

Dumont Shade Tree Commission meeting minutes
March 20 2017 7:30pm Dumont Senior Center

Present- Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Tom Fisichella, Rachel Bunin, Mike Kuhn by phone

Guest- Tanya Zimmerman, Kathy Zitelli, Bill Zitelli, Joan Lyons, Andrew Lyons,

Absent- Kathy Sheridan, Sally Tayeb, Louis DiPaolo, Council Representative.

Mike makes a motion to begin the meeting. Tom seconds. The meeting begins at 7:30

- 1. Review prior meeting minutes- no minutes to review**
- 2. Homeowner Issues-** No homeowners are present. Boy Scout Andrew Lyon presents his eagle project which will be a memorial for a WWII vet at Bussel Court. It will involve some trees. He showed drawings and his plan sketches. He has an email for the project, BUSSELCOURTPROJECT@GMAIL.COM
- 3. Arbor Day –** Tanya has all the fliers out to the schools and already has some submissions coming in. She has 4 judges set up for April 8th at the Library. Rachel will send Arbor Day info to the Twinboro. Ray will go to Victorias to find a specimen for our Arbor Day Tree. Bill Zitelli has a check from Visions for mulch that will be used to shape up the Arboretum. Ray will ask the DPW to clean up the area and stain the Gazebo. The bricks will be installed after Arbor Day, and will be displayed on a table for the ceremony. Tom and Anna made a tree themed coloring book that is going to be distributed on Arbor Day.
- 4. Community outreach and communication**
 - a. Newsletter- The Newsletter will be out after Arbor Day.
 - b. Instagram and Facebook- Rachel and Abbie continue to post and it is going well.
 - c. Other- the library is giving space and Tom and Bill are going to have a Tree of the Month.
- 5. Arboretum-**
 - a. Maintenance- Bill has a check for mulch. The mulch will be coming in bags, 60 bags per skid. Gardeners will be able to mulch on 4/15 and if not finished 4/22. The Hermitage is donating recycled wood from an old shed to use as ½ shed, 10' x 20'. Someone will ask Dave Miller if we could borrow his truck. Toms report for the Arboretum is it is covered with snow. He is still waiting for seed. DPW fixed divots.
 - b. Bricks- bricks will be ready for Arbor Day but will be installed after.
- 6. Events update**
 - a. Annual Seminar was a huge Success. Other towns are raving about our River keeper event. The bar has been raised for the 2018 Seminar.
 - b. Summer Series at the Gazebo- Ray called Beth Synott who loved the idea. They will follow up. Maybe 3 nights, free popcorn, Wednesdays. We should be sure not to do same night as Community Group and cross promote.
- 7. Tree Nursery Project –** need space to grow and the energy to manage. There is no space by the DPW. Town Garden- there is space at McCaw/Bedford Park. It is town property and now unused. There is a southern exposure, saplings could grow. We could grow our own trees and donate as we want. It would need a water source.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- 8. Tree maintenance-** Tom says he is in good shape with maintenance. There are very few requests. PSEG is all done in town. They were trimming last month. No damage from the snow.
- 9. FOTST-** Scholarships were announced at DHS and it includes our Tree Scholarship. The deadline for applicants is 3/31.

10. Adopt-a-tree – we need more applicants for adopt-a-trees. If we don't have 12-15 then we will only do a fall planting.

11. Open business- None

Abbie makes a motion to close the meeting. Rachel seconds. Meeting ends 8:42.