

Dumont Shade Tree Meeting Minutes
May 18th 2015 7:30 pm Dumont Senior Center

Present-Kathy Sheridan-Parrish, Tom Fisicella, Larry Tobias, Sally Tayeb, by phone-Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman

Guests-Council Liaison, Donald Morrell, Rachel Bunin, Tara Barker

Absent- Mike Kuhn

**Call to order-Kathy makes a motion to start the meeting. Larry seconds.
Meeting begins 7:30pm**

1. **Review Prior Meeting Minutes-** Kathy had sent out the minutes for the February and March meetings. It is decided to wait on approvals until more people are physically present.
2. **Discussion of Homeowner Issues-**none present
3. **Arboretum-**
 - a. **Loss of bench-**Rachel expresses concern that the thieves will be back to take more. Tara believes not as the information is out on Facebook. Ray brings up engraving items at the Arboretum "property of .." so that it would be identifiable. Tom says that is easily enough done. Rachel asks if we could have some video surveillance installed. Don will look into it. Sally says this would be an item that a grant could work for.
 - b. **Installation of new bricks-**Ray says maybe this weekend would be a good time. He will send out a notice and all available should come help out.

- c. **Maintenance, inspections, and general upkeep**-Tom has spoken to Bill Ebenhack for some clean up prior to the Railroad event. It is difficult at this time as they are shaping up Memorial Park for the Memorial Day Ceremony however they will get to it before June 6th. Sally asks about the availability of water at the Arboretum. Tom says there are two spigots, one north and one south, that a hose can be hooked up to.
- 4. **Arboretum Event-Dumont**: Riding the Rails through History-Tom is happy to have a sound engineer to help us out, Dylan Courtney. Tom and Ray are working out the schedule which will also be on the tickets. Rachel went to Cuban Eddies and the Diner to alert them to our event. She also contacted The Twinboro for advance stories and will contact News 12 ahead of the event. Don suggests fliers at St Mary's carnival. Tara will ask Father Dominic. Larry asks about the cut out craft trains and Sally says her printer will do card stock and is still working on a possible design. Rachel asks about how a rain date would be called and how that would get out. Tom and Ray will make that decision. Kathy asks if anyone has a stapler that will staple over 50 pages and Tom says won't need it as he will work on something better. Tom says we are in good shape. There are a few odds and ends and he will be in touch with people.
- 5. **Community outreach and communication**-
 - a. **Newsletter**- Rachel says the Newsletter will be out after the train event. Kathy will provide photos.
 - b. **Social media**- Rachel posts when she can.
- 6. **Memorial Day Parade**-

- a. **Marchers and seed handout**-Marchers are Abbie, Ray, Tom, Kathy and Mike. Sally will have her car and the banner with Tara to help manage the seed packets. Abbie has the seeds and we will all wear the official green shirts.
- 7. **Arbor Day 2015 Summary**- Everyone thought it went well. We will try and work out a better planning schedule for the future so that there is less left up in the air. Larry said he received lots of positive comments on the design of the t-shirts. Don said he loved it and had a great time. Kathy mentions that the photo opportunities were plenty and liked the watering line up with the smaller children.
- 8. **FOTST Update**-Sally is still working on getting the NJ state official charities listing. Once on that list it will be easier to fundraise. She asks everyone to bring ideas to the next meeting as we need to decide the focus of fundraising. Rachel talks about the Scholarship and says we will follow up in September to be more aggressive at getting the word out. Sally says the garden committee is doing nice work at the Arboretum. They have planted a Memorial Garden near the “Jackie D’Angelo” memorial.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- 9. **I-tree**- Larry has been doing a few streets at a time. Tom suggests a display at the Railroad Event looking for volunteers to help out.
- 10. **Maintenance**- Tom reports that 15 requests have come in this week. He also says there are at least 5 dead maple trees in town. Another issue has come up with trees covering or near covering water valves for a home. There are several of these situations in town. Ray has reached out to United Water. We are awaiting a determination of responsibility, Water Company, Homeowner or Town. Ray also

outlines the Shade Tree position on trees and sewer lines. Trees don't break sewer lines; the sewer lines were already broken. It is a Homeowner responsibility. On another Issue, as soon as the DPW have trained on the stump grinder they will begin grinding stumps section by section.

11. **Town Council Ordinance-** Ray reports we are getting more permit requests. There has been trouble with the scanner/email at the new borough space that has caused some delays but that is being worked out. Ray is happy to report that most tree companies know that a permit is needed. Ray says we should look into introducing ordinance language for fines and violations.
12. **Summer Schedule-**June, July and August meeting at the Arboretum at 7:30pm.

Tom proposes we close the meeting. Larry seconds. Meeting ends 8:48pm