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June 23, 2023

Juneteenth reflections: Justice delayed isn't justice denied

Last Monday marked Juneteenth, the federal holiday that commemorates the emancipation of enslaved Blacks. It recalls the day - June 19, 1866 - when formerly enslaved people in Galveston, Texas heard U.S. General Gordon Granger read on Texas grounds General Orders No. 3: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free."

Perhaps what's most poignant about the holiday is that Black people in Texas had remained enslaved more than two years after the President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, when Blacks in Confederate states should have been freed. It's a sobering reminder that justice, even when granted in theory, often takes much longer to be realized.

CAJM's vision to make Charleston a more just place to live, work and do business can be seen as a similar journey. For example, in our healthcare initiative, tracking down the promised monies to fund mobile healthcare units continues to be a drawn-out and complicated battle. On the flooding front, our fight to revitalize and restore Gadsden Creek appears to be a struggle as we work to convince city officials of the need to protect the creek. Let us be encouraged by the patience and perseverance of the enslaved Blacks in Texas and the Union troops. They all understood what Martin Luther King Jr. once proclaimed: "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Happy Juneteenth!

Upcoming Research Visits

We encourage all CAJM members to join us for research visits and full committee meetings! Email dorightcajm@gmail.com to be connected with our research committees, and/or use the links below to sign up to attend.



Join the Flooding Full Committee or the Policing Full Committee!

What: CAJM's Flooding and Policing Full

Committee will meet! **When:** Tuesday, June 27

Meeting: Flooding - 5 p.m.; Policing - 6 p.m.

Where: Zoom

RSVP: Click here to sign up.

New to CAJM and want more information?

We are so glad you are here, and we'd love to connect you with a CAJM Team Leader!

Use the QR code to the right, or follow this link, to fill out a short survey so that we can match you with the Team Leader who best fits your needs.



Amber and Raynique named Black Policy Institute Fellows!



We'd like to congratulate CAJM Co-Executive Director Raynique Syas and Associate Organizer Amber Campbell-Moore on being named 2022-2023 fellows of the Black to the Future Public Policy Institute. The institute is a policy advocacy and leadership training fellowship that provides leaders the tools needed to transform Black communities into constituencies that wield independent, Black political power. Amber and Raynique were two of 15 cohort members who recently completed an eight-month program during which members designed innovative initiatives aimed at creating meaningful change. Specifically, Amber and Raynique focused on reducing the disproportionate suspension rates of Black and brown students in Charleston through a community-based approach designed to implement restorative practices in the classroom. Congrats Amber and Raynique!

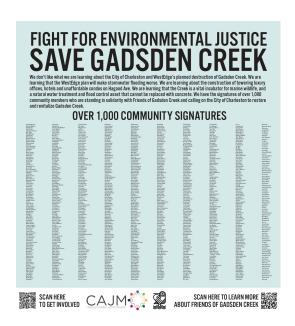
CAJM "goes to bat" for Gadsden Creek at Charleston City Council Meeting

CAJM members attended the June 20 Charleston City Council meeting to "go to bat" for



Gadsden Creek. Click here to watch the recording of the council meeting and hear what our members had to say to their elected officials. Public comments begin around the 1:00:00 mark.

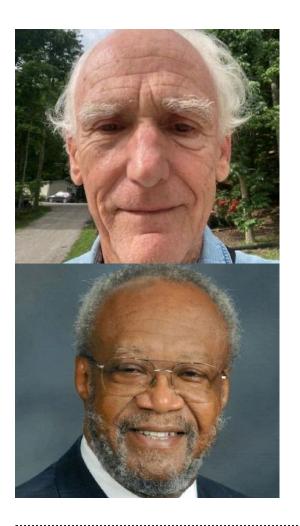
Check out our Save Gadsden Creek ad in the Charleston City Paper



CAJM's "Save Gadsden Creek" advertisement that included 1,000 signatures was featured in the June 16 edition of the Charleston City Paper. Click here to see an online version of the advertisement.

Opinion piece from CAJM Members Rev. Joseph A. Darby and Mr. Mark Gould featured in P&C

Check out this opinion piece published June 22 online on the Post and Courier website. The piece, written by CAJM Environmental Justice Steering Committee members Rev. Joseph A. Darby and Mr. Mark Gould, puts the current Gadsden Creek issue in historical context



of past discriminations while emphasizing the need to restore and revitalize the creek.

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