

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 3/21/2022

The meeting was held in the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse.

In attendance (alphabetically): Al Todd, Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Karen Minor, Larry Jennings, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger

Call to order 7:07pm.

1. Minutes from the February meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer's report:
 - a. Phil sent latest account activity with balances. The General Fund balance is \$12,500. The Grants balance is \$4100, but we still have \$2,000 held over for spraying in the Spring.
 - b. Phil has been keeping up with the CCC website.
3. Old business:
 - a. Phil attended the BOG meeting. His summary:
 - i. Bill Szczytko resigned from the BOG.
 - ii. Cape Cleanup will be on Saturday, Sept 24th.
 - iii. Strawberry Festival planning is in full swing.
 - iv. A significant number of beach parties have been requested at both beaches.
 - v. Neil Macindoe went out on his stand-up paddleboard and installed an osprey platform. He didn't lose one tool to do it!
 - vi. No news about the Deep Creek dredging.
 - vii. At Lake Claire beach, a sign will be set up so that residents can position their smart phone below it and take a photo. Your picture will be sent to the office, and a movie will be made from the photos.
 - viii. The Board acknowledged how good our Serene Ravine sign looks.
 - b. Stacey applied for but did not get the Unity Gardens grant. They gave preference to organizations that hadn't received grants yet, putting CCC at a disadvantage. They also didn't understand part of Stacey's plan. Stacey talked to one of them to address their questions about the plan. Stacey might have Marita draw the plan on the computer. We can reapply in July. Stacey still wants to move forward and spend \$1,500-\$1,600 of CCC money anyway for planting in the Little Magothy rain garden and surrounding areas. In the Fall, CCC can hopefully get money for future projects. We will order Carex from North Creek Nurseries and the rest from Babikow. Stacey pared down the list of plants to \$1,386. With shipping and handling, the total will be around \$1,600. Jeanne M will do a Facebook fundraiser for her birthday. Our order will be close to \$2,000, but Jeanne's fundraiser will hopefully raise \$400-\$500. The CCC board approved that proposal. We should email Stacey our lists of what we want. She passed out the plant list and quantities.
 - c. Stacey has heard from 17 people who want to participate in the Shrub Swap, and she's accepting more people (up to 25). We are offering 3 shrubs. Some have signed up to ask for help by CCC members with digging them out. In April, Stacey will order the shrubs and match up people to dig them up. Delivery will be at Karen's on Friday, May 6th, and then pick up will be on Saturday, May 7th.
 - d. The Serene Ravine sign: Al says he regularly sees several groups of people read the sign every single day. A lot of people are stopping to read it. The sign helped people realize the path is community property, so more people are enjoying the path.

- e. Stacey created an Open House event to kick off this season of Weed Warriors and highlight the new sign. 47 people are interested in coming. The open house will be on Friday, April 8th, and we will set up table in Al's driveway.
- f. Saturday, April 30th will be planting at the Little Magothy shade garden with 2 shifts: morning from 9-11am, and afternoon from 1-3pm. The plants will be delivered to the site the day before.
- g. Weed Warriors worked Friday night. Cathy Hagerty, Bill, Stacey, Katherine Woods, & the Barbour family contributed their time and labor. Stacey observed that 8-10 skunk cabbages are coming up. The Pawpaw trees planted last year are looking good.
- h. Tonya talked to Tammy Domanski, a doctor at Anne Arundel Community College, and she is very willing to do a talk on runoff & water quality. Brad Hill had talked about recommending her. Phil contacted The Nature Conservancy and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and if we get to the point of setting it up, they are willing to work with us.
- i. Wildlife Cameras: Neil emailed Stacey that we have to submit a proposal on where we want them. Stacey said let's just table them, since we must figure out where we put them.
- j. Stacey got the Chesapeake Bay Trust's mini grant application submitted 12 hours after it closed. They still accepted it and are considering it. As a result of their review, they emailed Stacey with 3 questions, which Stacey answered immediately. The grant would be for Spring. Fingers crossed.
- k. Al asked if U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) ever paid for the spraying. The first spraying was paid by Cape. The 2nd spraying was paid by CCC. They charged us for 1 guy to spray (not 2). Coming this Spring would be the grant money of \$2,000 from FWS.
- l. Christine Ryder lives in the Cape works for FWS as a grant writer. She wrote that grant for CSCIA to get the \$50,000 for Cape St Claire beach projects. She offered to write up the grant application next time for CCC. She helps with home schooling girl scouts. The girl scouts are looking to plant trees or shrubs (witch hazel). She met with Stacey and Brad and brought the girls to see the site at Deep Creek. Stacey will invite Christine to our Board Meeting.
- m. On Sunday, Jeanne M and Stacey met with Lydia, our Watershed Stewards Academy candidate. They measured the site of 600 sq ft which is almost the same size as Jeanne's WSA project site. The Carex Pensylvanica and the Witch Hazel on Jeanne's site look good. Jeanne and Stacey got about \$2,500 for Lydia's project. She will get \$500 from WSA to buy the shrubs again. Jeanne bought the mulch last year from Gary's Gardens her project, but Larry noted that if we order 20 trees, we should get 20 bags of mulch. The restoration coordinator of WSA left this year. Jeanne and Stacey are Lydia's official mentors. Bill will do the Tree Trooper certification. Jeanne K would like to do it too, but she can't this year. Technically, if you don't have Tree Trooper, you can't get the trees. Bill will advise people on where to plant and be our coordinator.
- n. CCC will have a table at the Strawberry Festival which will be on Saturday, June 4th. We needed something to give away. Stacey did a quick search. Last year, we gave away Echinacea seeds. Stacey found Coreopsis seeds. If we order a couple hundred, it would \$250. We can personalize them with a CCC sticker. Phil reminded us that we could do stickers for cars for a few hundred dollars too. It's not a kid's thing but something to give away and promote CCC. Stacey can print out some coloring pages. Larry said our logo is pretty to hand out to kids. The CCC board voted in favor of stickers. Karen will donate a prize to have a free drawing for. Stacey will bring her table and Bill will lend his canopy. We'll talk more next month.
- o. Phil said we selected September 24th as the date for the Native Plant Fest, but that is the same day as the Cape Cleanup, so we must change the date. September 17th is the final selection. The Goshen Farm

open house is the same day, but Brad noted that the times don't conflict, as the plant sale is normally over by 11am. Phil reserved the sign board for a week early. He notified Ryan about it.

4. New Business:

- a. Larry Jennings is our new Habitat Hero. Congratulations. Stacey gave him the sign and walked around and took some photos. Stacey will submit a write-up to Phil, and she asked Larry to write something up too that can be added to that.
- b. Project Clean Stream (PCS). Beau suggested the Corral (where we do the plant sale) as another place in the cleanup. We'll do Cape St Claire Rd, the lot by the elementary school, the cloverleaf, the path by the pool, and the far side of the ball field. The step pools behind the firehouse and the steps pools by the Blue Rooster are good areas too, and maybe also Deep Creek. The plan is to meet in the parking lot besides Graul's. Brad has sign ups trickling in. It's on social media such as Facebook. Stacey suggested that Brad send the links to Phil, and Phil will post it on the website. He will put up signs along the road. Phil has a list of 250 or so people.
- c. Brad has a couple T-shirts left, for Bill Szczytko and Neil.
- d. Weed Warriors will officially start on Wednesday, April 6th, but the Open House will be on Friday the 8th, from 5pm-7pm. Bill will get the pizza. Al will contribute a cooler of beer. Brad will bring wine. Stacey will get water. Stacey will have a sign-up thing for people to sign up. Al asked if we have any signs to slow people down for safety.
- e. Jeanne M talked about doing a children's activity at the Serene Ravine on a Friday April 22nd, which is Earth Day, from 6-7:30pm. Stacey asked Olivia West if she and her friends wanted to do some cute activity. She's willing to do that. Stacey will probably go. Stacey posted the event on Facebook.
- f. Congratulations to Neil on installation of his osprey platform at Lake Claire Beach. The osprey are already living in it.
- g. Jeanne K said she has a ton of white oak acorns in her yard.
- h. Larry said that the reef ball build will be at the high school in May. He would like to hold a party with buck-a-shuck oysters on the beach.

Adjourned 8:34pm.