

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
SOUTH FULTON DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

March 4, 2025

PRELIMINARY – Dinner was held from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm. A meeting binder was distributed to all Board members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mercedes Miller called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

The meeting was called to order at the meeting at the time, on the day, and at the place set forth as follows:

Time: 6:03 pm

Date: March 4, 2025

Place: 6385 Old National Highway, Suite 210, South Fulton, GA 30349

II. ROLL CALL

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the Board, were present at the meeting:

Present: Kimberly Mays, Phyllis Minter, James Reese, Stacey Williams, Nathan Lewis, Dana Tucker-Davis, Mercedes Miller, John De'Laigle

Absent: September Cooper

III. ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS/ APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was presented by Vice Chairperson Reese

Motion: Motion to accept the agenda as is, was made by Stacey Williams, Seconded by Phyllis Minter. Hand vote: YES: Unanimous - Phyllis Minter, Stacey Williams, Nathan Lewis, Kimberly Mays, Dana Tucker Davis and James Reese. NO – none. Motion PASSES

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Motion: Motion to approve February 4, 2025, meeting minutes as is motioned by Dana Tucker Davis, Seconded by Stacey Williams. Hand vote: YES: Unanimous - Phyllis Minter, Stacey Williams, Nathan Lewis, Kimberly Mays,

John De'Laigle, Mercedes Miller, Dana Tucker-Davis, and James Reese. NO  
– none. Motion PASSES

## V. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were 7 citizens present, including Assistant City Manager Davis, Mayor kobe (khalid kamu), and Grady Healthcare representatives. No one spoke at this point in the meeting.

## VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Economic Development Updates Exec. Dir. Artie Jones –

### **Grand Openings and Business Expansions**

The Economic Development Department proudly participated in the grand opening of the UPS Store on Old National. This new addition brings valuable services to the community, supporting local businesses and residents.

We also celebrated the grand re-opening of Gocha's Breakfast Bar. Through a successful expansion, Gocha's added an additional 1,600 square feet, doubling the kitchen size and increasing seating capacity. This expansion is a testament to the continued growth and success of businesses in South Fulton.

### **Community Engagement & Outreach**

Director Artie Jones represented the department at the South Fulton Downtown Development Retreat, engaging with board members to discuss strategies for future economic growth and investment.

Director Jones also served as a guest speaker at the South Fulton Human Services Coalition Meeting, where he provided insights into economic development and its significant impact on the city's progress.

The department participated in the South Metro Development Outlook Conference, joining several board members from the South Fulton Development Authority, South Fulton Downtown Development Authority, Red Oak District Advisory Board, Old National Advisory Board, and C.O.R.E. Alliance. This collaborative effort reinforced our commitment to regional economic development and networking with industry leaders.

### **Upcoming Initiatives**

In partnership with the South Fulton Development Authority, the department is preparing to host a Check Ceremony for recipients of the ARPA Facade Grant Award. This initiative

supports local businesses in enhancing their storefronts, contributing to a more vibrant and inviting commercial landscape.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS (if any)

### A. Vision Ad Hoc Committee

- a. Kimberly Mays—The website company is working on the project and the next phase is to schedule a site visit, interviews and aerial videos and photos which should take place over 2 days in April 2025. Transcript of the February 26, 2025 meeting with Marketing Alliance is in the meeting notebook for specific details on the plans.

### B. Activities Committee

- a. Stacey Williams— no update

### C. Civic Engagement

- a. John De'Laigle - No update

### D. Finance Committee

- a. Nathan Lewis— \$764,035.00 is account balance which is an increase of approximately \$2,000 due to interest. The committee is planning to work on a template for the report and reconciliation. There is an invoice for \$90,000 for the Carter deal payment.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. International Economic Development Recruitment – Mayor kobe (khalid kamau) (Presentation limited to 15 minutes max, including Q & A) – The presentation focused on his international trips and the impact he wants City of South Fulton to have on international trade. There are a couple of companies on Fulton Industrial that ship goods from African countries. He assisted Governor Kemp is helping a Columbia based company get logistically issues resolved with ports in Savannah. The Mayor wants the City to focus on the film industry and pursue business from these companies to increase the connection between City of South Fulton and other countries. Mayor kamu updated the Board on the Comprehensive Plan and how the focus needs to on attracting business to City of South Fulton.
- b. New Grady ER for South Fulton County – Marilyn McClain presented the plans to construct several new Grady facilities in the southern part of the metro area. The new Emergency Room facility will break ground in April 2025. While, it is in Union City, it is very close to Roosevelt Highway and 138 which is in South Fulton and Grady wants us involved in the discussions. The plans are to continue to build until it has 953 beds and the capacity to treat 1000



patients. There will be a total of 8 neighborhood centers once their plans are completed. The Board is invited to the Groundbreaking ceremony, invitations will be sent by email next week.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. SFDA Board Retreat, Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

Exec. Dir. Jones – The retreat will begin at 9am with breakfast at 8:30am. The facilitator will be Teri Smiley with Starfish Partnerships.

b. Façade Grant Update- Karaey Davis, Special Projects Manger

Karaey Davis-- We've awarded 20 local businesses ARPA Grant Funding to support façade improvements, with individual grant amounts ranging from \$2,700 to \$10,000. As of now, 8 of those businesses have received their full funding amounts, while another 6 have received between 50% and 75% of their awards. The remaining 6 businesses haven't accessed their grant funding yet. Altogether, we've disbursed \$110,509.98 to businesses so far, and we still have a balance of \$61,549.95 remaining in the program. We'll continue following up to ensure all recipients can make full use of the support that's been allocated to them.

**Motion to go into executive session** –James Reese Seconded by Stacey Williams. Hand vote: YES: Phyllis Minter, Stacey Williams, Kimberly Mays, James Reese, Mercedes Miller, John De'Laigle, September Cooper, Dana Tucker-Davis, and Nathan Lewis. NO – None. --. Motion PASSES.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION (REAL ESTATE/PERSONNEL/LITIGATION)

**Motion to end executive session** – Dana Tucker Davis Seconded by Kimberly Mays. Hand vote: YES: Phyllis Minter, Stacey Williams, Kimberly Mays, James Reese, Mercedes Miller, John De'Laigle, Dana Tucker-Davis, and Nathan Lewis. NO – None. Motion PASSES.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – Chairperson Miller requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by board member Phyllis Minter, Seconded by Treasurer Nathan Lewis. Hand vote: YES - Kimberly Mays, Phyllis Minter, James Reese, Nathan Lewis, Stacey Williams, and Dana Tucker Davis. NO-None. **Motion PASSES.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:01pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 6 pm at 6385 Old National Highway, Suite 210, South Fulton, GA 30349.

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Board of Directors for the South Fulton Development Authority and that these minutes, consisting of five (5) pages, are the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 4, 2025. To the best of my knowledge these minutes are a true and accurate representation of the business conducted.



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Dana M. Tucker Davis, Esq.  
Board Secretary