

Keep Charleston Beautiful Board Meeting Minutes

June 5th, 2025

Call to Order

Rachel Barry, Chairperson, calls meeting to order at 5:35 pm

Roll Call/Attendance (check indicates presence)

- ☒ Jamie Gillette (staff)
- ☒ Darby Reed (staff)
- ☒ Taylor Simkins (staff)
- ☐ Elodie Cutler (Youth Ambassador)
- ☐ Katie Abare
- ☒ Rachel Barry
- ☒ Cheryl Carmack-Smith
- ☒ Sam Haab
- ☐ Lisa Weismann (out on maternity leave)
- ☒ Stephen Kaminski
- ☒ Kaitlin Walters
- ☒ Taylor Hodges (guest)

Approval of February Meeting Minutes

Rachel motions to approve as written, Kaitlin seconds. Motion passes

Financial Report

- There was no financial report for this meeting due to time constraints

Recent Activities & Events

- May
 - 5/4 Star Wars Litter Sweep
 - 12 participants cleaned up 67 lbs of trash
 - 5/7 MyFitnessPal Corporate Sponsorship Event
 - 190 participants cleaned up 268 pounds of trash, 8 bags of cigarette butts, and removed graffiti and decals from around downtown
 - Donated \$5,000 for sponsored cleanup
 - 5/8 Cub Scout Group at Hampton Park
 - 15 participants cleaned up 13 pounds of trash
 - 5/17 Clara's Kids Club Youth Litter Sweep
 - 22 participants cleaned up 44 pounds of trash around Northbridge Park
 - 5/21 Amazon Corporate Sponsorship Event
 - 6 participants cleaned up 11 pounds of trash around Gadsden Park
 - 5/22 ZWE Green Heart Annual Harvest Dinner

- 5 volunteers and 2 KCB staff collected 244 pounds of compostable material, 8 pounds of recyclable materials, and 31 pounds of landfill material, making the diversion rate 91.6%
 - 5/31 Litter Sweep Event at Demetre Park
 - 13 volunteers picked up 25+ pounds of debris
- Youth Program Recent Activities
 - 5/2 - 2 Clean City Clara Presentations
 - 85 PreK students at Drayton Hall Elementary
 - 44 PreK students at Stono Park Elementary
 - 5/8 James Simons Elementary Announcement on Composting Practices
 - 379 students (preK-8th grade)
 - 5/17 - CKC at Northbridge Park
 - 5/23 - Clean City Clara at Midlands Park Primary School (150 K students)
 - Worked with a volunteer to translate materials to Spanish

New Business:

- New Board Member Vote for Taylor Hodges
 - Kaitlin motions to approve, Cheryl seconds. All vote in favor, motion passes
- Vice Chairperson Vote
 - Jamie asked for nominations
 - Taylor Hodges nominated herself for the position of Vice Chairperson
 - Motion from Kaitlin, and second from Rachel. The motion carries and Taylor is voted in as Vice Chairperson

Strategic Planning Meeting Mid-Year Review

- Review from January 2025 meeting
- Healthy Harbors grant - shifted focus to be on picking up pet waste - not selected this year
- Arbor Day Grant - tree giveaway for the elderly - should find out in the next couple of months
- Dominion Energy Grant - would be good for education coordinator expenses
- Talked about hiring a new position - DONE
- Future for education coordinator role - Taylor is crushing it
- Programs deep dive
 - Litter prevention - 2024 focus was AAB, 2025 should be group cleanups with focus on community building
 - AAB to be available as additional way to get involved, not much promotion thus far this year, but better data management with Darby on board
 - Cocktails for a Cause at Harbor Club - Kaitlin can connect as a member
 - CKC - wanting to promote more this year, have been doing well
 - Larger action items - goal for Jamie
 - Haven't solidified plan for this, but on the radar

- Getting a focus group with mayor's youth volunteer corps - they're in session for the summer so now is a good time to work on this
- Sustainability programs - Jamie aiming to do renewed promotion around these opportunities to reignite interest
- Potential waste audit internally with Parks Department on city parks recycling - could be a volunteer activity or done by city staff
- Beautification - Bee City relapsed, but getting back together

Upcoming Spring Projects

- National Secure Your Load Day - June 6 and possibly 7 if much leftover materials
- Sonapar Corporate Sponsorship Litter Sweep Event - June 11
 - Have been volunteering annually as corporate sponsor for several years now
- National Pollinator Month
 - 6/12 - Education Event: Pollinator Nature Walk with Coastal Conservation League & Charleston Parks Conservancy at Hampton Park from 6-7 PM
 - 6/21 - Service Event: CKC Youth Litter Sweep at Hampton Park followed by pollinator activities from 1-3 pm
 - 6/29 - Recreation Event: Pollinator-themed trivia at Indigo Reef Brewing with Trivia Time Charleston and native plant giveaways from 4-6 PM
- West Ashley Greenway Kayak Cleanup - June 24
- Coast Guard Litter Sweep Event - June 27
- Annual Litter Survey - needs to be completed by August 1
 - Documents available in BOD google drive folder for those who want to participate
- July Happy Hour - July 3rd
- Move forward with planning a volunteer appreciation event?
- Standard Quarterly Cleanup Events

Board Member Comments

Chair Comments

Next Meeting - August 7th, 2025 5:30-6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM