

**MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING -  
SANFORD AREA GROWTH ALLIANCE (SAGA),  
LEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, TOWN OF BROADWAY COMMISSIONERS,  
and SANFORD CITY COUNCIL**

Thursday, February 24, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.

Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center,  
1801 Nash Street, Sanford, NC

The Sanford City Council, Lee County Board of Commissioners, and Town of Broadway Commissioners met with members of the Sanford Area Growth Alliance (SAGA) Executive Committee and staff in the wing of the Convention Center, at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center, located at 1801 Nash Street, Sanford, North Carolina, on Thursday, February 24, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. The following people from the City of Sanford were present:

City:

Mayor T. Chet Mann	Council Member Rebecca Salmon
Mayor Pro Tem Byron Buckels	Council Member Sam Gaskins
Council Member James Williams	City Clerk Bonnie Davis
City Manager Hal Hegwer	Deputy City Clerk Vicki Cannady
City Attorney Susan Patterson	
Management Analyst Holly Marosites	

Absent: Council Member Charles Taylor  
Council Member Norman “Chas” Post III  
Council Member Jimmy Haire

SAGA Board of Director Chair April Montgomery welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Mayor Mann called the City of Sanford meeting to order. She explained that updates will be given by SAGA, the Town of Broadway, Lee County and the City of Sanford.

SAGA Vision and Mission

Mrs. Montgomery presented information regarding SAGA’s vision and mission. SAGA is a leading advocate of an attractive, prosperous, and sustainable community. She stated a highlight of Sanford is the Central Carolina Enterprise Park (CCEP) and it has been an integral part of this organization since its inception. CCEP illustrates how a public/private partnership can work together to recruit business and industry into a community. The two big wins for CCEP was Audentes, which is now Astellas, (announced in April 2021), providing over 200 jobs and \$100 million in capital investment. Abzena was announced in April 2021, providing 300 jobs and over \$200 million in capital investment. There are a few remaining sites in CCEP and the competition is hot and SAGA hopes to let you know what could be coming to the park soon. She showed a picture of the Bharat Forge site, providing 460 jobs when fully-staffed and over \$170 million in capital investment in Lee County. She gave an update on the Real Investment in Sanford Entrepreneurs (RISE) program, Chamber events and also the multi-sports complex, which was endorsed by the voters of Lee County. Mrs. Montgomery presented the statistics since 2014 to the present regarding economic development projects, business retention and expansion (Exhibit A).

Controlling Our Destiny

SAGA Executive Director Jimmy Randolph stated that a critical element to economic development success is strategic financial investment, which has been between the public and private investors. The public funding partners are the Town of Broadway, the City of Sanford the County of Lee. SAGA's private investors consist of more than 40 investors/individuals who have pledged \$1.2 million, over an initial five-year period. Next Thursday evening, SAGA will launch the public phase of its second capital campaign. The quiet phase of SAGA's second capital campaign has been very successful thus far and SAGA is well on its way to obtaining their private sector fundraising goal for this funding round. We have 500 strong Chamber members that power the engine that drives our local economy. SAGA is focused in retaining and aiding our existing businesses/industries and Bob Joyce is the leader. Mr. Randolph stated that when Mark Sweeney came to Sanford in 2016, and as part of Duke Energy Site Readiness Review that was conducted for the Central Carolina Enterprise Park, his theme was "Prepared Communities Win." Winning means creating wealth in the community through good jobs and increased capital investment. This community built a robust highly responsive economic development team with the knowledge and skills to compete at the highest level. Mr. Randolph spoke on the projects that have located in Sanford and Lee County. He said to be successful product development and site readiness is a must. SAGA has a full schedule planned for 2022 to include participation in Select USA, Summit in Washington, DC this summer, as well as the International Manufacturing Technology Show in Chicago in the fall. SAGA plans to recalibrate its web presence and update the website, including modernizing mapping and sites and buildings marketing capability.

Mayor Don Andrews of the Town of Broadway, Lee County Chairperson Kirk Smith and Mayor Chet Mann gave an update of activities going on in each entity as listed in Exhibit A.

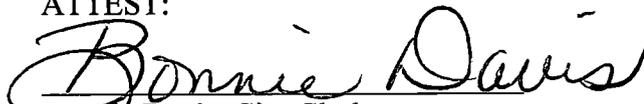
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mann declared the meeting adjourned for the City of Sanford.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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T. Chet Mann, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Bonnie Davis, City Clerk