



# Minutes

## DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

6/21/2021  
Monday, 7:30-9:00 pm  
AT THE GAZEBO



Call to Order at 7:30 p.m., Tanya Zimmerman, second Abbie Slaman.

Attending: Tom Fisichella, Conor Gorman, Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Tanya Zimmerman, Bill Zitelli, Kathryn Zitelli, Pablo Apablaza. A quorum is met.

1. Review of prior meeting minutes. Adopted as written.
2. COVID19 update – Conor Gorman: Borough Hall is now open to the public. Please wear a mask, and appointments are appreciated before visiting. Mayor and council are discussing upcoming summer activities, and in-person meetings will be resuming soon. Perhaps future DSTC and FotST meetings will be able to use conference room for meetings. At this point COVID19 testing and vaccines are readily available.
3. Discussion of homeowner issues/questions (nothing of note)
4. Memorial tree planting – Memorial Park 6/5/21 – Joe Reissner and his classmates were thankful for our support in the remembrance of their friend.
  - a. Memorial tree ideas – COVID MEMORIAL GROVE, to reflect the effects of the pandemic on our community. Possible locations: Sirosis Park, Memorial Park, Borough Hall, to be further considered and discussed location for visibility, maintenance, long-term remembrance.
5. 2021 activities
  - a. Twilight at the Gazebo, starting in 2 weeks! Four Wednesdays in July with rain dates Thursdays following each event. Talent is lined up, sound equipment help is lined up, social media is creating interest, new solar lights have been offered. CDC guidelines will be followed for social distancing and masks in the gazebo area, and we will be Facebook Live! Possibly additional talent ready in the green room to provide entertainment between acts (and during train breaks) in the Facebook Live.
  - b. Dumont Day to be advised (Conor Gorman).
6. Community outreach and communication
  - a. Website – [www.dumontshadetree.org](http://www.dumontshadetree.org)
  - b. Newsletter, social media, all growing in followers.
7. Arboretum – Tom Fisichella
  - a. Maintenance (it is past time to prune), inspections, general upkeep, request to the construction crew to keep their stuff out of the garden beds, need for the water source to be fixed at the north end.
  - b. New gardeners from Cresskill will be assisting in Bed #9, Pablo Apablaza will be helping, and Eliab Diaz's GS troop will be helping maintain the water feature bed.
  - c. Bricks, three new on order, deadline for Dumont Day is July 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. New memorial bench application to remember front line worker who passed, Ray is working with the family member on different options.
8. Tree Nursery – Veronica Greco
  - a. Ray Slaman spoke with borough and Suez Water on options for new water source. Possibilities are (1) new water line (may be cost prohibitive), (2) large tank with pressure unit, (3) gutter and rain barrel system.
  - b. Pablo Apablaza will volunteer with maintenance (water and weeding on Mondays).
  - c. Trees will be ready for Fall Nursery adoptions.
9. Adopt-A-Tree – we are taking requests for fall planting (September and October)

### **Regular Business**

10. Sidewalks and Trees in the borough. Any sidewalk that abuts the property of a homeowner is the responsibility of the homeowner. A few months ago, homeowners received notices from the borough code enforcement officer, which led to a number of tree/sidewalk discussions. Ray had written up a procedure and formula to address on tree/sidewalk issues. DSTC's position is that

we should look for ways to make the sidewalk safe without cutting down trees unnecessarily. Council Liaison Conor Gorman stated that we are on the same page, discussions with the borough administrator and a new Building Inspector will be starting July 7<sup>th</sup>. A meeting will be arranged so that all can be in agreement within the borough as to how to move forward on these issues and handled on a case-by-case basis.

11. Tree Maintenance – Most request are not major, Adopt-A-Tree plantings in shock, requests are not as many as the last 2 years.
12. Tree permits – 30 received in the last month.
13. Update from FOTST – 6/5/2021, Garden Tours at 3 houses: Yasue Zimmerman, Gail Thompson, and Kathy & Bill Zitelli. Meetings as on the calendar, wreathmaking in December. We received a donation of \$100 from Blessings Tree Service.
14. Other Open Business – Tanya has Twilight Concert signs for everyone to place around our fair borough to advertise and raise interest in the events.
15. July 19, 2021 originally to be a remote meeting will now be at the gazebo. The meeting was closed at 8:37 PM (Tom Fisichella, Tanya Zimmerman).

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Abbie Slaman

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.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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