

Minutes of Cape Conservation Corps Meeting on 4/21/2025

In attendance:

Board members:

Bill Rappoport, Brad Knopf, Jeanne Klinger, Jennifer Connor, Marcia Dudley, Phil Ourisson, Stacey Wildberger, Larry Jennings, Tonya Powell

Guests:

Christie Fowler, John Runyon

Call to order: 7:00 p.m.

1. The March CCC meeting minutes were approved as amended.
2. Treasurer's report:
 - a. Account balances: (Phil sent an email of the details)
 - i. General Fund: \$35,014
 1. This is the money available. Phil already subtracted the amount that is due on the credit card.
 2. Check has been sent to Allison Milligan
 - ii. Grants Fund: \$0
3. Committee Reports:
 - a. BOG Meeting: Stacey attended the BOG meeting. Tomorrow is the quarterly meeting.
 - i. They are starting mosquito spraying. Our neighborhood's night is going to be on Mondays. Stacey wrote an article for the May Caper about why spraying doesn't work and some alternative options. Each month Stacey will provide a continued message with tips of what can be done to keep mosquitos at bay. Stacey will say something at the quarterly meeting to point people in the direction of the information in the Caper.
 - ii. Beach attendants will start May 23.
 - iii. April 24, 2025, State Representatives and SHA will be in the clubhouse to talk about summer traffic and bridge planning.
 - iv. There was some pier replacement for Deep Creek that was planned but now it's too close to boating season so it has been postponed to fall.
 - v. The Little Magothy dredge is still being worked on.
 - vi. Kellen Moore presented his Eagle Scout project which was approved.
 - b. Weed Warriors: Kicked off this past Wednesday at Serene Ravine. Made a giant brush pile. 5 students were working with Bill and David. The neighbors came out and helped. 13 bags were cleared out. The neighbor is receptive to invasives and weeds being cleared out all the way to his fence even over his formal property line. Larry suggested we put a sign by the brush pile so that people don't think it's a dump site. Neil has been made aware that parking at Serene Ravine is a problem and is talking to the offenders.
 - c. Big Trees: Big success so far. We have 24/25 applications. People had good reasons for why they wanted the trees. Robert will help with the folks that need assistance picking out trees.
 - d. Garden Advisory: Things have been a little slow. Larry has plans to pick up some checks. One client will likely have a rain garden put in this fall.
 - e. Grants: No updates

- f. Corporate Sponsors: No updates
- g. Habitat Heroes: We need one. If anyone has a suggestion, please contact Stacey.
- h. Learning libraries: Someone stole all of the sketch books out of the library at Serene Ravine. Stacey has more to add. Someone left love notes at the library. Gel crayons are going well. Could use some additional childrens books.

4. Old Business:

- a. The Spring ephemeral “First Flowers” boxes pickup went well. Flowers all looked good except for trillium. Providence Center gave us a bunch of free trillium because of the issue. No one complained.
 - i. Larry visited Susquehanna State Park and said that the ephemerals are covered and it is beautiful to view.
 - ii. Stacey has noticed an increase in bees at Little Magothy. Over the next couple of years we should have a lot of options for the bees as the new ephemerals take hold.
- b. We discussed past and upcoming CCC spring projects for 2025:
 - i. April 5 - Project Clean Stream: 82 volunteers. Tons and tons of trash. It went beautifully. Attendees came from as far as Waldorf and St. Mary’s County. A Dash-In had employees come to help.
 - ii. April 9 spring kickoff – got 3 potential new people. It was not the success we hoped despite the rebranding. No kids attended. Bella’s had an event at the same time. Weather was quite cold. Thinking about ways to get a bigger draw for next year including having something like a live bird presentation like Marcia has seen at Watershed Stewards and some other presentations.
 - 1. Considering one of these bird folks as the fall speaker in November.
 - 2. Maybe a bird house building
 - iii. April 12 Goshen Open house was rained out. Rescheduled to June 21
 - iv. April 18 pickup plants at Providence Center to plant at Little Magothy went well. Almost all of the plants have been planted.
 - v. For the next 2 weeks we will have two locations for Conservation Crew since we have enough volunteers signed up to help at two places. Bush killer is coming up early this year. There are a large amount of people signed up for the second week at Deep Creek.
 - vi. May 6 – Habitat Hero Tour. Meet at Broadneck HS, then Christ our Anchor, then Jamie’s. Brad made flyers.
 - vii. Strawberry Festival: Need newspaper pot so we can design the events calendar.
 - 1. Conservation Crew every Wednesday 5-7
 - 2. Cape Vibes June 22
 - 3. Broadneck Grill Fundraiser August 20 5-9
 - 4. Plant sale September 20
 - 5. Fall planting in October TBD
 - 6. Fall Planting Day October 11
 - 7. Speaker Event November 7
- c. For Cape Vibes we need raffle items. Catherine said that there would be an online bidding system. There is a potting bench and a fancy Hobie pedal kayak that might be available for this.

- d. Student capstone projects – these projects are done. Some of them are not planted well. And it looks like a car hit one of them. The sand could be pushing them up some, because they looked fine last week. The kids doing the project had a good turnout despite it being a cold and windy day.
- e. 2024-2025 BHS Scholarship – we had two applicants. Marcia suggested that the applicants were so good that we give the 1st place person the \$1,000 that we advertised and then the second student (runner up) \$500. This is approved just for this year. We will reevaluate whether we do this again or not in the future year by year.
- f. The tree company that did the damage at Little Magothy finally agreed to purchase the plants that Stacey listed for replacements.
- g. Phil asked if there was an update on Deep Creek bamboo. The answer is no.
- h. Phil has items to address on the Pool Path project. He gave a folder of documents to Stacey. Phil forwarded the bids from the various contractors and the balance of his research.

5. New Business:

- a. Bylaws – we need talked about kicking this down the road a bit since we have so much going on. Phil asked for people to read them and make comments so that he is not the only person making edits. Marcia suggested we plan to address this at the July meeting. That gives people time to read and prepare.
- b. Ordered shrubs for Serene Ravine.
- c. T-shirts – Stacey is asking folks to indicate if they want an updated shirt to provide color and size.

6. Other

- a. Bill asked if the sailing club would be helping at Deep Creek. Stacey indicating that the work we are doing is different from the area that they are interested in.
- b. John said there was a beautiful article in Smithsonian Magazine about the bee lab.
- c. Tonya is looking for more books for the learning libraries. We are down to one box of books.

Adjourned 8:12 p.m.