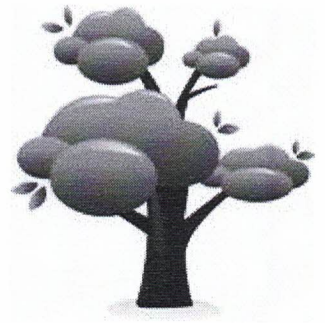




# Meeting Minutes

## DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

2/12/2018



Monday, 7:30-9 pm  
Senior Center  
39 Dumont Ave. Dumont, NJ 07628

Call to Order 7:30p Rachel opens, Tanya seconds

1. DIAL commissioners that are participating remotely NONE
2. Review Prior Meeting Minutes - accepted as written Abbie/Tom second
3. Discussion of homeowner issues/questions (if any)
  - No Homeowners present
  - 85 Wolcott: visited: borough trimming tree
  - 65 Windsor: fire in house. reassessing borough tree in front

### **Carole Stewart- Council Liaison:**

- o told the commission that the borough has hired a grant writer... we can access if we want grant money for projects... thank you! DSTC grateful and will get suggestions to the council and grant writer
- o Budgeting is starting
- o 2017 was a phenomenal year for the DSTC | Bar is high for 2018

**3/5/18 Annual winter seminar** - Heritage Trees and our Shared History; *Identifying, managing, and recognizing the value of mature trees*. Rob Gillies, arborist, will present his experience with a 600-year-old oak tree in Basking Ridge NJ. Tom Kelly will present on Dumont and local history of trees and development.

1. We are on track for this event. All systems go.
2. Sally has the project: discussion re: best way to use room and AV b/c we need a bigger screen than used for Garden Club meeting
3. We will all bring snacks, Tom will bring coffee service
4. Advertisement – email, Facebook invitations, share in FB pages; TBN notice has been in past few weeks will continue through event
5. Logistics; set up, snacks DSTC: wear green shirts, arrive 6:45pm to setup

*Heritage tree tags* being installed – signs are now on many trees around town.

### **4/28/18 Arbor Day EVENT: our signature event Planning:**

Agenda discussion –

- o ceremony—Possible girl scout troop this year, Tanya will reach out to Liz Marchese if they are interested in working w/ Boy Scouts
- o Carole Stewart offered up a Freeholder to be part of the ceremony this year
- o National Anthem performer- Beth Synott is in charge of the Anthem (again)
- o Mayoral proclamation- Carole Stewart will contact the Mayor
- o special thank yous, Award of Merit: The DSTC will review the 'nominations' presented at the meeting. Not including in minutes to retain privacy b/c it's a surprise award
- o Art contest forms approved: sent to schools
- o Yarn bombing- new this year: Tanya presented- Forms include registration, getting great response to invitations. Plan is to leave yarn on the trees for up to 2 months

- Discussion on types of yarn to use and any potential damage to tree. We have it covered no damage will happen to growing trees
- plant a tree for Arbor Day: Annual tree: suggestions sent out Ray and DSTC reviewing spot and type of tree
- Review sponsorship forms: Done, handed out. will start asking businesses in town. Those who had people they contacted last year will do so again this year
- Winners: we will try to limit speeches and streamline handing out the bags and awards

## Community outreach and communication

- Website – review of new website progress.: Working on issue w/ old DSTC website where we need data for all reports and notices from the community to be archived
- Jennette has a near final website for DSTC and it's great. Tanya, Rachel, and Abbie are reviewing for final changes
- Mailchimp: we would like to have 3 separate lists: DSTC, Garden Club (Bill Z), and FOTST (Sally) we will meet/discuss w/ Jennette to verify the options and function for our mail list and adding new addresses
- social media: IG 170 followers/ Twitter 105 followers / FB very active used for events and notices
- Newsletter: Final draft is ready. Will be published right after 3/5 seminar. has caption contest. will ask readers to submit captions (a way to see a bit about our readership)
- Hope to send out PDF of the Winter 2018 Shade Tree News via new MailChimp service

## Arboretum

- Maintenance, inspections, general upkeep (monthly assignments):
- Rachel did February inspection: Tulip bed is fine, stepping stones seems moved we will try to reseat some of them,
- Consider using bed #3 for Girl Scout message stones,
- Gale will retrieve wire deer (although with red ribbons they looked like for Valentines Day. will remove anyway.
- New trash cans are doing the job, less trash in walkway and beds

### Community use of the Arboretum:

- Twilight events planned, people asking to perform!
- Boy Scouts car show planned for 7/14/18
- Other summer programs suggestions? We are open
- Garden club: Mulching event 4/21 or rain date 4/22 get Scouts for a Mulchfest (Tanya? Bill will ask Scouts

## Tree Nursery – update from Mary Normoyle, Nursery Manager

- Trees seem fine.
- Abbie has to get Mary a green shirt ☺
- Mary and Ray mulched our baby trees on Saturday 2/10/18.
- Asked for labels on each tree to be more stable before tags fade away. Tom will investigate so we know which tree is what
- 60 trees are now in pots and doing fine.
- room for orphan trees
- discussion about adding benches (thinking is not a good idea)

## Education

- NJ CeU credits for webinars
- We'll get 15-20 credits for our attendees at the seminar (to meet NJ state requirement



## 2017 summary of accomplishments

- New forms were created by NJ. Ray completed all done- submitted to State

## Regular Business | Tree Maintenance

- Tom reporting just some branches. nothing big.
- Biggest problem is backup on the Website
- Carole Stewart wants to be include on the statistics (Tom said OK, no problem)
- 170 Brook Street: violation. Check issued. all done

## Tree permits

- Waiting on building department to settle to start a procedure to include a special notice on the permit regarding tree removal requirements. Need dept to settle first
- Increase in last few weeks
- Some for removal are appropriate.
- One homeowner on East Madison wants to cut down trees that are fine, just have lichen but healthy
- Consider offering a \$25 refund for permit if after a DSTC review, they DON'T cut the tree down. would be amendment to ordinance?
- A private tree on knickerbocker was cut down without a permit. Homeowner says was a danger had no time. went and got permit after tree was down. No way to know. We need to investigate these actions.

## Update from FOTST –

- meeting, fundraising, activities and projects:
- Sally Reporting: Barbara Briton donated 2 bags of birdseed
- Tony Lupardi presented to 22 guests at the Garden Club event on 2/5- very well received. Event was a success. He gave out bulbs and pots to plant for spring. We will continue to do our best to support Lupardi 's for all they do for the Arboretum and DSTC FOTST
- Scholarship documents are all done, sent to Dumont High School. we plan to give out at least 1 scholarship in 2018

## Adopt-A-Tree –

Plan for spring – we need more ambassadors will keep trying

Johnny and Janey Appleseed recruits

Other Open Business

NONE:

Meeting closed 9:02 Abbie/Tom second