

**South Fulton Development Authority  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, January 25, 2021 @ 6:00 PM  
VIRTUAL**



**The Honorable Mark Baker, Chairman  
The Honorable Jamal Grooms, Vice-Chairman  
The Honorable Arnold Jiggetts, Secretary-Treasurer  
The Honorable Thant Coleman, Director  
The Honorable Alicia Ivey, Director  
The Honorable Mercedes Miller, Director  
The Honorable Andrew Pierson, Director  
The Honorable Derek Pollard, Director  
The Honorable Ric Ross, Director**

---

**Agenda**

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda
4. Approval of 10/26/20 Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comment (Comments must be submitted in advance and will be read by Clerk)
6. Discussion:
  - a. SFDA Training
  - b. SFDA Bylaw Amendment
  - c. SFDA 2021 Meeting Schedule
  - d. Companion Jurisdiction
7. Executive Session (Personnel, Litigation and/or Real Estate)
8. Adjournment

**CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA**  
**Development Authority Virtual Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021, 6:00 PM**



Attendees: Honorable Mark Baker, Chairman, Board of Directors  
Jamal Grooms, Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors  
Arnold Jiggetts, Secretary, and Treasurer, Board of Directors (Arrived at 6:09 PM)  
Thant Coleman, Director, Board of Directors  
Mercedes Miller, Director, Board of Directors  
Andrew Pierson, Director, Board of Directors  
Derek Pollard, Director, Board of Directors  
Ric Ross, Director, Board of Directors

Staff: Emilia Walker, Authority Attorney  
Corey Adams, Sr., City Clerk  
Nina Robinson, Interim City Finance Director

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Baker at 6:00 PM.

The roll call was conducted. A quorum was established. Director Alicia Ivey was absent.

Chairman Baker introduced new Director, Thant Coleman. Director Coleman provided remarks.

A motion was made by Director Miller and seconded by Director Grooms to approve the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Director Grooms and seconded by Director Miller to approve the minutes for the October 26, 2020, Regular Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment: There were no comments submitted for public comment.

**(6a) Supplemental Training/Vision/Mission Retreat:**

Chairman Baker requested that the Clerk and Attorney proceed with coordinating the vendors and venues for the subject training and retreat as previously authorized. A request was made to ensure that Directors who cannot attend in person would be able to access the meeting remotely.

**CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA**  
**Development Authority Virtual Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021, 6:00 PM**

Director Grooms made a motion to authorize staff to proceed with establishing a time, place, and venue for the subject training and retreat. Director Coleman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Suggested dates and venues will be shared with the Board at the next meeting.

**(6b) South Fulton Bylaw Amendment:**

Chairman Baker explained the branding name previously discussed by Directors, "Envision South Fulton." Director Grooms made a motion to accept the change to the bylaws to include establishing a "doing business as" (DBA) Envision South Fulton. Director Pierson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Attorney Walker clarified that all legal documents would include the Authority's legal name, South Fulton Development Authority.

**(6c) South Fulton DA 2021 Meeting Schedule:**

Director Grooms made a motion to approve the 2021 Authority Meeting schedule for the last Monday of each month at 6:00 PM with a friendly amendment to conference when needed to adjust the meeting schedule due to holidays or conflicts (May, November, and December). Director Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**(6d) Companion Jurisdiction:**

Attorney Walker explained the jurisdiction of the Development Authority (DA) and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Chairman Baker requested that the Clerk share the legislation and map with the Directors.

Director Miller questioned whether the Development Authority will have a representative for the Main Street Program and has funding been allocated. Chairman Baker advised that discussions are ongoing with the City Manager regarding personnel and a potential intergovernmental agreement with the City. Attorney Walker advised that the City has not charged the Authority for staff and is hopeful that this arrangement will continue with other positions included in the intergovernmental agreement.

Director Coleman questioned the scope of both Authorities. Does the DA have a larger coverage area or scope than the DDA? Attorney Walker advised yes.

Director Coleman questioned the process to handle a disagreement regarding direction between the DA and DDA and whether the DDA is required to defer in any way to the DA. Attorney Walker advised there is no process to handle a disagreement. Both entities may work together on projects, and in the event of a disagreement, there would not be a working relationship.

Regarding whether there is a requirement to defer, Attorney Walker advised that there is no requirement. Director Coleman expressed his concern regarding the risk of conflict between the three different independent bodies, and it would have been helpful to have a working agreement amongst the parties.

Director Pollard expressed concern regarding potential developers playing the two authorities against each other for development deals. Director Pollard clarified the DDA has other areas of jurisdiction outside of the Old National area.

**CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA**  
**Development Authority Virtual Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021, 6:00 PM**

Director Jiggetts questioned whether the DDA has exclusive jurisdiction in certain areas of the City as prescribed in the activating legislation. Attorney Walker advised that there is no exclusivity. The DA can conduct deals anywhere in the City.

Director Coleman questioned Attorney Walker regarding how the Authority mitigates the risk as previously discussed. Attorney Walker advised that the Authority could develop a policy for addressing instances in which a conflict may arise. Attorney Walker advised that the prospect of conflict is very rare between a DA and DDA.

Director Miler questioned who carries the overarching vision for economic development in the City. Chairman Baker advised in his opinion it's the Mayor and City Council. However, each Authority has the independent power and discretion to set the vision of each body.

**Executive Session**

A motion was made by Director Miller to recess for an executive session to discuss Real Estate, Personnel, and Litigation at 7:12 PM. Director Grooms seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Director Grooms made a motion to close the executive session and reconvene the meeting at 7:25 PM. Director Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Director Grooms made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM. The motion was seconded by Director Miller. The motion was approved unanimously.

NOTE: The meeting is being conducted under special emergency circumstances due to the COVID19 (also known as the Coronavirus) pandemic. Authority Directors and staff are participating via conference call (Zoom). The meeting is being simulcast in real-time via the City's YouTube channel for public access.