



DSTC Meeting Minutes

DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

5/15/23 Monday, 7:30 PM

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

Call to Order 7:32pm Tom/Rachel

Attending: Rachel Bunin, Tanya Zimmerman, John Russell, Wayne Cahilly, Tara Barker, Tom Fisichella, Sally Tayeb, Veronica Greco, Rax Harvilla, George Harvilla, Dennis Banoff, Anthony Schiraldi, Peter Bondy, Jackie Corless

1. Reviewed and approved prior meeting minutes from April 17, 2023-Rachel 1st/Tom 2nd
2. Swearing in of new commissioner-Have reached out to other appointed commissioners not in attendance.. Moving to remove the commissioners who have not attended any meetings since being appointed by the mayor. We need active commissioners on the DSTC. John Russell will look into procedure.
3. Homeowner issues: discussed 174 Randolph /decision to remove the agreed upon unsafe/sick/dead trees that are in the ROW.

Dennis has a comprehensive list of all trees with sidewalk issues that create a hazard. Will prioritize and get estimates for those trees that our DPW cannot remove safely.

Sally made a motion to remove unsafe trees. All commissioners present voted in favor.

Sally: YES, Rachel: YES, Wayne: YES, Tom: YES, Tanya: YES

Discussed the business district pear tree issue. Anthony has contacted business owners to work with them for replanting.

Agreed to have a meeting w/ DPW and DSTC to move forward to create a comprehensive strategy to deal w/ sidewalk issues. Will begin w/work document created by Ray Slaman in 2021-2022.

4. Update on Tree Inventory Program & Tree List- Wayne worked 9 hours on inspections for inventory w/ Dennis and Peter. Rachel will add to the spreadsheet of volunteer hours for Grant reimbursement. Google doc shared w/ Tanya.

5. DPW has been collecting all Gator bags from trees and removing constricting collars from previous plantings. Saving for Fall plantings

6. Memorial Tree for Women's Club of Dumont – site in Memorial park is selected. Ray will plant Dogwood from the tree nursery along the path in the park.

7. Memorial Tree(s) for BOE – discussion w/ BOE for plans. Who pays? Who plants. Still TBD

8. Monthly Arboretum Inspections- Gazebo needs repair. Need an online form for June/July inspections. Rex Harvilla is passing the maintenance of the water feature and turning on/off to the Shade Tree. Will hand over a detailed instruction book. We will try to get scouts to take over. Our thanks again to Rex for the water feature.



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9. Library "All Together Now" Summer Reading Program Presentation, Mondays in June & July—DSTC scheduled for Mon., June 26, 6:30 PM–8 PM

10. Library-removal of 4 trees on and next to the fence along exit: done, very happy w/ work. DSTC to suggest replacement trees. Library to bear cost. Thank you DPW.

11. Shade Tree Resolution: in agreement that the DPW is needed to do inspections, so keep as is.

12. Budget Update: John: no updates- Budget information to come soon

13. Memorial Day Parade—we will participate. Sally will drive her car. Rachel bought 1500 packets of native pollinator wildflower seeds from **American Meadow** a seed vendor. To save money, we will place our own stickers with DSTC website info on each packet. Sally has stickers, Tara and Jackie will do the sticking.

14. Save the Dates: NJ Tree Federation Annual Conference: Oct. 26 & 27, Cherry Hill, NJ

Shade Tree Annual Seminar, Nov. 13, Elks, TBD

Question: NJ Tree Federation Annual Membership Dues??? Who has info? Important annual mandated bills, filings should be on a borough calendar that is available to all? Possible in Outlook? Ask Cathy Romeo if possible. (Such as NJ Tree Federation filings, Tree city USA, etc.)

Meeting closed 9:05pm, Tom/Sally

Next meeting, Mon., June 19, 7:30 PM at the Borough Hall