

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 03/15/2021

The meeting was held via Zoom.

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

Call to order 7:34pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report:
 - a. Balances: General fund \$14,953 Grants \$2,562.
 - b. Phil attended a webinar by the State of Maryland on fundraising and reporting requirements to the state. The good news: Phil had filed all he was supposed to file, but filed more than needed to, so he can cut back. The bad news: For those of us who ordered plants, the numbers that Stacey told us we owed did not include sales tax. Phil paid those taxes, so we all need to reimburse him. We can send him a check or pay via PayPal. Our plant purchases are tax free, but Phil is required to report the taxes on sales to CCC members.
 - c. Website: Nothing much to report.
 - d. Stacey mentioned that CCC should be getting \$500 from Wells Fargo. She even did a fundraiser on Facebook on her birthday and got about \$200.
3. Old business:
 - a. The Shrub Swap pickup will be on May 8th from 9am-11am. Sorting Karen's house will start at 8am. There are 2 spots left. Some people new to the community are digging up their nandina shrubs and buying some more native shrubs. The Swap is generating some interest, and we've received good feedback and participation. We can think of different plants next year. For any community participants that need help, Stacey will send an email to them and their assigned CCC volunteers to coordinate a time that works for both parties. Stacey will email all participants a reminder email to remove the nandina and send her a picture.
 - b. Weed Warrior Kickoff / Open House will be Friday, 3/26. Weeding will start on Wednesday, 4/7.
 - c. MD charity application: Phil said no word back on that yet. MD employees select the organization they want to give to, so we may not hear back any time soon for a word from them.
 - d. Forestry grant application will most likely be submitted this fall.
 - e. Stacey attended the BOG meeting. Her recap: Funding for Site 2 is in jeopardy. Stacey sent an email to legislators, and got 2 generic responses back. Heather's email back to Phil was a personal one, Brad K got 2 personalized responses back. Site 1 is done. All the rock structures are installed. Beau wrote a post with details on Facebook. We are waiting to hear about planting (about 4500 plants). CCC's role will be to plant and get volunteers. Planting will most likely start in the Fall.
 - f. Spring planting at the Serene Ravine will be on staggered dates. The first order of 50 pots of skunk cabbage is to be shipped mid next week and will be the first to arrive on Wednesday, 3/24. Stacey will get help some her kids' friends to help plant. The rest—the majority from Babikow and North Creek plugs—will be coming the last week of April. Marita is fine with having them shipped to her

house. Planting can be done on different dates, such as some Saturdays in May (except the Plant Swap day) or Weed Warrior Wednesdays. Jeanne said that when it works for her, she will reach out to the guy who in West Virginia who is furnishing the paw paw seedlings. Phil volunteered his trailer if Jeanne needs it. Larry cautioned they should be covered in transit to protect the leaves from wind at high speed. Jeanne said they will be babies (a dozen). Phil reminded her to give him the invoice.

- g. Google calendar: Jeanne volunteered to create a sample calendar and sent it to Stacey. She can start adding things to it pretty soon.
- h. SUP Oyster paddle board sponsorship: We agreed to table it again since Brad H is not here and we have no new information. Stacey will reach out to Brad H.

4. New Business:

- a. The Serene Ravine Kickoff will be on Friday 3/26 at 5:30. Overall, 27 people signed up, including us and people who helped out last year. We have about 15 new names, which is encouraging. Hopefully the *Packera aurea* will be in bloom. The plantings we have now look good and are growing well. Bill will pick up the pizzas (at least 6 or 7) and bring vitamin water. Stacey will bring paper products. We advertised BYOB on the CCC website. We are allowed to have wine if we set up on Al's property. No weeding will occur on that day but instead the kickoff is an informational social event.
- b. Serene Ravine sign: Al prepared an introduction, which Stacey read to us. It mentioned the major funders. Phil suggested we include Unity Gardens in Al's writeup. Marita mentioned them on the timeline, which Marita sent to Stacey along with some photos. Stacey will spotlight a few native plants with a description of why natives are important. Jennifer will design the layout. Stacey reached out to the Eagle Scout and said that we just really need him to build a sign holder that is waist high and slanted. She is waiting to hear back from him. (He's not too responsive.) Brad Hill has been volunteered as the point of contact.
- c. The Serene Ravine log cleanup and distribution day will be on Saturday 3/27 at 10am. (Al is looking for people to help cut them into smaller pieces and lug them up to the parking pad.) Jeanne wants a half dozen pieces for her garden. Al, Brad K, and Bill will bring their chainsaws and carts. Karen and Brad H will also attend. We would love some Eagle Scouts or young kids to help lug the pieces up the path to the parking area.
- d. Phil said a month or two ago, he would do stainless steel bolts in the bench at the bottom of the hill, so the legs don't rot too quickly. They have been installed.
- e. Sign at Goshen saying CCC sponsored plantings at the pond area: Larry used the Unity Gardens plants, and both the Garden Club and CCC donated additional plants. Larry is thinking of having a sign with a yellow background recognizing us for our donation. Larry will investigate how much the sign would be, and asked Brad K about helping with that, along the lines of the Habitat Hero signs. Larry will see what the Garden Club is doing. Maybe put something on the sign board. Brad K volunteered to help with that.
- f. Brad K has been going back and forth on participating in Project Clean Stream. It traditionally happens in the 1st week in April, so now he is thinking of mid to late April as an option. Brad thinks there is a 25-person limit for an outdoor event, but he will confirm that number. He would like to go forward with the project if it's feasible. A tentative date of April 24th from 9-noon is a possibility. Phil cautioned that we need to follow the rules. Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay: Brad will let Phil know as soon as he finds out so Phil can put it on the website or reserve the sign board.

- g. Phil said we should start talking about the Harvest Bash at the next CCC meeting. Stacey said the County is not yet giving out liquor licenses, but that policy may change fairly quickly.
- h. Marita sent Stacey a message that the Native Plant Society wants to tour the Serene Ravine and look at the Bushkiller vine. They think we have novel approaches to tackling it.
- i. Stacey is mulling over and honing in on her Watershed Steward capstone project and will be meeting with the WS guy. Her goal is to make friends with the neighbors on either side of the Serene Ravine and get them on board. Stay tuned.

Adjourned. 8:34pm