

## Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 09/16/2024

### In attendance:

#### Board members:

Alison Sayres, Betsy Jackson, Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Jennifer Conner, Karen Minor, Larry Jennings, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger, Tonya Powell

#### Guests:

Cathy Gazzo

### Call to order: 7:05pm.

1. The August CCC meeting minutes were approved as amended pending corrections.
2. Treasurer's report:
  - a. Account balances: (Phil sent an email of the details)
    - i. General Fund: \$27,762
    - ii. Grants Fund: \$0
  - b. Phil received a few checks and Pay Pal payments since he sent out his email with balances. Phil found a fraudulent charge on our credit card and alerted the bank. He paid off the balances on the credit cards. He also arranged with PNC to use the savings account as an overdraft backup for the checking account. Phil recognized Cathy Gazzo as the first to send in corporate sponsorship money this year.
  - c. CCC website: Phil is keeping up on the CCC website, including posting Stacey's blog. He will add some photos. Bill S. will post the new corporate sponsors. Phil also made a correction today to change the speaker event to Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> because we decided to push the date back.
3. Stacey attended the most recent CSCIA BOG meeting. Her summary:
  - a. No movement on the crosswalk at Woodland Circle and Cape St Claire Rd.
  - b. Installation of a new fence at the Clubhouse field will probably happen in the Spring.
  - c. The Anne Arundel County bill that was pending to ban gas-powered leaf blowers was withdrawn due to mixed community feedback.
  - d. The use of beach attendants this summer was successful. All but two shifts were covered by twenty-eight kids. The beaches had over twenty-one thousand visitors. 350 people were refused admittance, but probably many more people were deterred because they observed the attendants.
  - e. The Broadneck Council of Communities meeting is on September 26th from 7:30-9pm at the Clubhouse and it will be open to the community. Amanda Fielder will discuss the pilot program, and hopefully Board of Education candidates will attend.
  - f. The Chesapeake National Park issue is being kicked around and has not yet made it out of committees. Holly Beach Farm has been transferred to DNR for science and research purposes.
  - g. There was discussion about replacing the piers at Deep Creek marina, which would be expensive.
  - h. The RFPs went out from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for design work on their website. Biohabitats is working on the dredging.
  - i. The Magothy River Land Trust for conservation asked for a donation from CSCIA, among other organizations, to help cover their legal costs.
  - j. On Saturday, September 21st, Goshen Farm will have their goodies sale on the same day as CCC's Native Plant Sale.

#### 4. Committee Reports:

- a. Weed Warriors: No significant updates. On Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8am-12pm, the WSA will be working on a rain garden at a homeowner's property off Mountain Top Drive. Some of the WSA volunteers will be working at that property, and some will be working on maintenance in the community. Stacey thought that the volunteers could help with attacking the Bushkiller vine at the Serene Ravine. Stacey will send out an email about it.
- b. Big Trees: No updates.
- c. Garden Advisory: Larry has a few people he gave plant list ideas to. Beau Breeden's property will have a lot of shrubs planted.
- d. Corporate Sponsors: Stacey will be coordinating with Cathy Gazzo and Beau, but she asked for volunteers to approach other potential sponsors. In response, several volunteered: Jeanne - Bella's, Stacey - Edward Goodman & TNT, Alison - Graul's, Phil - Cape Hair Scene & Fairwinds. Donnelly's are up for renewal in April, and Genesis in May. Stacey has a letter that Phil prepared for renewals.
- e. Habitat Heroes: Jamie Wilhelm is our newest winner this year.

#### 5. Old Business:

- a. Stacey reminded the Board about bios. She hasn't received any new ones.
- b. The Renaissance Festival fundraiser was supposed to be last weekend, but Cathy Haggerty was not able to go.
- c. Stacey brought up Deep Creek bamboo youth sailing at the BOG meeting. Beau thought on it. The plan is being formulated.
- d. For the eroded foot path behind the Cape shopping center, Phil received one more proposal, which was more expensive. Phil met with Welspryng at the site. They promised to get an initial estimate to Phil soon and said they would require the money up front. Phil learned some good information from that meeting. The storm drain that is on Hilltop at the bottom of the dip goes down to the drain on the parking lot behind Graul's. The County is responsible for preventing the water eroding the path. The edge along the curb is too short. Phil is preparing a written presentation to the BOG. He will explain the root cause of the erosion, provide the photos of the curb, and summarize the contractors' proposals. Phil told Frank he wants to make the presentation at the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> BOG meeting. Phil will send our CCC board the document he will send to the BOG. Phil is waiting for one more proposal. He notified them by email that he needs it ahead of the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. They are working on it.
- e. Phil investigated the property tax credit. For CSCIA to take advantage of it would require an engineer, which would negate the financial benefit, so that prospect is tabled.
- f. Rebecca gave a further update on the two Little Libraries: The boxes are almost done, other than the shakes. She will finish it this weekend. Other things to complete are finishing the website, the cards she will make for kids, and ordering some books on Amazon she wants in the libraries. Stacey asked her to save her receipts. On Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> in the morning (no specific time yet) at Little Magothy Beach (LMB), Rebecca and her helpers will dig holes and set the first library in concrete. Phil suggested to plant the green roof sooner than later. Jeanne will bring half the plants October 18<sup>th</sup>. Plaques will get installed later. Betsy asked about the books she wants to order. Jeanne said she has nature-oriented kids fiction books she will donate. Stacey asked Rebecca to give a date for the installation of the second library.
- g. Stacey reminded all that if anyone wants to order shrubs not on the Plant Sale list, that Sept 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to order shrubs from Alison Milligan.

- h. Around a hundred trees and shrubs will be delivered to LMB on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and will be planted on Friday and Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. Stacey sent the Signup Genius for it. Over a dozen people from Wells Fargo have signed up. The first session is 10am-12pm. Stacey wants to get at least some of the shrubs placed around the site so we can demonstrate how to plant them. Larry said he is losing trees and bushes with these recent droughts. He will start using Leafgro to amend the soil when planting to hold the moisture. Stacey said we lost some viburnum prunifolium this summer due to the drought. Betsy asked if Stacey should buy some shovels from Ace. Jennifer said there a ton of spades in the Cape shed. Stacey will ask Dottie if we can borrow them. Stacey suggested we use the Ace gift card to buy some spades anyway.

6. New Business:

- a. Spring ephemeral boxes: Francesca First Flower will be our cute name for the boxes, with a tagline like the ephemeral of Spring. Stacey is working with Rachel at Providence Center and asked her for suggestions. (Providence Center will be having a sale on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>).
- b. Our CCC Speaker Event will be on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 6:30pm, and our speaker, George Maurer, our latest Habitat Hero, will start at 7pm. George emailed Phil and Stacey topics. Brad asked for details so he can prepare a sign. We will have the silent auction that night too. Stacey put out an appeal on the Buy Nothing Facebook page asking if anyone wanted to make some wood bowls that can be auctioned off at the event. Someone responded and met Stacey at LMB. He took four pieces of cherry, and he has already started working on them. He sent Stacey some photos. Stacey said she had a few items for the auction, such as several photos that Chris Krissoff donated. Phil said Sandy has completed a stained-glass window with ruby throated hummingbirds at a native honeysuckle flower. Katherine Woods, like last year, will create a painted jacket for the auction. Stacey added that she was promised something from a high school age girl and her mom.
- c. Stacey mentioned the Naturalist design class to learn how to plant naturalistically. It costs \$187 for the ten classes. We approved to pay for Stacey's cost to attend.
- d. Phil came across a fundraiser seminar given by State of Maryland about fundraising for small non-profits. The seminar includes 5 weekly in-person classes this Fall + possibility of an in-person consulting session. Restricted to the number of non-profits who reply. Phil hasn't replied yet, but he will apply tomorrow. We can have up to three individuals to go to the sessions. He would like a second person. It would start on Wednesday, October 23rd if we get selected. Wednesday 6-8:30 pm on Bestgate Rd plus a one-on-one session for the organization. Alison Sayres volunteered to do it with Phil. He will sign up for it and will keep Alison informed.
- e. Jeanne said Stacey and Brad were interviewed in the Cape St Claire podcast. Brad will send the link around, and Phil will post it on the website. The podcast interview lasted 45 minutes. They sat at the Oyster Nursery to do the podcast, and one of Brad's volunteers showed up then. Brad commented on podcast host Kara Maguire's enthusiasm.
- f. At the meeting, Stacey handed out and went through some papers she prepared about the Plant Sale. Plant Sale shrubs will be delivered to Karen's driveway this Wednesday. Providence Center will make two deliveries, starting 9:30am on Thursday. All other deliveries will be on Friday.
- g. Alison Milligan will give a talk at New Hope Chapel in Arnold, at 804 Windsor Rd, on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We might want to sell any of leftover plants from the Plant Sale there.

Adjourned 8:36.