

Dumont Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
September 21st, 2015 at 7:30pm, Dumont Senior Center

Present- Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Tom Fisichella, Mike Kuhn, Kathy Sheridan-Parrish, Sally Tayeb

Guests- Don Morrell, Council Liaison, Louis DiPaolo, Rachel Bunin, Fred Feulns, Bill Zitelli

Call to order. Kathy makes a motion to begin the meeting. Mike seconds. Meeting begins at 7:30pm

1. **Review Prior Meeting Minutes-** Ray proposed that we accept the July meeting minutes as presented. Tom Seconds. Passed unanimously. August meeting minutes will be voted on at a future meeting.
2. **Discussion of Homeowner Issues-** None present.
3. **Welcomes to New Attendees-** Several Residents are in attendance. Ray says there are many projects that we would welcome some help on. The Arboretum has opportunities for watering, weeding, pruning. The weed situation has become a problem and if we divide up the workload it might not be too overwhelming for any one person. Ray says that volunteers should do what they feel comfortable doing. He has a sign-up sheet with projects listed. Other projects are Identifying Heritage trees in town, working to find homes for Adopt-a-trees, work at organizing our seminars.
4. **Arboretum**
 - a. **Maintenance, inspections, general upkeep-** Kathy had the month of July for Arboretum Inspection. She notes that most

looks good. The thing that stands out is the weed situation. Also it is dry, understandable with the drought.

- b. **Bricks Installation**- Kathy says the 7 bricks are done and need to be installed. Ray says we will install this coming Saturday at 9am. Everyone is welcome to help. Ray, Tom and Kathy will definitely be there.

5. **Community outreach and communication-**

- a. **Newsletter**-Rachel sent out a draft of the Fall Newsletter for everyone to check out. She put in a call for volunteers. Tom will come up with a fun fact about Dumont. Ray needs to get his letter from the President to her to finish it up.
- b. **Other**- The Halloween Parade is coming up. Do we want to have a presence there again? It is October 24th from 10am to noon. Ray says it is a good idea. Abbie says we have a tree costume if anyone is interested in wearing it. Dumont's Chamber of Commerce is brought up. Don Morrell would like to get it going again. Tom says we would have an interest in helping and put our information into a packet. Tom brings up a calendar item. It is listed for June 6, 2016 that we will have another train show. He says it may not be a train show and thinks it should say TBD Arboretum event and it would be June 4th. Ray brings up the winter seminar with a tentative date of Monday March 4, 2016. With all our cancelations due to weather it is better to have it toward the end of winter. Everyone agrees. Tom Talks about having an Earth day event at the Arboretum. Ray brings up Arbor Day and how we need to get the word out sooner. Rachel says we should try to have the seniors participate. Maybe have a Senior Category. We will send out a letter to the schools early to

give a heads up. Tom brings up the 1883 Dumont Town Model.

October 1st it will be done being displayed at the Library.

6. **Dumont Day Recap**- Everyone agrees it looked great. Stumpy had \$37 of donations. Stumpy needs to wider. It is hard to fit the money in. No real amount of candy or water sold.
7. **Friends of the Shade Tree update, fundraising activities and projects**-Sally has a schedule for FOTST events. Abbie suggests doing an events posting on the Shade Tree Facebook page and then share it to Dumont Facebook pages. Sally says the upcoming events are Autumn Gardens in October, Audubon Society in November and Wreath Making in December. Sally is working on a grant and signs for the Arboretum. They will have QR codes and link to the website. She would like to have a page for each tree. Sally will get samples of the materials and be able to show everyone.

REGULAR BUSINESS

8. **Tree Maintenance**-Tom says we are up to date. Soon the DPW will start grinding stumps.
9. **Adopt-a-tree**- Ray says there is still room for more trees to be adopted. He is hoping to do close to 50 trees. 90 percent of the trees are small trees. There will be a couple of large trees.
10. **Town Ordinance, Permit**-Ray reports that the permit requests have slowed down. Some people have changed their minds and decided to keep their tree. We are doing 5 to 6 a month.
11. **Other open business**- The NJ Shade Tree Federation Conference is October 23rd and 24th in Atlantic City. Anyone

interested let Ray know so he can make arraignments. Core training is available.

**Kathy makes a motion to close the meeting. Ray seconds.
Meeting ends at 9pm.**