

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 04/19/2021

The meeting was held via Zoom.

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

Call to order 7:35pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report:
 - a. Balances: General fund \$14,880 Grants \$3,400 but a lot of that is prepaid shrubs. We have about half of that. Checks are still coming in. Both Jeanne and Stacey set up an appeal for donations on Facebook for their birthdays. Jeanne is over \$645 and Stacey is up to \$225. Laura Shrank contributed \$40 thru Pay Pal to Stacey.
 - b. Website – Phil keeping up with Habitat Hero and blog posts from Stacey.
3. Old business:
 - a. Phil will give 2 checks to Stacey to give to Matthew Toronto, who will pick up the plants for the Shrub Swap on on May 6th and deliver them to Karen's house. Stacey will let us know what time. Larry will be there. Sorting will be on May 8th at 8am at Karen's house, and pickup will be from 9am-11am.
 - b. Only about 3 people left haven't dug up their shrubs. Phil and Bill have coordinated with a 4th person scheduled for this Wednesday to dig up their shrubs. Stacey will email and call the last 3 participants. 2 people reached out to Stacey that wanted to make sure they had nandina. She stopped over, and commented that they should get a prize for the most nandina. They have so many and are signed up for the swap. The homeowner is enthusiastic about removing them and was asking for suggestions. Stacey said we would hook them up at the plant sale in the fall. Another guy reached out to Stacey over the weekend. He has a lot of natives and wants to pay for some shrubs, and he will order some. He may be a future Habitat Hero. He too is very enthusiastic and complimentary of CCC. Stacey ordered 12 beauty berry and 6 spice bush for him.
 - c. Weed Warrior kickoff was this past week, we had a successful first week. 15 people (kids from the high school and a few adults) came out. In all, 12 bags of garlic mustard were collected. Jeanne picked up the paw paws. Jeanne said that if it rains this coming Wednesday by the 5:30 start time of weeding, she would welcome help building the paw paw cages under her covered deck at 6:00. We have 9 people signed up for this coming Wednesday.
 - d. Cape St Claire Board of Governors meeting: Phil attended and sent out a recap via email.
 - i. At Site 1, living shoreline volunteers not being used, but instead, professionals are doing the planting. They started last week. Neil said they are done for the most part. They closed a big section of the beach. Hopefully the sand will build back in. The list of plants is on the Beach Restoration site plans on the website. (Spartina, goldenrod, etc.).
 - ii. They moved the Strawberry Festival to August 28th. That is the date of our 2nd Habitat Hero tour. We should probably change the date.
 - e. Skunk cabbage was planted in the Serene Ravine and is doing great! Al shot a video of the vernal pond where the skunk cabbage is planted and posted it on the CCC Facebook page.

- f. Google calendar. Jeanne is still working on that.
- g. SUP Oyster Paddle sponsorship: We again decided to kick it down the road, since Brad Hill is not here, and we have no further info.
- h. Serene Ravine sign: Almost all involved in this effort have done their part. Jennifer is waiting on Stacey to do her part, which is to do a write up on native plants and why they are important and needed. Marita said that once the sign is done, we'll have to design a good sign holder to build. (waist high and angled). She thinks the sign holder project may be too challenging for a boy scout to handle, especially their communication with CCC is not sufficient.
- i. The Log cleanup at the Serene Ravine was completed by Al, Brad, Larry, and Bill and it looks good. The path is much cleaner. Two nice kids helped and did a great job.
- j. Regarding the sign at Goshen saying CCC is one of the sponsors, Larry said Roy Benner, the grounds chair for Goshen, is still mulling it over.

4. New Business

- a. Project Clean Stream cleanup is this Saturday April 24th. Signups are almost full at 2 sites, and half full for Deep Creek. We have over 60 people signed up at this point. Jeanne wants to know where specifically at Deep Creek she will be cleaning up. Brad K said the plan of attack will be to remove English Ivy and trash at the bulkhead and into the side of the ravine where it drops on the left side. The top of the lot is outside of the 100 ft buffer area. Jeanne said there is a lot of red tape on the ivy removal. She wants to get a forester out there. Brad responded that in that case, we can just stick to removing trash. The upper playground area has some debris there as well. Some people might go to a different site. If there are too many people at one site, Stacey asked Brad and Marita will send them to Deep Creek. Brad is arranging for gloves, bags, event signs, and waiting to hear back from the County on trash pickup at several sites: parking lot, Cat Branch on Cape St Claire Rd, and hopefully Deep Creek. Brad will bring gloves and trash bags to Marita and Jeanne ahead of time (Thursday or Friday). Brad said the path between the pool and shopping center is an easy option, and also along storm drains where there is trash and debris.
- b. WSA capstone projects:
 - i. Stacey met with WSA mentor Josh about her capstone project. He loved the Serene Ravine. Stacey said she wants to her capstone project to be organizing a planting of the native plants we ordered for the Serene Ravine on May 15th. Josh got approval from the head of WSA, Suzanne. As long as planting will occur on the Cape side, the plants we order would become part of the planting and they would grant \$500 to buy more plants on the sunny hillside (butterfly weed, tickseed, and phlox subulata). The planting will occur in 2 sessions on May 15th. Stacey would be pulling high school kid volunteers and watershed steward people. She will set up a Signup Genius for that. The idea is that the community can look at this project and repeat it in their own yards. Her other thought: the guy with the 50 nandina. Stacey will work with him in getting some help.
 - ii. Jeanne also met with Josh at Deep Creek, the site for her capstone project. They need to get the County forester out there to determine if we have to hire people to do it or if we can get volunteers, since it is critical area. Ryan doesn't want her to start until October. Basically, the project will be to remove English Ivy where the land drops off and near the water, then replant natives in place. She's thinking about what to replant. Maybe Gro-Low sumac. She still needs to get the CSCIA to approve the final plan too. Ryan is on board. There is grant to apply for which gives precedence to ordering trees, so Cape would have to know by July.

There are 2 cycles for that, Stacey said. If you remove trees in fall or winter, then you can apply for replacements in February.

- c. Stacey and Ryan met with a homeowner on Blue Ridge Place about a tree request. She had emailed Ryan about the bright shopping center lights. The lot they live on used to have 1 house but now it is 2 houses on it, so she gets a lot of light coming in. Ryan worked with her. She requested a screen of trees on Cape property and he approved it. Stacey was thinking that would be a good Tree Trooper site. She only needs one. Stacey wanted to know if we could get her a tree or two. An Eastern red cedar, which are evergreen, could be a good option.
- d. Habitat Hero winner Emily Brown from Atlantis received a \$25 gift certificate for our sale.
- e. Motorcycles in the Ravine: Al caught some kids riding in the ravine and he stopped them. Our friend Susanne, the neighbor to the right, saw them go thru the ravine a few days after Al caught them. Stacey let Ryan know and Phil brought it up at the BOG meeting. They asked us to take photos of them and forward them to Ryan, and if we see them, to call the police right away. Neil stopped them today and told them they aren't supposed to go there on the greenway. The tires on those bikes are tearing up the soil and make ruts.
- f. Native Plant Sale: Stacey wants to make sure we get some orders in and took the North Creek list and doubled the order to reserve some plants in order to save our place. Larry said you can cancel 2 days before it ships with no penalty. She didn't do that for Cavanaughs or Babikow yet. If we have suggestions of anything new we want to sell this year, let her know. If we have suggestions, tell her. We agreed to cut down on some of the goldenrods and order more of the flowering plants.
- g. Harvest Bash: Assuming we can do the bash this year, George at the Ugly Pig contacted Brad K. He was kind enough to offer blanket authorization to use his facilities to produce our food, or any other way he could make it work. It solves the issue of us donating food if we are willing to go in and make the food. We could get a group of highschoolers to be food servers. Larry, thinking of CCA banquets, said we could make it \$40 a ticket, and make the ticket function as an annual renewal of dues. We would be selling memberships, therefore making the event private. There would not be any issues or regulations. The Cape resident lady contacted Phil a year or two back worked at the County Health Dept, and made Phil aware she wasn't too happy about the way we were doing it. The yacht club does their event in just that manner. You are a member for the year at the annual social. Phil will check this out about the yacht club. Bottom line there are 2 options (George's offer and Larry's suggestion.) Phil said 1 day liquor licenses are back on. It's a little more complicated and constraining, Brad said. We also have to figure out music. Al's band is still a possibility. Let's ask him if he's still interested. As to our 2nd choice, we don't know. Phil has a neighbor who played in our street party.
- h. Strawberry Festival moved to 8/28, the same day as our 2nd Habitat Hero garden tour .
- i. Adjourn. 8:48pm