

# KEEP SMYRNA BEAUTIFUL Minutes - Final



Smyrna Community Center  
Jonquil Room  
1250 Powder Springs Street  
Smyrna, GA 30080

Laura Zhiss (Mayor's Appointee)  
Shawn Garcia (Ward 1)  
Lisa Castleberry (Ward 2)  
Matt Anderson (Ward 3)  
Dawn McLoughlin (Ward 4)  
Maggie McGarity, Treasurer (Ward 5)  
Nell Robinson (Ward 6)  
Larry Powell (Ward 7)  
Trevour Kelleher, Secretary (At Large)  
Chris Knight (At Large)  
Phyllis Owens, Board Chairperson (At Large)  
Hilary Scott (At Large)  
Stephanie Williams (At Large)  
Olivia Wise (At Large)  
Vacant (At Large)  
Vacant (At Large)

City Attorney Scott Cochran  
City Administrator Joseph Bennett  
City Clerk Heather K. Peacon-Corn

**July 09, 2024  
6:30 PM**

**1. Roll Call**

**2. Call to Order**

**Present:** 10 – Laura Zhiss, Shawn Garcia, Lisa Castleberry, Matt Anderson, Dawn McLoughlin, Larry Powell, Trevour Kelleher, Chris Knight, Phyllis Owens, Olivia Wise

**Absent:** 4 – Maggie McGarity, Nell Robinson, Hilary Scott, Stephanie Williams

**Staff:** 1 – Julie Barwig

**2024-192 Welcome / Call to Order – *Phyllis Owens***

Chairperson Phyllis Owens called to order the July 9, 2024 Keep Smyrna Beautiful meeting held at the Smyrna Community Center in the Jonquil Room at 6:30 PM.

**3. Chairperson Instruction and Comment**

**4. Formal Business**

**A. 2024-190 Secretary's Report – *Trevour Kelleher***

**B. 2024-188 Finance Report – *Maggie McGarity***

- May & June Financials

In Maggie McGarity's absence, Julie Barwig, Environmental Services Director, presented the May and June financials. Filed for Audit. Question asked by Phyllis Owens how \$40 for 40 campaign is going. Julie will check Salesforce to share details next month.

C. **2024-194** Old Business – *Phyllis Owens*

- Strategic Goals Update
- Strategic Goals Update: Phyllis shared the [strategic goals](#) updated by the Executive Committee after offsite earlier in the year. Each Committee should align their work with the revised goals and metrics. New ideas proposed in workshop will continue to be evaluated and will need to justify replacing an existing goal. The Executive Committee created a simple procedure and documentation to govern the process of adding goals ([Link](#)).

D. **2024-196** New Business – *Phyllis Owens*

- Pollinator Garden Discussion

E. **2024-198** Coordinator’s Report – *Eloise Holland*

- Program Overview
- Garden tour
- Litter free events
- School grant photos

F. **2024-200** Committee Reports – *Phyllis Owens*

- Fundraising & Grant Committee
  - Education Committee
  - Pollinator Garden Committee
  - Audit Committee
  - Keep Cobb Beautiful Update
1. **Garden Tour Committee:** No updates this month.
  2. **Education Committee:** No updates this month.
  3. **Pollinator Garden Committee:** Olivia Wise presented the revised proposal to develop “pollinator pockets” before considering the large garden originally scoped for Concord Road. This better fits our resources and capabilities as well as provides for learning how to expand the offerings. There was an open discussion about longer term vision for the larger “Destination” pollinator garden. We need determine the decision points and learning to demonstrate our capability to undertake that project (i.e. Maintenance requirements, high vs low maintenance approaches, shade and sun options). Olivia Wise presented potential pilot sites (e.g., Recycling Center, Hawthorne Adult Education Center). Home Depot is offering materials and volunteers to build and maintain allows for a simpler pilot of the concept while the Recycling Center is a pilot of a fully KSB led Pollinator Pocket. UGA Extension on S Cobb has a model pollinator garden and demonstrates that minimum size should be 10’ x 12’. Matt asked about future governance needs from Board → committee to build plans for next couple years to detail the work and ability to support. Budget requirements to be revised to take advantage of this year’s budget allocation.
  4. **Audit:** Audit completed thru end of March. July 18 is the next session to audit Q2
  5. **Fundraising and Grant Committee:** No updates this meeting
  6. **Keep Cobb Beautiful Update:** Trevour Kelleher shared updates. Cobb County received \$500,000 grant from DoE to fund Charm center, upgrade EV charging and develop a Sustainability Action Plan. KSB offering opportunity to help collect

recycling at Braves games (free game and parking!). Signups for August 1 and September 5; there will be approximately 30 slots. [Signup Link for August 1](#)

Board Member Olivia Wise made a motion to approve shifting the scope of the Pollinator Committee from creating a large Pollinator Garden to multiple Pollinator Pockets; seconded by Board Member Shawn Garcia.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

**Aye:** 10 – Board Member Zhiss, Board Member Garcia, Board Member Castleberry, Board Member Anderson, Board Member McLoughlin, Board Member Powell, Board Member Kelleher, Board Member Knight, Board Member Owens, Board Member Wise  
**Nay:** 0 – None  
**Absent:** 4 – Board Member McGarity, Board Member Robinson, Board Member Scott, Board Member Williams

Board Member Olivia Wise made a motion to approve proceeding Hawthorne as a Pollinator Pocket in partnership with Home Depot; seconded by Board Member Shawn Garcia.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

**Aye:** 10 – Board Member Zhiss, Board Member Garcia, Board Member Castleberry, Board Member Anderson, Board Member McLoughlin, Board Member Powell, Board Member Kelleher, Board Member Knight, Board Member Owens, Board Member Wise  
**Nay:** 0 – None  
**Absent:** 4 – Board Member McGarity, Board Member Robinson, Board Member Scott, Board Member Williams

Board Member Olivia Wise made a motion to approve creating a Pollinator Pocket at the Recycling Center as the primary pilot study; seconded by Board Member Shawn Garcia.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

**Aye:** 10 – Board Member Zhiss, Board Member Garcia, Board Member Castleberry, Board Member Anderson, Board Member McLoughlin, Board Member Powell, Board Member Kelleher, Board Member Knight, Board Member Owens, Board Member Wise  
**Nay:** 0 – None  
**Absent:** 4 – Board Member McGarity, Board Member Robinson, Board Member Scott, Board Member Williams

**G. 2024-202 Director's Report – Julie Barwig**

- Litter Index Results
- Staff update
- Financial outlook/projections

- Jonquil bulb: Ordered 112 bags as agreed for smaller amount
- Staff update: Carrie Kelleher joined as new Program Assistant.
- Litter index: generally consistent. Ward 7 showed the most change rising to 2.0.
- Handmade Market Sign up
  - → [Sign up for a shift to table at the Handmade Market](#)
  - A reminder that this is a board led initiative, board members signed up will need to be able to transport all items in their vehicles and either setup/break down depending on their shift.

## 5. Approval of Minutes

### A. MIN2024-123 Approval of the May 14, 2024 Keep Smyrna Beautiful Meeting Minutes

Board Member Shawn Garcia made a motion to approve item MIN2024-123; seconded by Board Member Olivia Wise.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

- Aye:** 10 – Board Member Zhiss, Board Member Garcia, Board Member Castleberry, Board Member Anderson, Board Member McLoughlin, Board Member Powell, Board Member Kelleher, Board Member Knight, Board Member Owens, Board Member Wise
- Nay:** 0 – None
- Absent:** 4 – Board Member McGarity, Board Member Robinson, Board Member Scott, Board Member Williams

## 6. Other Business / Staff Comment

### A. 2024-204 Upcoming Events:

- Community Cleanups: July 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>
- Smyrna Market Tabling: July 14<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup>, September 9<sup>th</sup>
- Monthly Recycling Center Tours: July 19<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 20<sup>th</sup>
- Adopt-a-Mile: July 20<sup>th</sup>
- Litter free event: July 13<sup>th</sup> & October 12<sup>th</sup>

## 7. Adjournment

The July 9, 2024 Keep Smyrna Beautiful Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities.

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THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN O.C.G.A. 50-14-3:  
The City of Smyrna website – [www.smyrnaga.gov](http://www.smyrnaga.gov)  
City Hall, 2800 King Street SE, Notice Boards