

## Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 7/18/2022

The meeting was held at Phil Ourisson's home.

In attendance (alphabetically): Al Todd, Alison Sayres, Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Karen Minor, Larry Jennings, Lydia McPherson-Shambarger, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger

Call to order: 7:06pm.

1. The June minutes were approved pending corrections.
2. Treasurer's report:
  - a. Phil emailed the numbers, which are approximate this month due to computer problems. General Fund \$13,870, with credit card balances coming due, leaves \$12,750 available. Grants Fund \$6,070. He will email a full report. Phil sent an email regarding the Broadneck Grill on Wednesday explaining that CCC receives 10% from food receipts, but in lieu of that, people are welcome to contribute. He got \$80 out of it. Christine Fowler reached out to Stacey and said Larry was such a great help to her. She wants to join CCC even though she lives outside the Cape. She contributed \$20 and then sent in another \$100. Larry helped her for 3 hours. She wants to get involved, volunteer, and come to the Plant Sale to buy quite a bit. Stacey told her about Weed Warriors. Phil used the credit cards to pay the balances from North Creek, Babikow, Cavanaughs, and T-shirts (\$227).
  - b. Nothing new on the CCC website.
3. Old business:
  - a. Stacey attended last Monday's monthly Board of Governor's meeting. Her summary: Candidates Night will be August 29th at the Clubhouse after the primaries; The dredging project at Deep Creek has been pushed down the line, and therefore attention has turned to doing the project at Site 2 instead. The County dredging is still a Go; There will be money remaining, about \$204K, after all construction. \$6K is still needed for remaining monitoring. Beau, Christine, Stacey, Neil, and Ryan met to discuss future projects. They discussed Lydia's WSA capstone project, for which her VMP is approved; Neil brought up Youth Sailing kayak racks. They are trying to move that along. People don't use their kayaks and there is a long waiting list. They are trying to come up with ideas, such as creating extra space. Stacey thought of a lottery. Youth sailing is thinking of ideas. They were asking the Cape for additional sites, which was rejected.
  - b. The Cape has \$204K they are willing to spend left over from the Beach project. We can spend it anywhere in the Cape. Stacey met with Beau, Christine, Stacey, Neil, and Ryan about possible ways to spend that money. There are seven sites in the Cape. Two are almost done, and there are five sites that remain. Park Circle is site #7. It could be included but it is over six acres and there is no parking near it. They are going to do a write-up to maximize the amount of matching funds we can get in the form of grants, such as from Maryland Fish & Wildlife and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. The first step is to get Biohabitats back on board, update the status on the seven sites, and how to take the next four or five sites and put them all in the grant write-up together. Christine would help write the grant application and create a comprehensive conservation plan. She explained that the strategy is to get matching money (part of \$204K) to bring in more money, and that we could possibly receive \$800K to \$1m as grant money. Next Tuesday is the Quarterly meeting, and it would be good for members of CCC to show up for that. Christine will probably talk at the meeting. This grant application is due in February, so we have some time. They are looking for the Alliance to be on

board with running it again. Biohabitats is on board with updating that plan. It might be a 2–3-part project. We get initial funding and then we apply for more to continue the project. It could be a couple years. All would be the same grant and funded with different phases.

- c. After that meeting, Beau found out that John Sarbanes was going to visit the Cape. Stacey, Brad, and Larry met with him. He wanted to see what we were doing. Someone brought up the Conowingo Dam issue. Sarbanes said he could be helpful with dealing with the Army Corps of Engineers.
- d. Brad talked about the intersection of Lake Claire Dr and River Bay Rd. There is a trail that goes down to Lake Claire beach. He's hoping he had given that as a possible project to be added to Stacey's list.
- e. Native Plant Sale: North Creek let Stacey know they are increasing prices. Anyone with orders for delivery after August pay the new prices. She hasn't updated the Excel file with the new prices yet, but she will do that. We will sell quarts and gallons for \$5 & \$7. For shrubs, we would pay \$9 and sell them for \$15. At these prices, we can still advertise as "rock bottom" prices. Stacey talked to Alison Milligan. Alison won't be there but will deliver shrubs on Friday to the field. Stacey asked people what kinds of shrubs they would like to see be available at the Sale. Beautyberry & Witch Hazel were the 2 top ones. Maple leaf Viburnum and St John's Wort were popular. They will be 3-gallon sized shrubs. Stacey will see where we are to determine how many shrubs to buy. Phil noted that a few years ago we had some shrubs that didn't sell, but they were scruffy. Stacey said the demand seems good lately. She will try to get the numbers this week. Other than that, all is on track. We will need people (Jeanne K) to make plant tags. There are some honeysuckle gallons from Babikow that will need separate pricing. We will need more descriptive signs for some of the new ones. Brad will do his signs for Cape St Claire Rd, and he will update the flyer to put on the website.
- f. Weed Warrior report: We will alternate between the two sites (Serene Ravine and Little Magothy). Past the pump house, some Bushkiller is coming up in the path. The spraying did have some good effects. There was one spot spraying that was in June. Phil will follow up with Ryan to see if a bill was sent to him, since he hasn't gotten one from them yet. Around \$1,300. It should come out of the grant money from CBT. The infestation is definitely not as bad now. We need to hit Deep Creek with weeding on a Wednesday. Today, Jeanne K and Katherine were the sole weeders at the Serene Ravine. Those weeds need to be bagged up and brought to the dumpster. Stacey will take care of that. We got an order of wild bleeding hearts and wild ginger. They are at Stacey's house. The wild ginger will go into the Serene Ravine. The bleeding hearts will go into the Little Magothy shade garden and some into Deep Creek. They planted the Amphibolia already among the Witch Hazel at Little Magothy site and it's looking good.

#### 4. New business:

- a. Tree Troopers: Bill did the Tree Trooper training thru WSA. Katie also did the training and she wanted to plant Tree Trooper trees at Park Circle, so she had Rob Bowen of WSA come out to the site. He decided it's not feasible. Then Katie took them to the Serene Ravine. She emailed Stacey about planting trees at the Serene Ravine, but Stacey rejected that idea as long as spraying is going on. The trees can probably be used at Little Magothy beach. Of twenty trees, five will be used at Lydia's project, leaving fifteen to be planted at the Little Magothy site. Serviceberry trees will be planted off the right side of the driveway, two American Hollies will be planted further back in, and Sumac and Witch Hazel will also be planted. Over the next couple months, Weed Warriors will target the areas where they want to plant the trees, including pulling more of the Burning Bush. Al said the most ideal place to plant trees on Cape property is the Main Beach, where there are very few trees. Brad said there at least a couple dozen trees that have not survived. Larry said the contract

allows for 10-30% loss so they don't water new trees. The price on the trees is \$20. That leaves 300 trees that would go there. Stacey asked for Cape to pay for \$150 of that. CCC is willing to split it with Cape. Katie will write up the plan. All the trees would get delivered Oct 7th to that site. There will have to be a planting going on. Stacey is asking Katie to plan for this. Her planting day could be a Sunday or even the next weekend. The property owner has to sign off on maintenance of the trees (that's Ryan).

- b. Phil reached out to Jackie Specht of The Nature Conservancy about being a guest speaker. Jackie is the Resilient Coasts Program Director of The Nature Conservancy in Maryland/DC. She is available the first week of November. We already had booked the Clubhouse for Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> as CCC's free day, for the Harvest Bash. Phil told Leslie we won't do the Harvest Bash, but to keep our reservation for the Clubhouse on that day for the speaking event that evening. Stacey also talked to Jackie. Jackie will work on putting a talk together on sea level rise and waterways. Stacey would like to ask Beau to talk for 15 minutes about the local projects we are doing in the Cape. This speaking event could be a good educational thing for the community on why we are doing these projects. Al said if we can't get Beau, we can get the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to do it. Jackie would speak for free. We'll put a donation box out. Brad said we have done BYOB at these types of events before. Phil will arrange to reserve the sign board. Stacey will call Jackie about speaking on the 4<sup>th</sup> as the definite date. Doors will open at 6:00 for socializing and the speaker will start at 7:00. Phil suggested to Stacey to find out if Jackie needs audio visual equipment. Jackie said she can speak as long as we want, maybe 40 minutes and then have time afterwards for Q&A.
- c. English Ivy removal/Big Trees project: Jeanne M was elected to help out with that. We had talked about tying together the ivy removal with protecting big trees. The committee on this project will be Jeanne M, Al, Larry, and Brad. Robert Corletta, who is the head of Urban Forestry for DC, volunteered at the Strawberry Festival. Al's original idea was promotional. Model something after the Champion Tree program, and Larry came up with the idea of Cape Loves Trees (identify the trees they live near, or tree lined streets they think are the prettiest). If you love your trees, there are things to do to keep them healthy, such as keeping ivy off of it. Cabling works and helps trees from breaking. Jeanne K suggested not forgetting about the mulch volcanoes.
- d. WSA candidate report: Lydia said Stacey has been awesome. The VMP was approved. Luckily, Lydia's project is not located within the 100 ft buffer. She is applying for the Unity Gardens grant, the application for which is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. She met with Jim Crafton, who is on the Unity Gardens board, and he will be looking over the application. He and his wife met Lydia and Stacey down at Deep Creek. He is excited. He is impressed with the maintenance. Lydia is working through the list of plants. Dates will be Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. The first Saturday will be removal, the next Saturday will be on planting. Lydia will try to get her WSA classmates to help out on the first weekend. Lydia's site is 800 sq ft. (Jeanne M's WSA project was a thousand sq ft).
- e. Ace Hardware Round Up fundraiser: Stacey dropped off a letter to Melissa, who donated a couple thousand over and above the amount raised.
- f. Also, Bella's does a tasting pairing thing with a fundraiser tied to it. They just donated to the SPCA, who got \$300-\$400. Stacey drafted a letter to Julianne Sullivan about that, asking for them consider adding us in there. Phil said he could put it on the website.
- g. Brad has a \$72 receipt for repairing the oyster pump. He gave the receipt to Phil.

Adjourned 8:32pm.