



# Minutes

## DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

### Inspection calendar for 2021

Jan	Kathy and Bill
Feb	Tom
Mar	Abbie
Apr	Ray
May	Kathy Z
Jun	Sally
Jul	Tanya
Aug	Veronica
Sept	Abbie
Oct	Mary
Nov	Rachel
Dec	Tara

**3/15/2021**

**Monday, 7:30-9:00 pm**

**ZOOM**

<https://attpm.zoom.us/j/9159594987>

Call to Order Rachel/Tom 7:34pm

Attending: Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Rachel Bunin, Tanya Zimmerman, Tom Fisichella, Sally Tayeb, Kathryn Zitelli, Bill Zitelli, Conor Gorman, Tara Barker, Joe Reissner

1. Review Prior Meeting Minutes - Not done Abbie sent minutes.. will revisit in April 2021 meeting.

2. COVID 19 update

- From Conor Gorman: Vaccine update: more happening. No timeline for moving into the new Borough Hall, some staff are in.
- Ongoing conversation re: storage space for DSTC materials.
- April will still be remote meetings for DSTC, May will be at Arboretum (current plan)

3. Discussion of homeowner issues/questions (if any)

- Discussion of Sidewalk issues w/ Conor and how the issues have to be homeowner problems unless an immediate safety concern (New Milford & Bedford tree had to come down, sidewalk fixed) but Berkeley, kept tree and homeowner redid sidewalk around the tree which was healthy.

4. Proposal / discussion of memorial tree

Joe Reissner invited to discuss planting at Memorial Park. Joe representing the DHS class of 1988 lost a classmate to Covid-19. Kristen Bunel (there is a GoFund me) She grew up in Dumont, park was favorite hangout. The class wants to honor/memorialize her with a 'purple flowering, if possible) tree and a plaque in the park off Charles Street. Eastern Redbud proposed, 1-2" caliper, 5-6' height. Class DHS'88 would raise all funds, volunteer to care and help plant, water. Commission voted unanimously to agree to planting this tree for Kristen.

- Ray proposed that the DSTC plant a tree (maybe a grove of trees?) in town TBD for those lost to Covid19. Discussion and suggestions include a large tree in Memorial Park, Arboretum, other ideas? Want to make it a significant presence in town to future generations to help remember and honor all we lost b/c of the pandemic.

5. ARBOR DAY 2021 April 24 2021: will be a hybrid live stream FB and in person event. Abbie Slaman will manage the Stream Yard tech side. Attending will be commissioners, Council, award recipients(?) and scouts for flag raising (limited)

a. Certificate of Merit: Tanya nominated and commission all agree that 2021 Certificate of Merit to be awarded to Kathy Sheridan. Plan to have cement slab and bench permanently installed for event to posthumously honor Kathy's contributions to the Borough and Shade Tree in particular. Tom will invite Grace and James to the ceremony

b. Mayor and Borough participation: Conor will write and read proclamation (Ray sending him the notes for the proclamation

- National Anthem: Ray working on getting a singer might be remote? Unsure TBD

- Art contest: All digital submissions. Flyers went out to all K-8, and DHS students. Already Tanya has 3 entries. Expecting more. Will create a PPT for display as part of FB livestream
- Scouts: Tanya will contact George Harvilla if he's still involved w/ Troop 64 to discuss flag raising
- Tree selection: Ray going to Victoria's nursery to select a tree to be planted next to Gazebo to replace trees lost to storms last year

## 6. New Year activities; 2021

Seminar (March) – Community Tree Nursery March 20, 2021 1pm at the Nursery  
 Agenda: Ray preparing. will be presenting history and benefits of the nursery.

“Join us for a lively and informative presentation about our journey to build our community nursery. Hear about the plans, execution, and hurdles we had to surmount in order to make our vision a reality. Learn about the care and maintenance to make the project successful. Hear from Licensed Tree Experts about types and varieties of trees. NJDEP Forestry approved 1.5 CEU”

Promotions have been ongoing on IG and FB

Joe Ullrich will also present discussion on native trees and best planting techniques

THANK YOU Shout Out to our partner LUPARDI'S NURSERY: DONATED 1 CRABAPPLE TREE TO BE GIVEN AS PART OF OUR CONTEST FOR ATTENDEES.

Schedule and the roles that have been assigned

- 12:30 - 1:00 attendee sign in
- 1:00 - 2:30 seminar

In Person

- Ray Slaman - presenter
- Joe Ulrich - presenter
- Bill Zitelli - video and presenter
- Anna Calev - video
- Kathy Zitelli - video
- Rachel Bunin - sign in manager
- Tom Fisichella - crowd control
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Virtual Attendance

- Abbie Slaman - director
- Tanya Zimmerman - online moderator
- Tara Barker - assistant moderator
- Mary Normoyle
- Tanya - How to collect the names for the CEUs? the guideline from the state is simply to capture the attendees and submit the list; include names on FB live, ask for email to be sent. Will monitor the names for contest entrants.
- 2 trees to be given away. 1 to an in-person attendee, 1 to an online attendee.
- Tara - answer questions and help direct people to online resources and DSCT information.
- Discussions: CEU credits/ NJ State Accreditation
- Sign in sheet we need to use emailed by Ray
- Ray looking into the State to provide guidance for CEUs. Abbie has a spin the wheel app to select winner of trees.
- We will display the DSTC banner for the Seminar (who has it?) bring it to the event)



## 7. Community outreach and communication

Website – [www.dumontshadetree.org](http://www.dumontshadetree.org) needs to be overhauled. Too much going on. Abbie created a new outline. Rachel, Abbie, and Tanya will meet (after close of this meeting) to discuss updates to make it easier to navigate, scroll, and look less dated.

b. Newsletter: Rachel will publish after the next 3 events (plan for June 1 publication)  
main stories will be Seminar, Arbor Day and Monarch events. Also, will cover our Adopt a Tree spring planting

- social media: FB and IG our biggest outreach vehicles.
- The website which is primarily used to report tree issues

## 8. Arboretum

Maintenance, inspections, general upkeep (monthly assignments)

a. Fountain kept working through winter. Looking good.

Someone left a BAG of books at the base of the tiny library. so, we put up a sign that only put books in that fit and don't stuff the library.

b. New gardeners/volunteers - Bill Z keeping garden very active. Missing signs from Beds #1 and #7. Hope they will appear again or Tom will redo

c. Brick installation / Brick sales 3 bricks will go in before Arbor Day event waiting for warmer weather

d. Kathy Sheridan bench to be installed for Arbor Day. Seems it was moved to center of path, needs to be anchored down ASAP.

- Thanks to Lupardi's for the mulch for the arboretum. 100 BAGS of Hemlock mulch.
- GIANT THANKS TO Visions Federal Credit union for \$700 donation to pay for the mulch.

e. The willow is dying, needs to come out, be replaced

f. Mulch event (thanks to Lupardi's and Visions) will take place on 4/17/21 a week before Arbor Day.

## 9. Tree Nursery –

Maintenance / weeding Thanks to Ray, Abbie, Tanya, Kathy, Bill, and Tom who came out on 3/13 to help clear up nursery in preparation for Seminar next week on 3/20.

b. Mulching – no current plans

c. Dedication / Seminar will take place on 3/20 no mention of dedicating until after pandemic rules are relaxed

d. Spring and summer plans

## Regular Business

10. Adopt-a-tree planting: NJ Tree federation the vendor for 20 trees- arranging and providing crew for planting. . Right now, have 6-7 requests. Commissioners will scout areas in town needing street trees. Kathy Z requested Madison Avenue across from their home, she will water tree once planted.

11. Tree Maintenance – statistics – requests are coming in

- One inspection homeowner had a private tree w/ no bark. Tom went and found tree all hollow and strongly suggests that they tree come down immediately.

12. Tree permits - January 2021-February 2021 many permits. Now tapering off in March.

13. Update from FOTST –

- Scholarship forms are submitted to DHS. Deadline is now 4/16. So, committee Rachel, Tanya, Billy, Abbie, and Tara will review candidate.
- Sally: needed to spend \$30 to update FOTST.org again. Says site has lots of 'issues' we all need to look at it and get her notes on fixing broken links and typos.
- Monarch Butterfly event Saturday May 15, 2021: Rachel reached out to Eliab Diaz, Leader for Daisy scout Troop #97812. They will participate in the Save the Monarch event, take plants and be responsible for planting and caring. Sally will plan how the event will proceed. Rachel can take some baby plants to her house to help Sally out.

#### 14. Other Open Business

15. April 19 2021 will be a remote ZOOM / dial meeting  
Tom Close/ Tanya 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:05pm

#### Announcements:

THE DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION (DSTC)  
HAS COMPLIED WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT,  
HAVING SENT NOTICE TO THE RECORD, RIDGEWOOD NEWS, FILED WITH THE MUNICIPAL CLERK  
AND POSTED ON THE BOROUGH'S OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD.

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ALL DUMONT RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME  
TO ATTEND OPEN MEETINGS OF THE DSTC

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BUY A BRICK, ENJOY THE GAZEBO  
(At the Arboretum on West Shore Avenue)

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For more information visit [www.dumontshadetree.org](http://www.dumontshadetree.org)