

Keep Saraland Beautiful
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026

Members in attendance: Basil Smith, Ron Mitchell, Barbara Sharp, Janice Harvison, Newton Cromer, Michael Smith, Rob McLean

The minutes from the November 2025 meeting were distributed by email and paper copy at the meeting. Newton made a motion to approve the minutes, and Barbara seconded. Motion passed.

Basil passed out copies of the Treasurer's report and went over recent transactions. He clarified who paid their dues last time, and accepted dues. Newton made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report.

Janice gave the Executive Director report. She updated the group on Keep Alabama Beautiful activities after speaking with KALB Director Denise Taylor. Denise announced a state conference in Auburn March 26 and 27 and invited the members to attend. Litter cleanup supplies will be picked up on the last day. Newton made a motion to sponsor officers to attend the meeting at a cost of up to \$800 to include the registration and hotel. Rob seconded. Motion passed. Janice will secure cleanup supplies for the Community Service Program, about 20 sticks and vests, and the Saraland City Schools campuses, about 10 litter sticks per location.

Denise announced that Alabama Tourism Day will be held in May at the state's Welcome Centers (date to be determined). Janice was asked to host a table at the Grand Bay location and brainstormed giveaway ideas. Newton suggested purchasing a KSB banner for the table display. Janice invited members to volunteer to help staff the table. Separately, Welcome Centers will soon distribute black fabric car litter bags to visitors who complete a survey, a program estimated to reach one million people.

Denise is working on a Day on the Hill for affiliates to meet our state legislators at the state house. We will be able to discuss issues in our respective parts of the state.

There is a grant opportunity called the RC&D grant through the state that Denise mentioned is voted on by the legislature and recipients then spend the money and report on the outcome. If we do a big project, this could be a good opportunity for us.

The Keep America Beautiful conference is in New Orleans this year and early registration expires tomorrow. Rob will attend and represent us there. He will coordinate with Denise to participate in activities with the Alabama group.

Janice submitted the KALB quarterly report, documenting the Fall City Cleanup Day and the city's Community Service cleanups.

Ron gave the President's report. He welcomed Rob McLean as our new Adopt a Spot Treasurer, and today they will go over the documents from former Treasurer Jeanette Greene and get his name added to the bank account. Credit card payments are available on the KSB website for dues, and Jackie Benson the webmaster is working on electronic payment also for the Adopt a Spots. We currently have 9 total spots, and 3 of them are nonprofits who pay \$100 per year. If a full paying business wants to sponsor a spot, we will give them one of the nonprofits' spots, and they understand that.

Ron has scheduled a field trip to the new Summerdale recycling center for February 12. After our tour we will put some photos on our Facebook and webpages. Part of our job is to educate the public about what recycling means. We are actively doing this in our schools.

Mayor Joe McDonald is planning a City cleanup day that is focusing on litter for February 21. Keep Saraland Beautiful will participate, those who are available. We will get more information when Ron does.

On April 9, we have a field trip to Ransom Ministries scheduled.

Barbara will order replacement car magnets and yard signs with money that was previously approved. She will stick with our current design. She is looking for Business of the Quarter suggestions. The Yard of the Month for December is the home of Jason and Danielle Williams of 3705 Elysian Fields Drive.

The next Adopt a Spot meeting will be February 19, as the regularly scheduled meeting coincides with the Summerdale trip.

Building Inspector Mike Black will be retiring soon. Ron will invite his replacement to our meeting. Areas that need work in our city are getting rid of junk cars and getting a procedure in place for reporting and follow up with the Code Enforcement officer. Dilapidated houses that are not being lived in and have roofs caving in also need to be addressed. Newton said those addresses should be submitted to the City Attorney.

Mike Smith joined as a new member today. He is retired and picks up litter regularly in his neighborhood near Shelton Beach and Highway 158.

KSB loaned litter cleanup supplies to the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program before Christmas when they had a conference and needed extra supplies for cleanups during their time together. Ms. Shemika Brown, the coordinator, returned the supplies before today's meeting.

Rob made a motion to adjourn at 1:10pm.