

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 11/16/2020

The meeting was held via Zoom.

In attendance: Stacey, Marita, Brad K, Phil, Bill, Jeanne, Karen, Neil

Call to order 7:33pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report:
 - a. General fund \$14,090.63. Grants fund \$835.31. Phil emailed the board a detailed Treasurer's report.
 - b. Fundraising update (Phil sent out an email). Due to Phil's email blast and Stacey's appeal on Facebook, we collected about a thousand dollars from donations in lieu of the Bash tickets. Later, in 2021, we will remind people to join CCC.
 - c. Phil and Stacey updated the Severn account signature card with their signatures. Marita will sign it later.
3. Old business:
 - a. Neil and Stacey met with Eagle Scout Sam Papps, his parents, scout master, and the director from the board for the Eagle Scout project. The board of directors of regional boy scouts gave final approval on his project to build and install 3 Leopold benches in the Serene Ravine. Sam will prepare the materials ahead of time, and hopefully installation of the benches will occur the 1st or 2nd weekend in December with other scouts involved and Neil and Stacey present. The benches will be cemented in place to prevent theft.
 - b. Marita showed the plaques for the benches. The plaques will be stainless steel with 4 drill holes. Marita has placed the order. They will cost about \$300, which Marita will pay using the CCC debit card. If they haven't arrived by the time the benches are built and installed, they can be put on later.
 - c. Stacey and Jeanne are still waiting on approval to be in the Watershed Stewards Academy program. This past Friday, WSA emailed and said they received many applications and that they are still reviewing them. Hopefully Stacey and Jeanne will be accepted into the program.
 - d. In October, CCC had a mini weed pull at the Little Magothy rain garden. Thanks to Stacey, Brad K, Maddie (Crystal's daughter), Katherine Woods, and Jeanne Klinger for their work. When we planted the rain garden, the nursery mistakenly sent non-native beautyberry, which is growing and spreading, along with non-native yellow iris, so both will have to be removed. The packera aurea looks gorgeous and has spread well. There were volunteer redbuds and some poplar seedlings that were dug up. The Little Magothy rain garden would be a good future capstone project. We will pay more attention to the rain garden next year. A good future project in the spring would be to have scouts pull the invasive English ivy growing throughout the site.
4. New business
 - a. Phil was nice enough to attend the Cape Board of Governors meeting. Phil reported that it was a very brief meeting and there was no new information. Most of the meeting's time was spent on a few homeowners' requests to the BOG on special requests. Phil updated the Board on CCC's activities.
 - b. To recognize some new Habitat Heroes, Stacey reached out to 2 different people who had identified invasives and planted natives in their yards. Both turned her down. Stacey will check in with one of them next year since she's not quite comfortable yet. The other, who had volunteered to weed in the ravine with her son a few times, initially did not want to be a Habitat hero because she thought there was a commitment involved, which is not the case, so she's now reconsidering. She was also worried about her property being included in the garden tour, but she is not required to do that, so we'll see. Al nominated Brad K, a good candidate, but it would be better to get someone not on the board. When Stacey asked if anyone else has a suggestion, Brad K said there's a property on Breezeway with amsonia planted in the yard, so that homeowner may could be a good candidate.
 - c. Saturday 11/21 2-4pm will be a work day to spread mulch and pull weeds such as garlic mustard and bush killer. The work will be done by a maximum of 25 people. Stacey & Karen volunteered, and

Phil is a maybe. Stacey will reach out to boy scouts who may need volunteer hours. We will need to bring wheelbarrows and shovels. Stacey will try Christie at Richards Tree care again and one other contact that she knows of to get a delivery of wood chips. Where each of the 2 new benches will be installed, we will leave a small a pile of wood chips to be spread later. Karen will plant two sycamore seedlings that she got for free from DNR.

d. Potential Projects for 2021:

- i. Jeanne and Stacey's 2 WSA projects capstone projects.
 - ii. Eagle Scout Joseph to build nesting boxes and install a sign in the Serene Ravine
 - iii. Weed Warriors
 - iv. Plant swap: native replacements for invasive plants/shrubs. Stacey will have a sign up sheet with at least 2 different shrubs. If an older person inquires about the swap, we could have volunteers to help them dig it up and plant it. To help us with the sign up, maybe we could tap Jesse Oberright, who started a registration form online to facilitate Christmas tree donations last year. Environmental Concern's prices for shrubs for the Ravine were very good (\$7/gal), so they would be a great resource for the native plants.
 - v. Replace/remove invasive phragmites and plant natives at Little Magothy beach. Neil said currently the board has no spraying planned since the contractor Patrick quit. Karen mentioned that phragmites is multiplying around the inlet at Lake Claire beach. Larry noted that area might be part of the living shoreline project. Neil will find out about that.
- e. Phil will submit for the new credit card with Severn Bank, now that he can include in the application the October CCC minutes noting unanimous approval of the 4 CCC officers this year.
- f. Stacey told Ryan about a dead tree on the County-owned portion the Serene Ravine is leaning over precariously. Phil said that if the County is notified of the potential danger in writing, they might do something about it for liability purposes. Neil will follow up with Ryan about that.

Adjourned 8:09pm.