

Cape Conservation Corps Board Meeting Minutes January 15, 2024

In attendance:

Board members:

Al Todd, Alison Sayres, Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Christie Fowler, Larry Jennings, Karen Minor, Marcia Dudley, Stacey Wildberger, Tonya Powell

Cape Liaison:

Jennifer Conner

Guests:

Betsy Jackson, Cathy Gazzo, Maxine Da-Som Yoon

Call to order: 7:06pm.

1. The December CCC meeting minutes were approved.
2. Treasurers report:
 - a. Account balances: (Phil sent an email of the details)
 - i. General Fund \$23,174,
 - ii. Grants Fund is depleted to zero. (The last was used to spray the Bushkiller in the Serene Ravine.)
 - b. Website – Nothing new.
3. Stacey attended the most recent CSCIA BOG meeting. Her summary:
 - a. They talked about the piers contracts.
 - b. Broadneck Council- Beau said they are always looking for volunteers.
 - c. Jerome Zadera is the new CSCIA president.
 - d. Little Magothy River Association (LMRA) small dredge of the inlet will not go forward. Jenn noted that it will be too expensive. They are hoping to be part of the State dredge later, which will be no cost to LMRA. The likelihood of us getting the sand, possibly 4-6K cubic yards, is high.
 - e. Grants are still up in the air. Hoping the Federal grant money will open back up. The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay will still go after other grants.
 - f. LMRA is now a recognized organization of the Cape community. Brad said they have their own SCBD (Special Community Benefit).
 - g. There will be some meetings in the future about the new firehouse. They have to rip out the step pools and want the County to plant 6 acres of plants for remediation.
 - h. Stacey asked about planting along the Bike Trail.
4. Committee reports:
 - a. Weed Warriors: No updates.
 - b. Big Trees: Al put out the final map and Phil posted it. Stacey will run that in the March Caper.
 - c. Garden Advisory: Nothing happening.
 - d. Grants: No updates.
 - e. Corporate Sponsors: Nothing new. Brad said the Magothy River Association (MRA) needs to do a corporate sponsorship. Brad asked if we could share our methods. We all agreed.
 - f. Habitat Heroes: No updates.
5. Old business:
 - a. Scholarships: They have the word out to counselors and teachers. Stacey posted the application on Facebook, and she will mention it in the March Caper. We haven't gotten any applications yet. The teachers and counselors thought the application looked good.
 - b. English Ivy Removal:

- i. Saturday, January 27th from 9:45-noon: volunteer event at the trail near Admiral's Walk to do ivy removal.
 - ii. Saturday, February 3rd event (sponsors are CCC, Anne Arundel Weed Warriors (AAWR) and Save Our Trees) to remove English Ivy from the trees at Deep Creek.
 - iii. On hold: English Ivy educational event(s) at Cape St Claire resident properties.
- c. At the Little Magothy Beach, a huge tree came down and took down other trees. Stacey talked to Christie of Richard's Tree Service and Frank Tewey (CSCIA Town Manager) about them, and they looked at them. Distinct paths were made to get the trees out of there with machines. Christie has gone above beyond what was asked of her. Stacey will talk to Christie tomorrow about leaving some of the tree roots to create some wildlife habitat. Christie will leave some of the logs along the boundary to the neighbor's property. Frank was on top of it. The rain garden also needs to be cleared of leaves.
- d. Events for 2024:
 - i. Jesse Corlis from Broadneck Bluegrass wants to work with us again on as many as four Cape Vibes dates this year. Sunday, September 15th and Sunday, October 6th (Jennifer said there was a possible conflict). There is also an April date and a possible July/August date. We agreed that we will take the September and October dates. Stacey will let Jesse know.
 - ii. CCC's speaker event will be on Wednesday, March 27th at the Cape Clubhouse. Maxine Da-SomYoon is a Master Gardener Coordinator for Anne Arundel County and the Horticulture Agent Associate at the University of Maryland Extension Dairy Farm in Gambrills. At our meeting, Maxine shared some ideas of topics. At the event, she'll give an introduction of Master Gardeners and explain the program. She said she has a PowerPoint on the research and updates about spotted lanternfly update in Maryland, or she can talk about pollinator gardens. Al emphasized that people are really interested in pollinator gardens. We agreed that's a good topic. Brad volunteered to make the flyers. Doors open 6:30, Maxine will speak until 7:45, followed by Q&A. Larry told Maxine about the Plant Sale we do. We will give Maxine a donation in the form of a check to the University of Maryland.
 - iii. No date for En Plein Air yet.
 - iv. Saturday, May 4th at Little Magothy Beach:
 - Spring planting of plugs. At a conference Stacey attended a month ago, she met people representing Kind Earth Growers, which sells plugs, some of which North Creek don't provide. Stacey wants to order from Kind Earth Growers: Solidago Flexicaulis, Phlox Divaricata (Woodland Phlox), and Carex Woodii (a Mount Cuba study indicates this Carex is the top performer. It is like Carex Pensylvanica). Also, Stacey will order single flats of Wild Strawberry (Fragaria Virginiana) and Jacobs Ladder (50 of each). That will total to \$1,400. We all voted and agreed to it.
 - We'll have the shrubs for the Native Shrub Swap delivered at the Little Magothy site for pick up by swap participants. Stacey posted about beautiful plants people can choose from, but those plants are not available, so she has to revise her list. We are planning on allowing 25 participants. The unwanted plants to target will be Nandina, Barberry, Butterfly Bush, Burning Bush, or people can write in something else in "other", and we will consider it.
- e. Volunteer opportunities:
 - i. Alison Sayres will work on the trifold brochure.
 - ii. Phil asked Bill Szczytko to make up a calendar for CCC events on our website. Stacey suggested a calendar with a hyperlink to each event page.

6. New business:

- a. For Little Magothy Beach, Stacey will order some more *Euonymus Americanus* from the guy we got shrubs from before, and she'll figure out what more we will need from him. Stacey noted that we will also work with Rachel Carey at the Providence Center again and we'll beef up our order with her. Rachel is working on the list Stacey provided. Stacey ordered the plugs from North Creek that we will need. She adjusted some of the counts based on how fast they went last year.
- b. For the two Little Libraries, Stacey thought we could have stickers on books like "Please leave me" and "Please take me home". Betsy said she has some empty journals, and Alison said her friend Kathy gave her pocket-sized empty journals. Stacey will send Rebecca Sawyer a Google doc about it. Tonya volunteered to help more on this. Rebecca sent Stacey the timeline of her Gold Award project tasks. Stacey commented on how Rebecca was very thorough in explaining how beneficial the libraries will be. Rebecca will visit us in a February or March meeting.
- c. Stacey mentioned that the next Watershed Steward class is in May. If anyone on the board or an active volunteer is interested, Stacey will forward the information. She added that CCC would pay half or all of the fee as an incentive to sponsor the person. The program is a series of weekly classes and then a project to be installed in the Fall. Al suggested we might extend this to someone in the community. Stacey suggested we support one candidate per year to a board member, or an uber volunteer like Betsy. Christie suggested CCC pay for half (it's \$300) and possibly do a lottery if more than one member is interested. We agreed on the motion to pay for half for only one person.
- d. Wednesday this week is Broadneck fundraiser night. Marcia suggested this would be a good thing to have on the CCC website calendar.
- e. Stacey put out a call to fill the one open slot on the CCC board. Betsy Jackson has volunteered to our 12th CCC board member. Stacey nominated her to join the board, and we all unanimously approved the motion. Stacey said we all help out where we can, such as "all hands on deck" for the Plant sale. etc.
- f. Brad announced that the Maryland Wild & Scenic Film Festival, sponsored by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, will be on Thursday, March 7th, from 7-9pm at St. John's College. Doors open at 6:15pm. Purchase of a ticket provides admission to that evening's event and five days of video-on-demand access to the films after the live event. Al said the short films are very inspiring.
- g. Brad said that on Friday, March 29th at 6:30, the Magothy River Association will deliver the "State of the Magothy" address at Anne Arundel Community College Health and Biological Sciences Building. The program will probably run until 9 pm.
- h. Bill said if you want seeds for your garden, the Master Gardeners Seed Swap will be this Saturday, February 3rd at 10am at the Annapolis library on West Street. They have lectures and tables from organizations and donated books to give out. Many of the seeds will be local.
- i. Bill said Alison Milligan, Master Gardener and Master Naturalist, will speak about trees this Thursday at 7pm at the Broadneck Library. You can just show up to the event.

Adjourned 8:14pm.