

## Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 11/15/2021

The meeting was held in the Cape St Claire clubhouse.

In attendance (alphabetically): Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Karen Minor, Neil Macindoe, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger

Call to order 7:07pm.

1. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report:
  - a. Balances: General Fund \$14,143, Grants \$382. We still have money set aside not counted in that (a check for Jeanne M for the mulch, and a credit card charge for North Creek that hasn't come in.) We are collecting the money for the Tree Troopers project and then we are giving a check to the Watershed Stewards to reimburse them. We are just facilitating the project. Stacey will ask them tomorrow if we need to pay sales tax. Brad K said they have been down this road a dozen times.
  - b. Website: Phil continues to make regular updates to the CCC website. Stacey is working on the Caper article that is due Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Old Business:
  - a. Stacey attended the CSCIA BOG meeting and gave a synopsis of what was discussed in the meeting. The Christmas Tree Lighting is this month; Beau is working on the discussions about Rt 50; Outdoor dining is extended to January 23rd; Beach projects are still progressing; All ongoing beach restoration is hinging on permits from the State and County; The storm damage to homes on River Bay was extensive.
  - b. Jeanne Martin's Watershed Steward Academy capstone project is done! Last night, Stacey talked to Jeanne, who expressed her gratitude for everyone's support. Jeanne checked on the Deep Creek site. Overall, it is holding up well. There were 20 trees. WSA will reimburse us \$100. The project went well.
  - c. The Serene Ravine sign permit was approved 6-12 weeks ago, and the sign was ordered the week of 10/11. Stacey hasn't heard back on the sign. We are waiting for it to come back. They will tell us when it will be installed.
  - d. The wildlife cameras were taken down. Neil said it was tricky according to the Cape attorney, partly because there was no signage saying the ravine is under surveillance. CSCIA will look into it to determine if the cameras can go back up.
  - e. Spraying in the Serene Ravine began 10/14. The 2nd final spraying for 2021 was on 11/1. It's hard to tell now how successful the spraying was. Some leaves have started to yellow. We will know more in the Spring. We haven't been invoiced yet. The company who performed the spraying will email Ryan and Stacey. As soon as we get the 1st invoice, we will forward it to Fish and Wildlife to pay for.
  - f. Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) meeting was on 10/20 to apply for a mini grant. Stacey met with 2 women from CBT on the 20th to talk about best options for grants. They suggested mini grants. Stacey started the application so that the money can be used for spraying. There is another \$2,500 grant that is just for plants that we can use later after spraying is over. The mini grant is a rolling thing until funds run out. We can get up to \$5K. Stacey applied also to the Mountain Dew grant, which can be up to \$5K. That's a possibility for \$10K total.

#### 4. New Business:

- a. Stacey gave the BOG a recap of the Weed Warrior accomplishments this year. Stacey concluded the following: 318 hours of work done, 192 people volunteered (average of 8 people a week), 170+ bags of weeds were pulled. Overall, Weed Warriors had good turnout, demonstrating the community showing support for the project. On the many occasions that volunteers have been out at the ravine working, Stacey got a lot of compliments from the community. Next year, Weed Warriors will start in the first week of April.
- b. Tree Troopers is the shrub project. Josh from WSA was saying they have approximately 600 trees. They are pushing to get them in the ground. The minimum order is 20. You can place the order through Stacey on Facebook. This Sunday is the deadline to have orders in. There is a link to donate to CCC on the page. The trees will be delivered to Karen's house on 12/4. Pickups will be over the weekend. The trees are \$20 per tree. Stacey picked a few trees. Phil suggested an oak. Al suggested a Willow Oak. There are 8 choices. Service berries and dogwoods are also good choices.
- c. Table skirt banner: Jeanne K has been looking into the table skirts. There is not much cost difference between a full skirt and an overlay. We want heavy duty cloth. Once we decide what we want, they can come up with a design. She will let us know. The company will do a mockup. They didn't have a 2-sided cloth. It's better to have a full tablecloth. We decided to go with the tablecloth. Brad K will email Jeanne the high-resolution logo.
- d. T-shirts (Brad K): All votes are in. We'll go with light blue & navy blue. The motion to place the order passed, so we can place the order. Each CCC board member will get 2 shirts. CCC will pay for one, and members will pay for the 2nd one. We should email Brad our order (colors and size). Brad will place the order.
- e. Membership drive 2022: Jeanne Martin was going to take on the membership drive but she's not at this evening's meeting, so we will table that discussion.
- f. Mulching the Serene Ravine path will be Saturday, 11/20 at 9:30am. Bill won't be there but will try to spread some wood chips ahead of time. Neil suggested dumping a load at the head of the path off his street by the pump house so we will have two piles to spread. Some people signed up. A boy scout and some other youth will help us. Stacey asked his mom to spread the word. Jeanne K will see if some middle schoolers would want to contribute some volunteer hours.
- g. Some potential projects for the Spring were discussed:
  - The shade garden at Little Magothy beach. 4 flats of Carex are left over from Jeanne M's capstone project.
  - Continue Weed Warriors. Start with a kickoff that includes the unveiling of the sign.
  - Add maintenance of Jeanne M's capstone project at Deep Creek, by including the work as part of Weed Warrior Wednesdays or other dates.
  - Apply for another Unity Gardens grant.
  - The path behind the swimming pool. Phil asked about it. Neil talked to the scout master. Steiny (Richard Steinbach) offered to help on the planning and organization. Phil sent an email to the office about it to just get the connection with Steiny to try and approach him to ask whether he was willing to help out. Brad K said he might have his email address. He will try to find it. We need someone to tell us what to do. Karen will reach out to his mother. His proposal was very thorough and interesting and promising. Phil said it still behooves us to follow up on that. The scout or CCC

might be able to get grants. Brad K said engineering and heavy equipment would be needed to catch all the water runoff from that street. The scout's idea was to slow the water with step ponds. It's a big job, bigger than what he can do now, but with CCC and additional help, the project can be done. Something must be done.

- One of Brad K's oyster growers was trying to sign up to the WSA, so that might be a project down the road.
- h. We should plan to do film viewings or talks or presentations. (These were suspended due to COVID). Alison Milligan gave a presentation at the library. Bill recommends her as a speaker. She talks about how to use native plants in the yard. Phil suggested Chris Pax, but she's not available this year.
  - i. We need a new Habitat Hero. Stacey noticed a property along the road to Deep Creek.
  - j. Brad K and Phil noted that the County guy involved with construction site monitoring is very responsive.
  - k. For the 2021 recap for the end of the year Caper and article, Stacey would write up a summary of what we have done.
    - Weed Warriors
    - 2 capstone projects
    - Eco action planting
    - Sign ordered
    - Mulched the path
    - Habitat Hero awards and tour
    - Plant sale
    - Plant swap
    - Clean Stream cleanup
    - Supported Noah's reef building
    - Tree Troopers
    - Oyster restoration- in concert with Marylanders Grow Oysters, ORP, MRA and CSCIA
    - construction site monitoring for stormwater runoff
  - l. Bill noted that CCC members worked on the Little Magothy rain garden on several occasions (weeding, planting trees and plugs). Stacey noted that we have done a lot this year!
  - m. Stacey implored us all to think more about goals for CCC in 2022.

Adjourned 8:13.