

## Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 06/21/2021

The meeting was held in the Cape St Claire clubhouse.

In attendance: Stacey Wildberger, Phil Ourisson, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Kay, Bill Rappoport, Larry Jennings, Tonya Powell, Karen Minor, Neil Macindoe

Call to order 7:36pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved, pending corrections and edits from Phil.
2. Treasurer report:
  - a. Balances: General Fund \$17,479 but we are about to have a \$2,572 credit card payment for plants. Grants \$934. Phil has to pick up a check for \$198 from Broadneck Grill. Phil set up the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in September for the Broadneck Grill (September 15<sup>th</sup>). Lou Biondi donated \$20 to CCC directly since they couldn't go to dinner at the Broadneck Grill last time. Every year, he makes a donation.
  - b. Website: Stacey will do a blurb on vines in the website article and the Habitat Hero tour in the Caper article.
3. Old Business:
  - a. Stacey attended the Cape BOG meeting. Highlights:
    - i. The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and kids' events with games will be on July 4<sup>th</sup>. CCC won't participate.
    - ii. The Strawberry festival will be on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Jeannie will decorate her trailer for the Strawberry Festival parade and man a table for CCC. She will think of something for the table.
    - iii. County dredging in Deep Creek will start in October.
    - iv. Neil said that the grasses planted to mitigate beach erosion are holding and are being closely monitored, but some plugs got washed away with the most recent storms. CSCIA will arrange for replanting the plugs.
    - v. The County grant for Lake Claire beach will be double the amount we expected.
  - b. Serene Ravine Weed Warriors: We will lose some young volunteers over the summer. Stacey is trying to bribe them with various rewards for their work. She bought six \$5 gift cards and did a drawing. Katherine Woods has been giving away plants (redbud trees). Last week, Stacey bought Rita's for the kids, and she asked the kids about ideas for future incentives. The Bushkiller vine is pretty bad now, especially on the hill. Stacey set up a 7am Tuesday morning event for weeding with Katherine.
  - c. Olivia West Gold Project: At Olivia's request for ideas on what she could do as a girl scout for her Gold Award, Stacey suggested having a little house in the Serene Ravine to hold laminated pages that describe the ravine's Spring and Fall blooming native plants. Olivia said that would not meet the project requirements for benefitting the community. Stacey tried to convince her otherwise.

- d. Stacey reached out to Jennifer about the sign for the Serene Ravine. Jennifer apologized for not making progress on it. At Jennifer's request, Stacey gave Jennifer a deadline of August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- e. Stacey still has two bat houses to install. One will go on the side of the tree that gets morning sun on Karen's property. We need tall ladders and drills to install them. The boxes need to be cleaned up first.
- f. Jeanne met with Ryan and the County forester on her Watershed Steward Academy (WSA) Capstone project. They said she must submit a vegetative management plan. She doesn't have to plant but she will anyway. She has started looking at plant choices for dry conditions in full to part shade. Some ideas are Gray Dogwood, Christmas Fern, and Pennsylvania Sedge. She is thinking that most plants should be shrubs. Removing ivy will cause more erosion, so robust plants will be necessary. She will email her list to us soon. The tentative date for the work is Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- g. The first tour of two Habitat Hero tours is this coming Saturday, June 26th. Brad K made a flyer about it and posted it on Facebook. It is posted on local Facebook pages, such as I Live in Cape St Claire and the Broadneck Peninsula. Also, a posting on SignUpGenius is out there for people who want to attend. Stacey had an idea about drawings for the attendees. Katherine will pot up some plants. Five houses will be on the tour. Stacey did a write up on each of the 5 properties with the owner's name, property characteristics, and property address. There are 28 people interested and several people have already signed up. One of the winners, Julianna Sharp, who lived on Hampton, has moved out, but she said we can walk on the sidewalk and look into the yard. Prior to leaving, Julianna made up for the buyers a little book about the various plants and included a note for the buyers to contact CCC if they don't want any of the plants.
- h. The Harvest Bash will be on Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Phil sent out an email to CCC with a request for feedback on the proposed wording that he will send to the County representative who lives in the Cape about serving food at the Bash. The Bash will be a private party and will be advertised as a fundraiser and membership drive.
- i. The Native Plant Sale will be from 9am to noon on September 25th. Stacey paid a deposit on our North Creek Nurseries plugs order. She might try to order some vines for the sale. So far, we have confirmed for the sale: Adkins Arboretum, Chris Pax, Lise Grafton of Master Gardeners and Bay-Wise, Lauren Toomey Pollinator Pathways, our Watershed Stewards--Katie, Stacey, Brad K, & Jeanne. The WSA exhibit will be clear plastic bins to show rainwater runoff on different materials. Stacey is waiting for a reply from Nancy Lawson. Stacey will ask Lise about Lights Up Baltimore (helping birds) and the Magothy River Association (MRA). (Brad K will think about who in MRA would be a good presenter.) Larry also suggested Unity Gardens. Jeanne suggested an Anne Arundel County pop up off Bellerive Rd called Refill Goodness that promotes zero waste. Jeanne said the presenter could demonstrate her stuff, not sell it. Phil has misgivings about that and suggested we stick to no vendors. Larry will reach out to Goshen Farm. Brad K will create a sign poster for the plant sale and mention "double the plants available". Phil sent in a request to reserve the Cape sign board for both the Harvest Bash (not yet approved) and the Native Plant Sale (approved). Stacey added a few new plants to what we will offer at the sale so we will need new signs for them. Tonya and Karen will help with that. Stacey will email information to them. Because we will be doubling the size of our order, Katherine Woods volunteered her driveway and yard on River Bay Rd for delivery and sorting the plants. Stacey is thinking having the North Creek plugs go there. Larry suggested something visual to help identify the people working at the sale, such as same color T-shirts, aprons, badges, or stickers.

#### 4. New Business:

- a. Stacey sent out an email about Jeanne Klinger joining the CCC board. She was nominated and the motion passed for Jeanne to join the board.
- b. We discussed proposed kid-friendly activities in the Serene Ravine. Stacey's sister Alison will invite kids to spend an hour on button making as the first activity. Jeanne put in her name for another craft on the Buy Nothing Facebook page that would be another activity in the ravine. Additional ideas are a book reading on Earth Day next year, yard dolls, and rock painting. The goal is to increase awareness of and interest in of the Serene Ravine.
- c. We have \$800 from Eco Action that will go towards buying shrubs and plants for the Serene Ravine.
- d. Stacey said that she is still thinking of what invasive plant we want to concentrate on for the next plant swap. The next Plant Swap will be in the Spring. A lady named Diane who lives in Cheverly is interested in our Native Plant Swap so that her community can emulate it.
- e. A lot of concrete and debris has been dumped and thrown into the Serene Ravine from the adjoining properties. Stacey proposed that CCC coordinate with CSCIA to do a cleanup. Richards Tree Service would be a good resource for clearing out stumps and chipping wood debris. Jeremy the high schooler is available to be the muscle for hauling out some of the debris in mid-September. Once the debris is cleaned up, we can spray triclopyr on the Bushkiller vines, which are running rampant throughout the ravine. Jeanne will talk to the WSA guy who is interested in the Bushkiller. Jennifer talked to someone at the University of Maryland about it. We also discussed a fence on the east at side of the ravine. CSCIA would have to pay for the fence, and the County requires input from neighbors. Neil doubts that CSCIA would approve putting in a fence.
- f. CCC's message is spreading beyond Cape St. Claire. Bethany Adams, the Humane Society Senior Editor, wants to interview Stacey. She follows our CCC Facebook page. This interview will be something new to post on CCC's News page. Bethany is the cofounder of the Green Team Urbana. She is filling in for Nancy Lawson who writes the Humane Backyard column. Bethany mentioned Doug Tallamy's Hometown Backyard National Park concept. Stacey's client, Susan Dapkunas, invited Stacey to speak at her Garden Club in Hillsmere.
- g. Marita Roos is moving to Germantown. We bid her goodbye for now and thank her for her years of service and dedication to CCC, including serving currently as Vice President. Marita is one of the founding members of CCC. Marita said she plans on attending the Harvest Bash later this year.
- h. Bill moved to start monthly CCC meetings at 7:00pm rather than 7:30. His motion was approved. Phil will change the website.

Adjourned 9:01pm.