

Keep Charleston Beautiful Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025

Call to Order

Taylor Hodges, Vice Chairperson, calls meeting to order at 5:34 pm

Roll Call/Attendance

- Jamie Gillette (staff)
- Darby Reed (staff)
- Taylor Simkins (staff)
- Elodie Cutler (Youth Ambassador)
- Katie Abare
- Rachel Barry
- Cheryl Carmack-Smith
- Sam Haab
- Taylor Hodges
- Stephen Kaminski
- Kaitlin Walter
- Lisa Weismann
- Britney Prebis (guest)

● Finances

- Recent Expenses
 - Education Coordinator wages June/July
 - July 1st dispenser decal order - \$127.99
 - Dog Bag order - \$2495.99
 - Mall Park Plants - \$685.10
 - June Composting - \$165.41
 - July Composting - \$134.39
 - Cork Recycling - \$231.04
 - August Composting - \$134.39
 - Wood stain and paint - \$44.20
 - Kayak replacement parts - \$107.79
- Recent Revenue
 - ZWE Harvest Dinner - \$486.81
 - Scrap Recycling - \$10.57
 - FKCB Eastside Transfer - \$7266.22
 - Donation - \$16.80
 - Dispenser Sponsorship - \$300
- Current Balance - \$29,739.23
 - PP Grant - \$2672
 - Education - \$4264
 - Pet - \$1384

- Eastside - \$7230
- June Event Recap
 - 6/6 National Secure Your Load Day Event
 - 50 individuals were given ratchet straps, tie downs, cargo nets, tarps, and car trash cans
 - 6/11 Sonepar June Sponsorship Event
 - 34 volunteers collected 28 lbs of debris throughout 5 road miles surrounding Colonial Lake
 - 6/21 Eastside Neighborhood Cleanup Event
 - 5 volunteers collected about 100 lbs of trash
 - 6/24 SC Aquarium Retention Pond Cleanup
 - 6 volunteers joined to clean 90 lbs from a stormwater retention pond in West Ashley
 - 6/27 West Ashley Bikeway Cleanup Event
 - 21 volunteers from the USCG helped pick up over 300 lbs of debris
- Pollinator Month Recap
 - 6/12 Pollinator Nature Walk Event
 - 24 participants attended event with CCL and Chs Parks Conservancy.
 - 6/21 CKC Hampton Park & Pollinator Celebration
 - 15 volunteers joined the monthly event which was followed by pollinator activities
 - 6/29 Pollinator Trivia Event
 - 40 participants came to Indigo Reef Brewing. Winners got plants, shirts, signs
- July Event Recap
 - 7/7 CKC Brittlebank Park
 - 7/10 Rosemont Neighborhood Cleanup
 - 4 volunteers from SI and LAMC picked up 43 lbs of debris
 - 7/17 SHL Medical July Sponsorship Event
 - 17 volunteers repainted about 3 acres of pillars and fences along the lowcountry lowline
 - 7/19 LOVE MY CITY Cleanup Event
 - 11 volunteers from Awaken Church collected 68 lbs of trash from along Brittlebank Park and Gadsden Creek
 - 7/19 Eastside Neighborhood Cleanup Event
 - 2 volunteers collected about 30 lbs of trash
 - 7/24 Oldtown Creek Cleanup Event
 - 8 volunteers from Aquarium and Citadel to collect 96 lbs of litter in West Ashley
- Youth Education Program & Projects
 - 6/17 - 2 Talking Trash Presentations @ CCSD Summer SAIL Program
 - 30 students (3rd to 5th grade)
 - 6/21 CKC Cleanup and Pollinator Celebration at Hampton Park
 - 10 youth and 5 adults

- 2.5 lbs of litter
- 7/7 CKC Cleanup at Brittlebank Park
 - 10 youth and 5 adults
 - 13 lbs of litter
- 8/5 Clean City Clara @ Creative Beginnings
 - 30 toddlers and 50 preschoolers
- 2 scheduled presentations for September so far and 2 for 2026 so far!
- Bag It & Tag It Campaign
 - January 1 - July 31 - social media campaign encouraging middle and high school students to do a litter cleanup and post on instagram
 - Kids on Point participated (May Winner)
 - Next Project Idea: Litter Art Contest with Local Schools
 - Challenge school groups to do a litter cleanup and then use the litter to make an art sculpture
 - Host an art contest to showcase sculptures and involve community as “judges”
- Litter Index Results
 - Scores by Geographical Region
 - West Ashley 1.79
 - Peninsula 1.57
 - James Island 1.46
 - Daniel Island 1.42
 - Johns Island 1.20
 - Scores by City Council District
 - Council District 4 2.3125
 - Council District 2 2
 - Council District 9 2
 - Council District 5 1.9375
 - Council District 7 1.6875
 - Council District 1 1.5
 - Council District 10 1.5
 - Council District 12 1.5
 - Council District 11 1.3125
 - Council District 6 1.25
 - Council District 3 1.2
 - Council District 8 1.125
- Bee City Charleston Update
 - The Bee Cause Project was spearheading a lot of the work for this, but had to step down. So we are shifting everything to be managed by Jamie and KCB and working to get everything shifted over. Have board members from Parks Conservancy, LLT, USFWS. Looking for more involvement from interested parties!

- New Business
 - 2026 City Budget
 - Requested funding for Taylor's position as a full-time role
 - Requested a second vehicle
 - Potential Grants and Related Projects
 - Dominion - Education funding
 - Solomon Jackson Jr. - Education funding
 - Norfolk Southern Thriving Communities - Education funding
 - City Community Assistance
 - Arbor Day Foundation Tree Proposal - Tree planting initiative for Nov/Dec to help residents who are unable to plant on their own for any reason
 - SC Native Plant Society - potential CKC pollinator garden
 - Athletic Brewing Company - grant for general environmental projects
- Upcoming Events
 - CKC Litter Sweep Series
 - 8/16 - Nurdle Hunt & Litter Sweep with Surfrider at Waterfront Park
 - 9/20 - Coastal Cleanup Day Litter sweep at Demetre Park
 - Yoga/Run Litter Sweep Event - August 23 (postponed and moved to October)
 - KSCB Conference - Sept 3-5
 - MUSC Event - Sept 10
 - BioBlitz - Sept 13 at Hampton Park
 - BSRS - Sept 20 Darby to host cleanup at location TBD
 - Hope Summit - Sept 27
 - Riverfront Revival - fundraising opportunity in October
 - Bloom - CPC event to unveil new plantings around Colonial Lake, KCB doing ZWE services, and volunteers will be recruiting through CPC
 - America Recycles Day is in November
 - A day to plan recycling focused events, collection drives, education workshops
 - Taylor Hodges suggests thrifting or clothing drives - activities to repurpose old clothes or used paper
 - Suggestion of an audit of the city's public space recycling may be a fun idea, or getting schools involved to do an in-house audit. Could recruit volunteers to help with this sorting.
- Commissioners' Comments
- Chair's Comments
- Next Meeting
 - October 2, 2025 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM
 - Happy hour originally scheduled for September 4th will be moved to a different date.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM