – raise minimum wage, HB 4 focused on North GA district with inner basin water transfers – it sets a precedent to allow in other parts of the state; HB 9- asking on a job application if someone has been arrested (our business members feel that it is still within their best interest to ask that on an application). Also from an advocacy standpoint, the Board has supported the E-Splost and we sent our first communication to members yesterday in support and there will be a letter in the Columbia News-Times on Sunday. We have 5 spots left for our DC Trip, which is April 29-May 1st, cost of \$1,650, 2 nights; we fly out of Augusta at 7 am on Wed morning and get back at 5 on Friday afternoon. The upcoming Executive Luncheon Series – EVP External Affairs- GA Power will speak about Fort Gordon and their role on the 10th and the cost to attend \$25.00 and will be held at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion.</p> <p><u>Commissioner Morris</u>- DOT will not guarantee that money will be there to finish the TIA projects and now it appears that DOT is not allowing them to put in the contracts. If we come in under budget, remainder goes back to the region. I still think we have a lot of good projects planned for the region, but need to be very frugal with our tax dollars, especially with transportation so we can address what is happening with Fort Gordon. Our 225th Birthday of Columbia County is this year and I have been working with Randy and CVB to put together a Heritage Tour of the county, which will be good for tourism; the primary goal of is to identify historical sites and markers --there are 10 in the County, and will include both African American and American Indian sites. The launch is on December 10th, which is our founding anniversary for county.</p> <p><u>Andrew Strickland</u> – The Comprehensive Plan kickoff meeting with our consultants for public hearing will be held in conjunction with our Planning meeting on March 19th at 6 pm.</p> <p><u>Thom Tuckey</u>- Great meeting Monday out at Fort Gordon with GDOT new Commissioner, Chief Engineer, Chief Plans to talk about new gate and where we are. Their team is going back now to crunch numbers for costs – the near-term solution that can be accomplished on the time- line that the military is operating on would be to widen Gordon Highway about a mile ½ and put the gate in a location that is central to everybody. The next step is to facilitate Phase 2 of Columbia County linkage and whether or not they get approval to put exit on Lewiston Rd., which has been declined in past. The long-term plan for 2022 is to straighten out Gordon Highway and put the highway on Fort Gordon proper eliminating about 80 acres; that cost is about \$13.5 - \$14 Million; widening Gordon Hwy. will come in far less than that; the Fort Gordon piece is about \$49 M. The intent is to do Phase 1 with State and Local Funding. They will close the Robinson Avenue gate when that is completed. On 3 pm at March 10th, there is a listening session on Fort Gordon at the Doubletree Hotel. Lastly, I have the form for one-year passes if you need for Fort Gordon access.</p>		

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	N/A	N/A
Adjournment	8:30 A.M.	
Next meeting: March 18th, 2015	Conference Room DACC	All

