

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting, 9/21/2020

The meeting was held on Larry's porch.

In attendance: **Stacey Wildberger, Marita Roos (via phone), Phil Ourisson, Brad Knopf, Bill Rappoport, Larry Jennings, Al Todd, Brad Hill, Karen Minor**

Call to order: 7:39pm

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved, with the request to get minutes out sooner in the future.
2. Treasurer's report:

Budget: Phil received the Unity Gardens grant this month; thus, the Grants balance is \$1,390. We have presale orders not paid yet. The General fund balance is \$13,005, of which \$1,200 of presale orders we still owe.

- a) This month, August 28th, we got a \$160 check from Wells Fargo. Stacey said that so far, we have received \$2,600 from Wells Fargo in the past 3 years. In 2018, Stacey's efforts on behalf of CCC resulted in CCC receiving a \$1,000 grant from Wells Fargo. In 2019, CCC accumulated money from Wells Fargo as Stacey put in volunteer hours, served on the CCC board, enrolled in a program for credit card matching, and as her payroll deductions to benefit CCC were matched. Stacey will be credited another \$150 after her volunteer hours for the plant sale are recorded. So far in 2020, Wells Fargo has donated \$1,100, although the entire amount has not yet been received yet by Phil.
- b) Marita noted that all 3 nurseries we have ordered from for the plant sale recognize our tax-exempt status, so they are not charging us sales tax. Phil is required to report our sales to the State and then pay taxes on it.

Website: Phil posts articles and photos as Stacey sends them to him. Phil is getting more used to software updates. Stacey has been tracking hits to the CCC website. She noted that the site has received about 100 hits in the last couple days.

3. Leopold benches: Last month, Stacey learned from Sam Papps' mother that he was almost finished his written plan on his Eagle Scout project and would be sending it soon to Neil. Since the benches will be heavy, Sam and other members in his troop will build the benches onsite at the Serene Ravine, at which time, a member of CCC should be present. In the meantime, Al volunteered to dismantle the existing benches in the ravine. The mosaic concrete bench close to the pump house will be moved to another location in the ravine.
4. Weed Warriors: Bill and Stacey have continued to consistently volunteer their time and labor to weed on Wednesdays in the Serene Ravine. Participation by other volunteers has waned as of late but one mom continues to show up to volunteer. The Weed Warriors will continue into November when it starts to get too dark to work.
5. Stacey listened in on the latest Cape BOG meeting.
 - a) Stacey's gave some updates on behalf of CCC:
 - i. Upcoming native plant sale
 - ii. Efforts of the Weed Warriors
 - iii. CCC received the Unity Gardens grant of \$700 to buy shrubs and ferns. Planting will occur on October 10th and 17th (update: not on October 10th, but two shifts on October 17, AM and PM.) On October 9th, Matthew Toronto will pick up our order from Environmental Concern for \$100, as

opposed to the \$200 charge that Environmental Concern would have charged us for delivery. Some girl scouts and community members will volunteer to help us with the planting in the ravine.

- iv. In November, CCC will arrange for another truckload of wood chips from a local tree care company to be delivered to the Serene Ravine to be spread on the path and around the new plants.
- b) Other topics mentioned at the meeting:
 - i. The Cape won the court case regarding the pier and it must come down in 90 days. Al mentioned that the house is for sale now.
 - ii. Site 1 & 2 is plugging along on permits. There will be a moratorium October through March. Work on both sites will begin in March. Details on the planned work by Bio Habitats are on the CSCIA website.
6. Stacey is 99% sure she will enroll in the Watershed Steward Academy program, which starts in January. Classes are Tuesday nights, culminating in a field trip at the end. The program requires a capstone project be completed in order to graduate. Eradicating the bamboo at the Lake Claire parking lot would be a good capstone project.
7. Serene Ravine – At the meeting, Al passed out a nice document he prepared on how to attack the Bushkiller Vine at the Serene Ravine. Brad K has been in touch with Joe Ports at the County. Joe is the Project Manager at the County's Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration. Al replied to Joe's email, and Brad will also. Brad, Al, and Joe plan on walking the site, along with Erick Michelsen. Triclopyr is a chemical that works better on Bushkiller when used alone vs. when used with glyphosate. Al met with Jennifer and Brian and looked at the site, and they agreed that there are ways to make more progress. The shade on the hillside on the right side of the creek is helping to control the Bushkiller somewhat. Anecdotal evidence shows that sun really makes it grow incredibly fast. The biggest problems are the perimeters: at the property lines, at the road, and at the lower portion where are not allowed to weed. At the property lines, we need to work with the homeowners to help them control it on their property. Along Suzanne's fence, and the property line to the left, there is prolific Bushkiller and Tree of Heaven. The County has no responsibility in the Serene Ravine. DNR and the Department of Agriculture have an invasive species unit. Once the weeds are sprayed, we can plant fast growing native trees such as Tulip Poplar, Red Maple, and Sycamore in tubes, which will be more obvious and prevent them from being trampled or mowed. Jennifer and Brian gave us a new contact for spraying other than Patrick. Cape CSCIA is in favor of the more aggressive approach. We need Neil involved with coordinating with these neighbors.
8. Brad Hill said that the path from Broadneck High School to Goshen Farm is covered with English Ivy, and that some of the vines are strangling the trees. The path starts at the tennis courts back behind the track and continues over a bridge traversing a creek that dumps into the Little Magothy. Part of the path might be County property. Brad K mentioned that there is a WPRP project there or nearby at ~~Catt~~ Cat Branch. This path might be a possible project for CCC in the future.
9. Some shrubs and trees on Cape St. Claire road have died. Stacey will ask Neil to find out when the County will replant them. Larry said at least 70% must survive. The County promised that they would replace the dying plants. The plantings should be mulched to help retain moisture. The County Council representative, Amanda Fiedler, said the County would replant this Fall.
10. CCC's Native Plant Sale is on Saturday. Marita finalized payment with the 3 suppliers: North Creek, Babikow, and Cavano's. Final invoices will be handed to us upon delivery on Friday, at which point, Phil can pay. The first delivery to Karen's house should be around 9:00 at the earliest. Stacey, Phil, and Larry will be there. The flats from North Creek will need to be cut in half. The Babikow and Cavano's plants will have tags in them, so only the North Creek plugs will need tags. Quarts will be \$4, gallons \$6. Friday will be devoted to sorting (Stacey, Larry, Phil, Al, Bill) and loading up everyone's vehicles. Haley, Grace, and Nathan will be our first shift of tallyers at the sale. In addition, we will also have some volunteers that have helped weed in the Serene Ravine. Nancy won't be there, but she gave us new signs, and Jennifer is doing

the other signs. Stacey made up a new sign with plant prices that will go on the various tables, and she also made up an alphabetical plant list of Latin and common names. Plants will be arranged on the tables so that ground covers and grasses will be on both ends, and the middle will have the blooming perennials, arranged by Latin name alphabetically. Set up should start Saturday morning at 7:00. The following will be provided: Bill – canopy, boxes, trash bags; Phil - trailer, his cash table, hand sanitizer, tables from Cape shed; Karen – 5 tables, 12 chairs; Larry – 2 tables, boxes; Stacey – signs, plant trays; Brad K – 6 ft spacing signs. Volunteers who will also help with set up include Jeannie K, Jennifer Cruz, Crystal and Maddie, Amy, and Phil's wife Sandy. As soon as the cash table is set up, we will start letting people in. We will encourage social distancing by having a limit of 30 customers at a time at the site, which will require monitoring the entrances. Stacey posted the “rules” of the plant sale on all her Facebook posts.