

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 07/19/2021

The meeting was held in the Cape St Claire clubhouse.

In attendance: Stacey Wildberger, Jeanne Martin, Phil Ourisson, Al Todd, Bill Rappoport, Brad Hill, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Karen Minor, Larry Jennings, Neil Macindoe

Call to order 7:05pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report (see email from Phil for details):
 - a. Balances:
 - i. General Fund \$16,352. We just got \$210 that just came in from Jeanne M and Wells Fargo. There is \$2,572 for plants on the credit card which will come off.
 - ii. Grants \$164.
 - b. Website: Phil continues to keep up with the website. The next fundraiser night at the Broadneck Grill will be the 3rd Wednesday in September (9/15).
3. Old Business:
 - a. Stacey called in on Monday night to the Cape BOG meeting, which is still being held virtually. (It is still up in the air as to when in-person meetings will resume.) Highlights:
 - i. Bio Habitats presented and addressed concerns from a homeowner that the beach restoration was not working. Double the money within the County's grant was received for Lake Claire. County dredging at Deep Creek is scheduled for October. In October/November, they will tackle Lake Claire and try to dredge Deep Creek at the same time. Maintenance of the plantings at Main Beach is ongoing to replenish plants lost due to storms and erosion.
 - ii. The Strawberry festival is still on for August 28th.
 - b. Jeannie K started talking to kids across the street from her about decorating the CCC vehicle for the Strawberry Festival parade. Phil will bring his trailer to Jeanne for decorating and pulling in the parade. Brad K will make up a CCC sign to put on it. He described his strawberry themed pickup truck from years past. Jeanne will submit the form. CCC won't have a booth at the festival.
 - c. The Habitat Hero tour was successful and had good attendance, with past and present Habitat Heroes as well as people from the community. Jeanne M mentioned that she likes the diversity of the winners, in that some winners went hog wild with native plants, and some are just starting the process of including native plants in their yards. The goal is to encourage people to create habitat. Making changes should be rewarded and supported. The next tour will be on Saturday, August 21st. We agreed to add the Serene Ravine as the last stop on the tour. Brad K will alter the flyer for the next tour to feature the correct order of addresses that will be visited.
 - d. Serene Ravine: Bill and Jeremy the Eagle Scout worked on cutting up a downed tree with Bill's chainsaw and Sawzall. Kathleen Woods' husband Craig took all the logs and configured them to slow down the stormwater that washes down the ravine from the road. Richards Tree Service

chipped the remaining brush. Last Fall, we were given some Sensitive Ferns. Bill volunteered to dig up some more ferns in Joan's yard.

- e. Kid's activities in the Serene Ravine are planned, starting with putting painted rocks along the path for kids to find. Button making is on hold until Alison gets her button maker back. It's currently on loan.
- f. Weed Warriors: Stacey has tried to mix it up with welcoming people to volunteer on days other than Wednesdays. Kathleen Woods and Jeanne Klinger have been meeting on Thursday mornings to weed. Stacey keeps track of who volunteers, how many hours, and how many bags of weeds are collected and reports those numbers to WSA. (They want to know how many square feet of invasive weeds are removed.) On average, 4-6 people show each Wednesday evening to weed.
- g. The Bushkiller vine is rampant and starting to flower, especially along the left side of the ravine, near the neighbor to the left. Stacey has the name of someone who can come and spray it with glyphosate and triclopyr in September. The chemicals will need to sit for a month. The plan is to plant shrubs in October. We have \$800 from Eco Action that will go towards buying shrubs and plants for the Serene Ravine. In the rest of the ravine, the proposal is to do higher targeted spraying with spray bottles. Spraying is weather-dependent. Al is trying to get Bud Reeves to come out. Al talked to someone at the State, and they weren't surprised about the Bushkiller, but they were surprised that the State wasn't doing more about it. Jeanne M talked to some people who do professional removal.
- h. Jeremy is helping to hang the bat houses. He works at Sandy Point and has Thursdays off. Brad will coordinate with Jeremy to hang the bat houses. Karen offered a tree at her house for installing a bat house. Stacey will send Brad H Jeremy's info.
- i. Jeanne gave an update on her Watershed Steward Academy (WSA) Capstone project. She reached out to WSA about her vegetative management plan (VMP) and told Josh about all the things she is planning on planting. After removing the English Ivy, plants that can thrive in dry shade will be needed. The County forester asked for a VMP without planting plans. Jeanne is planning on fundraising to pay for plants. Worst case, shrubs will go in this Fall, then more plants, such as ferns can be planted in the Spring. The shrubs will be needed to fight erosion. Larry said he would spend some additional time considering plants. Jeanne wrote out a list of possible plants from the DNR nursery list such a witch-hazel. She needs to have a final plan by November. She plans on having the English Ivy removed by then.
- j. The Native Plant Sale list of plants that will be for sale is not final except for the North Creek nurseries plugs. Basically, we will use last year's list plus a few additional species such as more ferns, and overall, more of each plant will be ordered for the sale. (Stacey wrote about 5 species of ferns in the latest Caper article. In the September article of the Caper, Stacey will have an article that broadly discusses native plants.) Stacey emailed North Creek her lists. If they don't have what we need, she'll reach out to Cavanaughs. Only CCC board members (as well as the couple that Stacey is consulting for) will be able to pre-order. For delivery, Stacey is thinking of having the North Creek order go to Karen's and the quarts and gallons to go the Katherine Wood's property off River Bay Rd. Again, we will load up trucks on Friday night, and unload on Saturday morning. The sale will be from 9am to noon on September 25th.
- k. Brad K made a beautiful sign for the plant sale. Stacey asked Brad to send her a file that she can print as "fit to page".
- l. Potential experts for the sale:

- i. Yes: Adkins Arboretum, Unity Gardens, Lights Up Baltimore, Chris Pax, 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. Brad K emailed Francesca to arrange to pick up of the WSA demonstration materials.
 - ii. Maybe: Lise Grafton of Master Gardeners and Bay-Wise, Magothy River Association (MRA). Larry will follow up about Goshen Farm.
 - iii. No: Nancy Lawson.
- m. We won't limit the number of people entering the sale site; however, we will stop people from going in before 9am. For safety purposes, we will space out the tables this time to allow more room between them. Like we did last year, we will have 2 check-out lines (1 cash, 1 credit), and have high school kids to write up the tickets. Tonya and Karen will help with writing up more plant signs. Masks will not be required. Phil will contact Mary Lamb to borrow the tables from the Strawberry Festival.
 - n. The Harvest Bash will be on Friday, November 5th. Phil got County approval on the Bash being a fundraiser and membership drive. Now we must figure out how much to charge. We'll talk about possibly doing a family rate, for example. Phil will come up with some options. The band is booked. We will think about whom to hit up for donations. Phil will get the liquor license. Karen has all the décor. Stacey has the raffle tickets for the 50/50 raffle. Last year, some nice people won the raffle and then donated it back. Phil will send an email with additional updates about the Bash. We'll have further planning discussions about the event later.
4. Stacey's other project for next Spring involves an area near the rain garden by Brad K's house. The idea is to remove non-natives around and under some big trees on the left side of the rain garden and to define the area by planting ferns and natives around and under the trees. Brad suggested a little bridge to make it a nice little walk. Last month, several board members did some weeding in that rain garden. Stacey replaced the beautyberry. Brad K, Stacey, and Jeanne K pulled some non-natives and cleaned it up over 2 days.
5. New Business:
 - a. Brad H said someone who works on water quality said she wants to come to our meetings. Brad will text Stacey her contact info. She works with Tonya at AACC. She would be a good addition. (Her name might be Sally.)
 - b. Jeanne M said that if anyone wants to be a Watershed Steward, it will be a hybrid class this year (in person and virtual).

Adjourned 8:29pm.