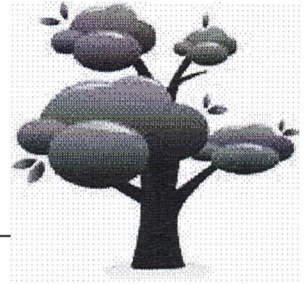




Minutes of the
DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION
5/18/2020
Monday, 7:30-9 pm
Zoom Meeting



Motion to call the meeting to order by Tanya Zimmerman; Ray Slaman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: Rachel Bunin, Tom Fisichella, Mary Normoyle, Abbie Slaman, Ray Slaman, Sally Tayeb, Tanya Zimmerman (Commissioners); Tara Barker, Kathy Zitelli, Bill Zitelli (Member-at-large); Conor Gorman (Borough Council Liaison). There was a quorum.

- **COVID19 Update:** NO Change from April 2020 meeting. State/Federal and Local guidelines were Reviewed by Ray Slaman. To recap: The Commission is currently operating as per NJ and Dumont Borough guidelines: all face-to-face activities are suspended (tree inspections, hazard/permit issues). All non-essential activities have ceased. Emergency tree work will be coordinated through the DPW as per our emergency work policy. Agreed that Borough of Dumont is taking a more conservative approach keeping parks closed, only essential workers at Boro Hall.
- **COVID19 testing** available for free on Friday 5/22/2020. Notice went out through Facebook and IG and Borough website.
- Shade Tree has been able to function fairly well under the circumstances. DPW is operating with 2 trucks. Dennis arrives in the bucket truck and second worker in a separate pickup truck. Schedule includes 10 days off. Workers are rotating shifts for critical work only.
- **Protocol for meeting public meeting requirements:** Conor Gorman (Borough Council Liaison) will investigate how to publish Zoom link and requirements for Shade Tree.
- **Prior Meeting Minutes:** Accepted by all. Thank you, Abbie, for submitting the April minutes.
- **Discussion of homeowner issues:** requests are being accepted but not acted upon. Emergencies only are being directed to DPW for action.
 - **Sally:** Tree in Memorial Park behind her house need attention; declining for years. Tom has it on the list.
 - **Rachel:** Large stumps on DeLong will be removed asap, road was just repaved.
 - Need to review tree **67 Essex Pl.** is it a borough tree? Homeowner says needs trimming
 - 215 Howard Street: Pine tree sap? Seems ok, natural occurrence.
 -
- **Arbor Day RECAP** was a success! 20-30 watched via IG LIVE. The broadcast was saved and shown on our Facebook page.
 - Remote camera on the flag during the National Anthem.
 - Mayor to read Proclamation and introduced Carole Stewart, the Award of Merit recipient; who was safely on site, a safe distance from the host and the camera.
 - Tanya Zimmerman presented the artwork KUDOS remotely in a creative presentation (remotely).
 - Artwork is now on website and will be in newsletter
 - Arbor Day Sponsors recognized in the speech and on the website.
 - Eagle Scout candidate Rex Harvilla revealed the water feature that is nearing completion—water was on, and the plantings will be done

- Arbor Day Tree planted Pink Dogwood (*cornus florida*), obtained from Victoria's Nursery in Paramus, NJ.
- **Concerts at the Gazebo for 2020:** We are exploring safe ways to do the concerts this summer. It is a positive experience for the community and we believe we can find creative ways to do this safely.
 - No shared microphones
 - Virtual presentation (FB live?)
 - Corralled seating for a few audience members limited spacing at safe distances
- **Community outreach and communication:** website – www.dumontshadetree.org, newsletter, social media (Facebook, IG, Twitter)
 - newsletter will publish by Rachel before Memorial Day—will be all digital so can expand page count. Will include Arbor Day, Water Feature, Tree Planting, and Nursery updates
 - IG 244 followers
 - FB 526 followers- active postings and “LIKES”
 - Twitter 120 followers
- **Arboretum:** Kathy and Bill Z inspected.
 - mulch delivered from Lupardi's through donation to FotST from Visions Credit Union (\$700). Bags at northern end; some distributed to beds
 - Mowing is sporadic
 - Water feature is on
 - Gazebo needs painting
 - Weeds taking over many beds. Bed 8 has piles of leaves and dirt (not sure where came from) Bill removed 2 dead bushes from Bed 10 and Azalea from Bed 8
 - South and north end beds in better shape than middle beds 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 that need work. Need volunteers. Need to put out word that even 1 hour will help. Working safely. Garden bed volunteers will work, practicing social distancing, to keep the Arboretum looking beautiful.
 - Bricks will be installed after Health Emergency is over
- **Tree Nursery:** Phil Malinowski, Tree Nursery Manager,
 - weeding needs to be done,
 - we plan to do a dedication ceremony as soon as Health Emergency is over.
 - New raised bed to come
 - Thanks to Tom F, Bill Z carpenters for fence; Thanks to Tara and Bill for painting
- **Friends of the Shade Tree:**
 - **Rachel:** Scholarship to be determined this week. Rachel, Bill, Tara, Tanya will work with DHS to maybe review applicants and determine winners based on qualifications.
 - Available for Scholarship: \$1,654.00
- **Regular Business**
- **DSTC budget for 2020:** Conor Gorman said he believes we will get what we expect, same budget as 2019. \$9,000.00 Vote on budget is in June.

- Conor will call our Boro Admin regarding **Garden Homes planting** the trees along southern border of Affordable housing project on DeLong (was part of development plan, now is planting season)
- **DeLong Project:** It is agreed that DSTC will be involved in replacing them with 14 trees using the right-tree-right-place policy, perhaps with Adopt-a-Tree plantings.
- **Partner PSEG** worked to trim the problem tree on Hamilton and Wolcott and Tree on Niagara.
- **DeLong and Sunset Ave stumps:** Dennis did an outstanding job (thank you Dennis) removing the Sunset Ave stumps. Will get to DeLong Ave.
- **Tree permits:** all on hold for 2 months. Just emergency removals now. Upside is some big trees have been spared because of Health Emergency no removals unless an emergency can take place. There are 2 large healthy trees that homeowner wants taken down. Will have to wait, hopefully will be persuaded not to remove when Ray can get out again for face-to-face with homeowner.
- **Private tree ordinance:** on hold trying to figure it out. Mary Normoyle will investigate other town ordinances with Conor's help. Conor has contact in Tenafly. Sally requested that zoning include land coverage provisions.
- It was moved by Abbie Slaman, seconded by Tanya Zimmerman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. The next meeting will be June 15, 2020. Next meeting maybe in Gazebo, we'll take each day at a time to see how Health emergency is at that time if we can meet safely.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Bunin on 5/20/2020

Announcements:

THE DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION (DSTC) HAS COMPLIED WITH
THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT,
HAVING SENT NOTICE TO THE RECORD, RIDGEWOOD NEWS, FILED WITH THE MUNICIPAL CLERK
AND POSTED ON THE BOROUGH'S OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD.

ALL DUMONT RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND OPEN MEETINGS OF THE DSTC

BUY A BRICK, ENJOY THE GAZEBO (At the Arboretum on West Shore Avenue)

For more information visit www.dumontshadetree.org