# Meeting Minutes DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

*5/20/2019* Monday, 7:30-9 pm Dumont Senior Center Dumont Ave. Dumont, NJ 07628

Call to Order Tom Fisichella: 7:34/ 2nd Sally Tayeb In attendance: Ray Slaman, Tom Fisichella, Tanya Zimmerman, Bill Zitelli, Mary Normoyle, Veronica Greco, Ed Doering, Sally Tayeb

- 1. All commissioners were present or excused; none were participating by phone. There was a quorum.
- 2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
- 3. <u>Homeowner issues</u>: a few requests of homeowners asking to save a tree instead of cutting it down.

#### 2019 Activities

#### 4. ARBOR DAY- Recap

- a) Great event—14 years without rain!
- b) Thanks to Boy & Girl Scouts who assisted.
- c) Art Poster contest (Adopt-a-Tree theme) 10 winning posters displayed in local business store fronts and library. Tanya will collect at the end of May.
- d) Arbor Day lawn signs: well received. 40 were placed, most collected. Will print more for next year.
- e) Backpacks-suggestion to not give to sponsors next year to save cost and they don't really want/need. Investigate window decal instead.
- f) Suggestions for next year: extend plant sale & emphasize more. Start at 11 Am or noon; include music/entertainment; invite vendors that are nature or tree-related; paper shredding.

#### 5. Memorial Day Parade

- a) Meet at 9 AM on Walsh Dr. Step off at 9:30 AM. Line up behind the Knights and in front of the Elks.
- b) Hand out "Honey Bee Mix" seed packets
- c) Tom, Ray, Tanya & Mary will walk. Sally will ride in the car.

### 6. Twilight at the Gazebo Concert Series

- a) Wednesdays in July, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. Will keep all 5 dates in case there is a rain out.
- b) Tom will place decorations prior.
- c) Erin Calev to handle performer requests
- d) Sally made a motion to create yard signs for the concert series. Mary 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Print 40. Tanya to design using existing banner graphics.

#### 7. Community outreach and communication

- a) Website <u>www.dumontshadetree.org</u> train video posted. Arbor Day photos to be posted soon.
- b) Tom to work with Joe Buonocore on database issues (tree hazard notification and viewing permissions for Borough employees).

#### 8. Arboretum

- a) Veronica reported that the Crape Myrtle is dead. Sally suggested we find the variety that is suitable for winter temps of 0°. Kentucky Coffee tree, White Pine and Crab Apple need signage.
- b) 4 bags of mulch leftover at bed 6. 6 bags leftover from the Beautification committee can be used for beds 2 & 3, which need weeding. Suggestion to use black tarps to prevent weeds. Sally will do on bed 2.
- c) Boy Scout Troop 1345 Car Show will be on July 20.
- d) Brick installation of 23 new bricks on Sat. May 25, 9 AM.

#### 9. Tree Nursery

- a) Keeping up with weeds, planted saplings in pots. Need another raised bed. Will place mulch over fabric weed deterrent. Ray and Tom to mark area for fence. DPW will dig the holes for the posts.
- b) Water source still needed. Will need a water meter. A call to Suez is required for more info and a permit from the Borough. Not sure of the cost.

## **Regular Business**

#### 10. Maintenance.

- a) DPW is catching up with stump removal. Need to have Kathy Romeo be able to view database. Tom working to fix.
- b) A few tree maintenance requests have come in. Space Tree at Arboretum has a "ram's horn" (inward curled growth to seal off a wound or disease). Joe Ulrich to make a cut to repair. Car accident at 122 E. Madison damaged a tree.
- c) Swamped with permits. A few sad cases, some trees saved. Reports of tree companies telling homeowners that a tree is unsafe and should be removed when tree is ok.
- d) Updating tree ordinance. Arboretum was designated as a "light industrial" area. To be re-designated at the next Mayor & Council meeting as a recreational area.
- e) Beautification Committee cleaned up area around "Dumont" sign and entrance to the Arboretum.
- f) Continuation of Arboretum South area needs a survey. Unsure what property belongs to CSX.

#### 11. FOTST

a) \$160 profit from the Arbor Day Plant Sale. Garden committee hosting Plant Swap at the next meeting, Mon. June 3 at 7:30 PM, bring a plant, take a plant.

## 12. Open Business

b) Question about planting in the Right Of Way. Yes, items can be planted as long as visibility is maintained. No vegetable plants. Homeowner was asked to cut their ornamental grass. Ray to find out max height.

c)

Motion to adjourned by Tanya.  $2^{nd}$  by Sally  $\$ .