

Meeting minutes

DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

3/20/23 Monday, 7:30 PM

Dumont Borough Hall, 50 Washington Ave., Dumont, NJ

Call to Order 7:35pm, Rachel Bunin/ Tom Fisichella

In attendance: Rachel Bunin, Tanya Zimmerman, Tom Fisichella, John Russell, Wayne Cahilly, Stephanie Petriello, Tara Barker, Sally Tayeb, Veronica Greco

- Introductions & Welcome to new commissioners- Wayne and Stephanie. Tom F handed out Welcome packet to Wayne and Stephanie new commissioners. Will swear them in at April DSTC meeting Discussion, John R agreed to do ceremony)
- Reviewed and approved prior meeting minutes from Feb. 13, 2023 Approved
- Shade Tree Resolution, updates- John R: Ordinance Committee has not met yet in 2023 so 2007/2008/ and 2016 ordinances still stand. Reviewed current ordinance and reiterated why the DSTC is so important/essential to the borough

Tree City

- **Tree City** USA Membership Program Annual Report: Tara is passing the job (annual submission) to Stephanie so will be done in 2024. Tara will provide a working document and be available to get Stephanie up to speed on the tasks required. Tara will find out through Tree City website how many years Dumont has been a Tree City. We have 3 signs in town next flag due in 2024.
- Tree Assessment with DPW @ Berkley Park with Wayne, Tanya and Dennis, reviewed trees marked for removal and discussed roll of Davies tree inventory in the park. Decision: leave downed trees better for park

Update on Tree Inventory Program & Tree List

- Risk Assessment Plan- With Davies tree inventory. Will try to start in April. Wayne will triage their work early in process to be sure we are getting what we want.
- Will confirm point person at DPW- Dennis?
- DSTC will report and clock ALL volunteer hours (for grant reimbursement- need 300 hours). Rachel has a google doc with recorded hours to date.

Other business

- Working with BOE who are exploring a memorial garden. DSTC input for trees
- Discussion on overgrown tree on Andover: reiterated the ordinance, sidewalk is homeowner responsibility. Discussed how to fix sidewalk w/o removing or harming healthy tree (borough tree)
- John R got email from Library. they want DSTC to do a presentation on what DSTC does and why important. All agreed to participate and will follow up w/ the library

- Shade Tree Annual Seminar, Nov. 13, Elks, TBD-Tara will secure venue
- Save the Date: NJ Tree Federation Annual Conference: Oct. 26 & 27, Cherry Hill, NJ, encouraged new commissioners to attend for CORE training and current to attend to earn CEUs this year. DSTC budget covers registration costs
- DSTC 2023 budge TBD. Committee has not yet met.
- NJ Tree Federation Annual Membership Dues, Sally has info?

Arbor Day to do list:

- DPW asked to clean up at the Arboretum prior to mulching on April 15 (rain date, 22nd). Tanya will remind Anthony. 12 beds and water feature. Will put a call out for volunteers to mulch 10-12pm on 4/15 (rain date 4/22)
- Flag ceremony - Troop 64- Tom Kelly will have scouts there. George H. replied and forwarded to leaders, John R. will determine who will provide flag. Girl Scouts will help give out tree seedlings.
- National Anthem – Singer- Rachel will reach out to Thaddeus McGregor to see if he can bring guitar, do anthem, maybe also 1-2 songs
- Proclamation - John Russell to read- Tanya has wording from modify previous year provided by Jeanine and. Tanya will revise & return.
- Merit Award – TBD- Carole Stewart will present
- Poster / Art displays - distributed through BOE. Will start posting on social, Tanya will send to Stephanie and email list. Library accepting submissions. April 20th deadline. We can read names of participants.
- Brick Presentation – no discussion on who might speak, we will have flyers. Tabled discussion on new vendor- need to have installation over summer. Tom??
- Handing out of seedlings (Sally purchasing) - Tag with our website and planting instructions. Rachel and Sally will package into individual trees to hand out
- Spotted Lantern Fly cards- not discussed need to follow up
- Arbor Day Tree-Sweetbay Magnolia was suggested, but needs a moister growing area. Several options reviewed. Tom/ Tanya/ Veronica will research a NATIVE tree, possibly a coffee tree and call to Victoria's or Lupardi's for availability.
- DPW asked to dig the hole, just north of the gazebo (where coffee tree was)
- Tree City USA–new sign every other year, this is not a 'sign year'
- Mulching- \$1K donation from Visions. WE MUST thank at the ceremony. Sally to order mulch from Lupardi's- need to be sure all-natural mulch, in bags, to be delivered on 4/14.
- Music – maybe Thaddeus McGregor, Rachel reaching out, Ask if he has a mic and speaker
- Closed meeting 9:10pm Stephanie/ Sally

Next meeting, Mon., April 17, 7:30 PM at the Borough Hall

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

For more information visit: www.dumontshadetree.org