

## Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 4/17/2023

In attendance: Al Todd, Bill Rappoport, Bill Lynch, Brad Knopf, Cathy Gazzo, Christina Fowler, Jeanne Klinger, Karen Minor, Larry Jennings, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger

Call to order: 7:11pm.

1. The March CCC meeting minutes were approved pending updates from Stacey.
2. Treasurer's report:
  - a. Account balances: Phil sent out an email with details on the accounts. General Fund \$16,245; Grants \$3,257.
  - b. Website: Phil posted Stacey's blog on the CCC website with no problem. Stacey said she needs to pick a new Habitat Hero. Phil agreed that Al's suggestion of a new platform would be a good idea. Brad did some research on several platforms. Al said he used Wicks. It would cost some money to have someone put the CCC website on the new platform, so we agreed to look for free or inexpensive service to do that. Brad volunteered to see what's involved. Al suggested Anne Arundel Community College students who need projects to do pro bono. We could maintain the website once they set it up. Christie said maybe Bill S. may have a new recommendation. Karen will ask her friend who works in the college computer lab. Al suggested putting out the word asking for pro bono work of setting up the page. It would be beneficial to find someone tied to the Cape.
3. Stacey attended last Monday's monthly Board of Governor's (BOG) meeting. Her summary:
  - a. Tuesday, April 25th is the Quarterly Cape meeting at the Clubhouse.
  - b. Congressman John Sarbanes will be at the Clubhouse on Thursday, April 27th at 7pm to discuss Whitehall as a possible future Chesapeake National Recreation Area (CNRA).
  - c. CSC Parking stickers should be on cars by Monday, May 1st.
  - d. The Strawberry Festival is Saturday, June 3rd. CCC's table will be set up next to Girl Scout Troop 1134. We will talk about Cape Conservation Corps.
  - e. The Cape Cleanup is early this year: July 14th & 15th (Friday-Saturday).
  - f. They are working on the July 4th parade.
  - g. Business lot owners will talk to Broadneck Grill & Cantina, whose outdoor area in the parking lot is not being used.
  - h. The grant application submission deadline is the April 21st. Phil wrote up CCC's letter of support. We are asking for \$70K for the planning grant.
4. Committee reports:
  - a. Big Trees committee: Robert will go out with Al to measure trees and follow up with people. They'll start putting the WSA door hangers on doors of properties with English Ivy. Al asked how often he should provide an article. Stacey suggested one article per month. In response to Al's request for suggestions, Larry suggested the link to Doug Tallamy's one-page list of largest hosts, of which trees take the top spots. A while back, Robert suggested an article detailing the many oak varieties in the Cape. Other ideas are wildlife-friendly and Bay-friendly trees, and opportunities for free trees.
  - b. Grants committee: update flyers.
  - c. Garden Advisory committee: Larry reported that his newest project on Broadview Drive is in total shade, and that he has a bigger project in Arnold that he's working on. Otherwise, it's been quiet for new jobs.

## 5. Old Business:

- a. The Native Swap yesterday went well and quickly. Unloading was easy and fast. Except for a few no shows, it went well. We had a lot of extra sales for the extra plants. Bill and Phil helped or will help with digging up shrubs and planting the new shrubs for a few people.
- b. Benches update: All four benches have been installed. Brad installed them all by himself. Phil will follow up with attaching them with the I-bolts. They look nice with "Cape Conservation Corps" inscribed in the wood, and each bench sits two people comfortably. For the Earth Day event coming on Friday, Stacey will do a preview photo of the benches and recognize Bill Lynch for constructing them.
- c. Brad reported that Project Clean Stream was successful and went well, even after postponing one day. Another Project Clean Stream, in the Upper Magothy in Pasadena, will be on Sunday, May 7th. The woodland stream runs from Lake Waterford down along Catherine Ave. There are 12-13 tires in the stream.
- d. Stacey represented CCC at STEM night on March 28<sup>th</sup> at Cape St Claire Elementary school. Stacey borrowed the Watershed Steward storm water run-off model and Brad helped set it up. She reported being very busy, showing the kids the model several times.
- e. Weed Warriors kickoff: There have been several successful weeks of weeding. Last week, 14 bags of weeds were filled. The next two to three Weed Warrior nights will be at Little Magothy Beach, and then switch to the Serene Ravine. At Deep Creek, Lydia's foam flower, coral bells, and phlox look really nice. Some of the plants Stacey ordered can be put in. Friday at 5:30 is the Earth Day event at Little Magothy Beach. Bill will bring the pizzas. Jeanne will bring Phil's big container of drinking water, cups, and the cookies she made. Jeanne got her circles cut up. Stacey will bring glue sticks, the materials for the scavenger hunt activity, the CCC table skirt, and table. Olivia West said she will be there and can help with the activities.
- f. Last night at Little Magothy Beach, Stacey talked to Girl Scouts about native and invasive plants. She wrote up definitions. The kids enjoyed the scavenger hunt and they got to take a Packera plant home.
- g. On Saturday, Stacey rented the clubhouse for the Watershed Steward class to gather. They walked the neighborhood to do a neighborhood assessment while others walked Emily's property for the residential site assessment. They are getting 80 plants. This Saturday at 8:30am, the class will put in the plants at the property. The other half of the class will help weed the Little Magothy Beach with Weed Warriors, and then the groups will swap locations. Katherine will come on Saturday to help. Some of the Burning Bush at Little Magothy Beach are resprouting from the main stumps, so Triclopyr will be applied.
- h. Friday, April 28th will be delivery of plants straight to the Little Magothy Beach. Planting will be on the following day, on Saturday the 29th. Some plants will go to the Serene Ravine and Deep Creek.
- i. Stacey noted her thanks to Marita for preparing the spreadsheet of Corporate Sponsor Levels. Phil had some suggestions for rearranging some of the rows. Phil wrote a cover letter, so we should peruse that. Stacey suggested a one-page letter with photos describing the things we do. Stacey said the intent would be to go talk to the business owner. Al suggested a contact name at the bottom of the letter. Brad said these are custom presentations depending on the potential donor. Stacey asked everyone for photos that could be used.
- j. Business cards: Phil started looking into them but hasn't found a good source yet. Al suggested Staples or Office Depot.
- k. Maryland Native Plants program: Larry sent out something about that via email. The legislation will go through, and the governor is expected to sign it. Al cited past acts such as the Maryland the Beautiful Act, with goals to conserve 40% of the land area by 2040, and an Urban Parks program to develop urban parks.

## 6. New business:

- a. Alison Milligan proposed having a speaker event in August before CCC's Native Plant sale. She would talk about Doug Tallamy's National Park in your own back yard to generate excitement about

the plant sale. Alison's fee is \$100. We agreed would be best to have the event at the Clubhouse on a weeknight in the first week in September, closer to the date of the sale on September 23rd. Stacey agreed to ask her, and Phil will check with the Clubhouse for weeknights in August or September so we can give dates to Alison.

- b. Habitat Hero Tour will start on Saturday, June 17th at 10am at Rob Wood's house, followed by a visit to the property of Brendan Curren, followed by Larry's lunchtime tour.
- c. Nothing else is scheduled in May.
- d. We agreed to move the July CCC meeting from Monday July 17<sup>th</sup> to the following Monday, the 24th. If we can't get the Clubhouse, Larry offered his porch for the meeting.
- e. We gave money to Olivia for her project. Her class sent us a thank you note.
- f. Brad gave an update on Olivia's future plans for planting submerged aquatic vegetation (SAVs).
- g. Stacey said that of the Chesapeake Bay Trust grant money for spraying the Serene Ravine, we have some money left over which needs to be used by May. We might be able to ask for a one-month extension. Since we can use up to 10% for something other than spraying, Al suggested buying some trees.

Adjourned 8:40pm.