

DACC Board Meeting Minutes						
22-Aug-18				7:31 a.m.		DACC Conference Room
Meeting called by	Chairman, Hugh Hollar					
Type of meeting	Board Meeting					
Facilitator	Chairman, Hugh Hollar					
Note taker	Anita Patel					
Adjourned	8:55 a.m.					
Board Attendance	Mark Wills	Y	Rick Evans	Y	Phil Gaffney	Y
	Hugh Hollar	Y	Jean Garniewicz	Y	Stan Shepherd	N
	Ron Thigpen	Y	Kerry Bridges	Y	Christina Purkapile	Y
Staff/Guests	Robbie Bennett, Anita Patel, Taylor Edwards, Mark Hodges, Gary Richardson					
Meeting Agenda						
>1 minute(s)	Chairman, Hugh Hollar					
Discussion	Agenda of August 22, 2018 meeting approved.					
Conclusions	Motion: Ron Thigpen. Second: Jean Garniewicz. Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)					
Action Items				Person Responsible		Deadline
None				N/A		N/A
Minutes of Previous Meeting						
>1 minute(s)	Chairman, Hugh Hollar					
Discussion	Minutes of July 25, 2018 meeting were approved with no amendments.					
Conclusions	Motion: Ron Thigpen. Second: Jean Garniewicz. Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)					
Action Items				Person Responsible		Deadline
None				N/A		N/A
DACC Financial Report						
2 minute(s)	Rick Evans					
Discussion	Rick Evans presented the July 2018 Financial reports reporting that DACC is on track for the year to date budget. A motion was made to approve the July financial reports as presented.					
Conclusions	Motion: Phil Gaffney. Second: Jean Garniewicz. Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)					
Action Items				Person Responsible		Deadline
None				N/A		N/A
Chairman's Report						
2 minute(s)	Hugh Hollar					

Discussion	Hugh Hollar provided feedback that Zeb Weaver, who is the consultant conducting interviews for the Capital Campaign, has been very pleased with the number of interviews we have scheduled. Zeb has been receiving good feedback from the interviews.		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
DACC Committee Reports			
2 minute(s)	Jean Garniewicz		
Discussion	Jean Garniewicz updated the BOD on the Business Recruitment and Incentives Committee meeting from 8/1/18 stating that discussions were held on marketing, educating the public on the tax allocation district, the master plan for White Oak, the Small Business guide and marketing brochures for DACC.		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Economic Development Update			
4 minute(s)	Robbie Bennett		
Discussion	Robbie Bennett stated that the Facebook live interview was an informative session with the 5 regional economic directors collaborating to make the event successful. TechNet is currently being held in Augusta and shows that everyone is working together toward a common goal. There are good panel discussions being presented at TechNet with two companies on the panel from Columbia County. Taylor Edwards shared that the Eddie Nestell, who was the high school student who did an internship with DACC through Georgia Power, will be presenting at TechNet on behalf of his high school. Taylor also shared that the Existing Industry appreciation night will be on Thursday, August 23rd at the Green Jackets game at SRP Park. Taylor has gifted on behalf of DACC, tumblers, complimentary tickets to the baseball game and thank you notes to our existing industries. Attached are the Executive Director's Economic Development Report and the Economic Development Coordinator's report. Robbie commended Taylor on her work with the Augusta Economic Development office to create the HR Roundtable networking event.		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Old Business			
4 minute(s)	Robbie Bennett		
Discussion	Robbie Bennett discussed the revision needed to the approved budget for 2018-2019. Increase business development budget by \$5,000, Professional development by \$3,000, send Taylor to EDI and allocate the remainder to DACC's rent budget. A motion was made to approve the amended budget as presented.		
Conclusions	Motion: Jean Garniewicz. Second: Rick Evans. Motion carries unanimously. (8-0)		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
New Business			
15 minute(s)	Hugh Hollar		

Discussion	Hugh Hollar provided information to the BOD on the concept of a Greater Augusta Joint Development Authority. Robbie Bennett was approached by the executive directors of Augusta EDA (Cal Wray) and Burke County EDA (Jessica Hood) about forming a Greater Augusta JDA consisting of the Board Chairman/Executive Director of each EDA. This entity would take a regional approach to attracting businesses to the area, especially with the growth of cyber in the region. The 6-member board would not be authorized to take any actions without the Chairmen present and they would not have the authority to issue bonds. One of the main reasons that these EDA's are considering forming this JDA is to stay aligned with the State's desire to see regional efforts - counties working together to make deals happen, not competing against one another. Other counties can be added in the future. A motion was made to recommend the creating of a new Joint Development Authority between Burke, Columbia and Richmond counties to the Columbia County Board of Commissioners to support regional development projects as detailed in the activating resolution and governed by the associated bylaws.		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	Staff	N/A	
Calendar of Events			
1 minute(s)	Hugh Hollar		
Discussion	Hugh Hollar reviewed the DACC Calendar of Events with the BOD and guests.		
Conclusions	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Public Comments			
8 minute(s)	Mark Hodges, Gary Richardson		
Discussion	<p>Mark Hodges commented that the JDA sounds intriguing and he stated that he looks positively on anything that benefits the region.</p> <p>Commissioner Gary Richardson told the BOD that the new Wright's Farm subdivision rezoning has been approved. Local residents have expressed concerns about traffic counts increasing. He stated that a regional approach would be best with TIA, filling jobs is a challenge for the county and informed the BOD about the right of way acquisition for Lewiston Road and Fury's Ferry Road.</p>		
Conclusion	None		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
None	N/A	N/A	
Closed Session			
10 minute(s)	Hugh Hollar		
Discussion	<p>Motion to enter Closed Session: Jean Garniewicz. Second: Kerry Bridges. Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)</p> <p>Motion to exit Closed Session: Jean Garniewicz. Second: Phil Gaffney. Motion carries unanimously.(7-0)</p> <p>real estate matters were discussed, but no action was taken during closed session. Action will be taken in open session.</p>		

Conclusions	<p>Motion #1 - Mark Wills. Motion to approve the Inducement Resolution for Club Car for 755 innovation Parkway to allow the company to pursue industrial revenue bonds in the amount of \$36 million for the development of the 556,000 SF warehouse, including the lease factor schedule of 15 years starting in 2019. Second: Ron Thigpen. Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)</p> <p>Motion # 2 - Mark Wills. Motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Columbia County Board of Commissioners and the Development Authority, allowing the Development Authority to acquire land on Industrial Park Drive for economic development purposes. Second: Jean Garniewicz. Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)</p> <p>Motion # 5 - Motion to approve the amended Intergovernmental Agreement between the Columbia County Board of Commissioners and the Development Authority, which provides an option to the Development Authority to purchase parcel 072 043E consisting of 5.18 acres for \$100,000 per acre pending approval of the Columbia County Board of Commissioners. Second: Kerry Bridges. Motion carries unanimously. (7-0)</p>	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	N/A	N/A
Adjournment		8:55 a.m.
Next meeting: September 26, 2018	DACC Conference Room	All

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
ROBBIE BENNETT
AUGUST 22, 2018

Economic Development Updates



White Oak Business Park at I-20

In a year's time, the DACC team went from almost no product for development to a new industrial anchored by Club Car. The development at the park continues to make great strides. The DACC team continues to work with the development team to address concerns and to ensure the project meets its deadline. GDOT permit application has been submitted and currently being reviewed. Additionally, modifications to the Nation Wide Permit through the Army Corps of Engineers have been submitted. We anticipate approvals soon with construction quickly following. Next steps for the park include implementation of the street light plan, finalization of a park budget, continued master planning efforts, and GRAD Certification.



Project Fairway

Image # 86
Date : 08.08.2018
Note 888.542.0231

Strategic Plan

Following the Board Retreat, staff has updated the committee matrix to better illustrate our strategic initiatives, staff duties/tasks, and highlight the key identified initiatives. So far, the implementation of the strategic plan has been successful. Key success include: (1) Launch of new website, (2) Passage of local bills (Harlem & Columbia County) allowing redevelopment powers to be on the ballot in November, (3) Significant progress in identifying property for development – including the launch of White Oak Business Park at I-20, (4) Partnership with the Columbia County CVB on a Gateway Master Plan, and (5) Work has begun on new marketing efforts for in-market missions and telling our story.

Marketing

The DACC staff is working on several key marketing efforts including specialized industry pieces, a general overview piece, White Oak flyers, and landing pages. We are partnering with the CVB on the ChooseColumbiaCounty.com landing page and are building off the “Up/Stay Awhile” video they produced. We are also looking at a partnership with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce to produce a joint small business resource guide.

Capital Campaign Feasibility Study

We are currently on our second of three weeks of interviews. To date, 66 interviews have been set and only 6 slots remain open. The Convergent team likes to see between 40 and 50 interviews to make a good determination as the campaign’s feasibility. Given the response thus far, we remain optimistic. The final Capital Campaign Feasibility report will be presented to the DACC Board of Directors on September 26th at our regularly scheduled meeting.

Policy Update

As November approaches the DACC staff is preparing educational materials to help educate Columbia County residents on Redevelopment Powers and how these powers can be used to foster economic development. Additionally, we have officially requested the Columbia County Chamber PAC to support the Redevelopment Powers ballot questions and make every effort to encourage voters to vote yes in November.

Events/Meetings/Presentations this Month:

- Business Recruitment & Incentive Committee – (8/1)
- SRS CRO Executive Committee – (8/2)
- Board of Elections Called Meeting – (8/6)
- WorkSource East Central Executive Committee – (8/7)
- Augusta Chronicle Economic Development Panel – (8/7)
- Board of Commission – (8/7)
- Columbia County Chamber Government Affairs Committee – (8/9)
- UDA/ARDA Board Meetings – (8/10)
- DACC Executive Committee Meeting – (8/15)
- Columbia County Chamber Board Meeting – (8/16)
- Columbia County Chamber PAC Meeting – (8/16)
- TechNet Augusta – (8/20 to 8/23)

- TechNet Augusta – Economic Development Panel – (8/21)
- DACC Board Meeting – (8/22)
- Augusta Green Jackets Industry Appreciation Night – (8/23)
- Augusta Regional Air Service Committee – (8/28)
- HR Roundtable – (8/29)
- Teachers in Business – (8/30)

Project Summary

Active Leads/Projects: 26

New Projects/Leads: 3

Consultant Contacts YTD: >35

Upcoming Events/Meetings/Presentations:

- BOC Meeting – (9/4)
- SRS CRO Executive Committee – (9/6)
- Signage/Wayfinding Steering Committee – (9/7)
- DACC Executive Committee Meeting – (9/12)
- Columbia County Chamber Government Affairs Committee – (9/13)
- Property Committee (9/14)
- Existing Business & Workforce Development Committee – (9/14)
- UDA/ARDA Board Meeting – (9/14)
- IAMC Fall Forum – (9/15 to 9/19)
- GEDA Annual Conference – (9/19 to 9/21)
- DACC Board Meeting – (9/26)
- IEDC Annual Conference – (9/29 to 10/3)
- Business Recruitment & Incentives Committee – (10/3)

Notable Upcoming Events

- Regional DC Fly-in – (10/9 to 10/11)
- Advanced 2.0/Economic Development Master Practitioner – (11/4 to 11/8)
- Economix – (12/5 to 12/6)



**TAYLOR EDWARDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT
AUGUST 22, 2018**

Industry Appreciation Night

In collaboration with the Augusta Economic Development Authority and Development Authority Burke County, we will be hosting an Industry Appreciation Night with the Augusta Green Jackets on August 23rd. Our office purchased 100 tickets to share with Columbia County employers. This last week, I prepared hand-written notes explaining the event and why we wanted show appreciation to them with this event. These were packaged with engraved ICER cups, materials about our organization, my contact information, and the tickets and hand delivered to 30 businesses within our community. Tickets were distributed based on employee counts using a 3-bracket system. We focused on our industrial and technology employers; approximately 27% were office and technology operations while 73% were manufacturing and distribution.

Human Resources in Manufacturing Group

I have partnered with the new Existing Industry Coordinator at the Augusta Economic Development Authority, Cheney Thomasson, to revamp the human resource managers group. The first meeting is scheduled for August 29th from 7:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. at the Columbia County Water Utility conference room. Participation is limited to manufacturing, industrial, assembly, and supplier companies within the 2-county area. Obviously we want this group to be recurring and successful so our objective is to identify what their needs are and what will best aid them in their job. We are using the topic of workforce as the theme for this meeting; we plan to talk about what the trends are, where the skills gaps are, what resources they need, do they need a wage survey, what is being successful, etc. A formal agenda is currently being prepared but we have 16 Columbia County employees planning to attend.

NextSite 360 Update

All of the necessary information for Evans has officially been submitted to NextSite 360, including 15 possible retail locations, so they have a lot to work with. The company is beginning to work on marketing materials and have plans to attend 3 major conferences soon. I also spoke to Charles Branch about a site in Grovetown that is receiving attention.

Teachers in Business

Teachers in Business will take place on August 30th, 2018 from 7:45-2:00 P.M. As a reminder, this event will begin and end at the Columbia County Board of Education. CCBOE administration, principals, and teachers-of-the year will be escorted around the region via bus and exposed to a variety of major employers and career paths. The intent is that they will be better educated about local opportunities and begin exposing those to their students.

Existing Industry

This month saw an increase in engagement with existing industry between delivering the invitations for the Industry Appreciation Night and sending information about the HR group. We continue to work on specialized tasks with a number of the existing industries like sales tax exemption on energy, access to funding for training, exploring expansion needs, utilizing the Department of Labor for job placement, looking for office space, and exploring opportunities at existing facilities.

Small Business Rock Stars

Last year, Columbia County's STRAND Clinical Solutions was recognized as a Small Business Rock Star! Only four companies were chosen this past year among 100+ applications. It was the first business in our region to be recognized of this award since its inception! I am planning on nominating a couple this year. If you have any ideas of innovative, unique, growing businesses in Columbia County, please share their contact information with me so that I can interview them and create an application! I am always striving to be an advocate for the local businesses. Note: Applications are due September 15th, 2018.

DACC Newsletter

I have crafted a newsletter for the Development Authority. The intent is to mail a newsletter out at the beginning of each month with information about upcoming events, training opportunities, announcements, and other relative information. Our office is working through some kinks before mailing but hope to send it this week.

Events/Meetings/Presentations this Month:

- DACC Board Meeting- July 25th
- Horizon South PFPR Meeting- July 26th
- Meeting with Augusta University- July 31st
- Business Recruitment & Incentive Committee- August 1st
- White Oak Visit/Drone Footage- August 1st
- Business License Review- August 14th
- County Benefits Meeting- August 15th
- Augusta Manufacturing Growth Series- August 21st
- Workforce & Education Committee- August 21st
- DACC Board Meeting- August 22nd
- TechNet Conference- August 20th-23rd

Existing Industry Touches: approximately 41