

# Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority

Minutes of the Hotel Development Committee Meeting  
**Monday, February 9, 2026, 3:00pm**

Via teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

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**Members present:** Bert Brantley, Joe Marinelli, Ben Polote Jr., Mark Smith and Ansley Williams  
**Members absent:** Pritpal Singh. Also present: Paul Threlkeld, Frank Poe (consultant), Bobby Knowles (Songy Highroads), Todd Nocerini (Songy Highroads), Maggie Harney, Janet Finlayson (GWCCA), Michael Garcia, Kevin Duvall (GWCCA), and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Al Rojas, Gail Terrell and Jackie Mitchell

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 3:01pm.

Mr. Nocerini commented that positive feedback has been received from the Hilton regarding the model rooms. The hotel project continues to be on budget and on schedule. Mr. Knowles continued with a brief overview of baseline scheduled milestones and noted that the foundation should be completed February 26, 2026.


Chairman Smith proposed a future meeting to be arranged between Mr. Brantley, Mr. Marinelli, Mr. Moore and himself to discuss the next steps with the City of Savannah as it pertains to Tomochichi Square and International Drive.

Mr. Poe commented that the Hilton has created the rate guidelines since the January 2026 Immersion meeting was held. Potential qualifying first group will be January 2029. Hilton will continue to work with the Savannah Convention Center Sales team and Visit Savannah on prospects priority list. Mr. Marinelli and Mr. Moore to participate in a sales presentation with Hilton Worldwide on March 5, 2026.

Mr. Rojas commented on the upcoming Familiarization (FAM) tour at the facility.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer