

Dumont Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
August 17th 2015, 7:30pm, Gazebo at the Arboretum Walkway, West
Shore Ave.

Present- Tom Fisichella, Kathy Sheridan-Parrish, Sally Tayeb

Guest- Rachel Bunin, Tara Barker

Absent- Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Larry Tobias, Mike Kuhn

Meeting is called to order 7:30PM

1. **Approval of prior meeting minutes-** Kathy states the minutes are not ready and will need to be voted on at a future meeting.
2. **Homeowner Issues-** No homeowners are present. Tara brings up an issue for her neighbor at 34 Blanche Court. He is concerned about the trees in the park that border his backyard property. Tom tells her he has checked them twice but each time the homeowner was not home. Tom says there is no danger at this time. They will eventually be trimmed. Tara also mentions that the shrubbery in that area of the park has become overgrown. Tom believes that they don't want kids in that area of the park and let it grow.
3. **Arboretum-** Weeds are still an issue. There is a discussion about milkweed that will help the monarch butterfly. Sally says that Jennifer Anderson from Metropolitan Farm is going to do a program for the Friends of the Shade Tree. She may know of a non-invasive milkweed. Sally has heard there is a hybrid plant in development.
4. **Community Outreach-**

- a. **Newsletter**- Rachel states that the Fall Newsletter will come out after Dumont Day. She also says the newsletters are expensive to print but we should print some black and white to have for Dumont Day. She would also like to put something in asking for volunteers. She will ask Ray if there is a phone number we should use for people to call.
 - b. **1883 Dumont Model**- Tom states that the 1883 Model of Dumont is now in Borough Hall. In September it will be moved to the Library. We should think about other places it might be able to be displayed.
5. **Dumont Day**- It is Saturday September 12th. Tom and Sally say they will be there the whole day. Kathy and Rachel will be there in the morning and Tara will be there in the afternoon. Tara will email Larry and Mike and check their availability. Sally says the Friends of the Shade Tree Garden Committee plan on having a table. Sally is going to make a banner. There will be plants for sale. Kathy says she has spider plants that can be potted. We will have our fliers and volunteer signup sheets. Ray has said he would bring water and snacks for sale. Tom has literature and Stumpy. Kathy says maybe we can put up some twine and hang Arbor Day art.
6. **Friends of the Shade Tree**- Sally is working on a grant for signage. The signs would be at the Arboretum and have QR codes and links to the web page.

REGULAR BUSINESS

7. **I Tree**- Larry is absent.

8. **Tree Maintenance**- Tom says that most maintenance is up to date. Bergenfield DPW has helped out when Dumont's Arborist is out. The Cottonwood in the park has been cabled. The Tree that was lost in the park seems to have split because of the heaviness of the rain in the leaves. Kathy asks if the trees in the park are regularly checked and Tom says yes. Sally expresses concern about a few trees that are in Memorial park in the southeast corner wooded hillside. Tom has put them on the list to be checked and for maintenance. Tom says he will sit down with Kathy and go over the tree monitoring list.
9. **Adopt-a-tree** – Tom states that we will be planting trees this fall. Everyone should keep in mind they need to be in areas where they will be able to be watered.
10. **Fall Schedule**- Monthly meetings will now be back at the Senior Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45