



Meeting minutes

DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

9/21/2020 Monday, 7:30-9:00 pm ZENDIGGI

Kabob House and dial bridge Closter, NJ 07628



Call to Order 7:30pm Tom/Tanya 2nd

Special Thanks and Gratitude to Sally and Keivan Tayeb for the tea and catering our meeting... was an unexpected pleasure!

Attending: Rachel Bunin, Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Bill Zitelli, Kathy Zitelli, Sally Tayeb, Tom Fisichella, Tanya Zimmerman

Bridge calling: didn't get any calls from outside callers

Inspection calendar for 2020

Jan	Kathy and Bill
Feb	Tom
Mar	Abbie
Apr	Ray
May	Kathy Z
Jun	Sally
Jul	Tanya
Aug	Tanya
Sept	Abbie
Oct	Mary
Nov	Rachel
Dec	Tara

1. Review Prior Meeting Minutes No minutes from August. First time meeting was cancelled in many years (July minutes??)

2. COVID 19 update Still operating under guidelines and rules from State, County and Town. Will see about October meeting. Zendiggi is outdoors, tented but still might be too cold. Not sure if interior space will be allowed.

3. Discussion of homeowner issues/questions (if any)

- August 3 was the Big Storm (Hurricane Isaias) Dumont lost many trees (still counting) including Heritage Trees and 2 Arboretum Trees. DPW working to finish cleanup. Did a good job in a short time to clear roads
- Addresses with homeowner issues:
- 50 Chestnut
- 124 Lafayette
- 46 McKinley

4. Concerts at the Gazebo – was a success. Even with Covid-19 restrictions we got in the concerts, were well attended and had FB and IG LIVE for remote viewing. Kudos all around

a. Fall activities + Dumont Day was cancelled.

Possible Holiday concert at Gazebo? Will ask mayor and council. One night event.

5. Education – New Jersey Shade Tree Federation annual conference –

10/19-10/23/20 Will be Remote. We need the CEUs and can sign up. Ray handed out the flyer. Planning to attend: (sign up and participate remotely 😊) Rachel, Abbie, Ray, Tanya.. maybe others?

6. Community outreach and communication

a. Website – www.dumontshadetree.org Website may get an upgrade. Ray looking into expansion of Database w/ the Town Website Tanya keeping it current

Bill asked we post VOTE and Register to Vote information on website and social media. As tree commissions elections matter on how the environment is protected. So We will post non-partisan information on social media and website.

b. Newsletter—will be all digital, Rachel will put out a Fall 2020 edition. Will include recap of Twilight at Gazebo Concerts, Upcoming events (the garden club activities, concerts, maybe holiday concert, wreathmaking event, process for reporting tree issue.. other ideas?)

c. social media Abbie reports: 617 FB followers (very active site, posting by Kathy Z, Rachel, and Abbie.

IG has 265 followers, Twitter 119 followers (only Abbie tweeting)

7. Arboretum Maintenance, inspections, general upkeep (monthly assignments)
Abbie reporting nothing much to report.

We lost 2 trees in 8/3/2020 storm Coffee tree and Elm. Will replace at Arbor Day.

Dogwood is not healthy, needs shade to thrive and just lost coffee tree which gave it shade.

Bucks reported at the arboretum. Doing what we can to protect trees from the local deer population which is thriving in town.

Rachel will follow up with Tara for new Tree City USA flag for the arboretum

b. New gardeners/volunteers

Bill keeping up with the volunteers; some doing better than others. Bed 2 needs work.

c. Brick installation / Brick sales

there are 23 bricks to be installed, hoping to do so on 9/23/2020—we need pictures to put on the website and social media of the installation. Without TwinBoro news, our marketing the sales is tough

Sally has one more brick to order-- Maybe put out word about bricks again on social media

8. Tree Nursery –

Veronica Greco a. Maintenance / weeding Veronica is doing an amazing job watering and weeding.

On 9/20 Ray, Abbie, Kathy, Bill, and Rachel transplanted trees into second raised bed, other transplants, trees are thriving, did some weeding, mulching, and watering. Adoptions may come sooner than Ray had hoped for!

Tree adoptions will be through a lottery system

Will only adopt out trees that have greater than a 2" caliper

Nursery dedication will happen.. Covid has delayed this event

Mulching was done

Second raised bed was planted on 9/20/20

9. Dedication and memorial – Kathy Sheridan, Ryan Normoyle

Discussion of best way to honor/memorialize. Tragic losses for our community:

For Ryan: We will reach out to Mary and see what she might want the shade tree to do to remember Ryan. Ideas include planting a tree in town, creating a space

For Kathy: Bill and Tom and refurbishing a bench, we will create a quiet space at the arboretum in memory of Kathy; put a plaque on bench. Ask Grace if she wants to create an art piece for the space.

Tom will reach out to Grace.

Regular Business

10. DSTC budget: Arbor Day, Education, tree planting, DeLong Ave., other projects

- DeLong Ave lost many trees. There is a DeLong Tree reclamation project. Rachel will walk the avenue and ask homeowners to Adopt-a-tree.. Rachel will ask DeLong Avenue residents to participate in Adopt-a Tree.. Ray will give Rachel flyers to hand out. Goal 10-12 trees from Knickerbocker to Washington both sides spread out.. starting west of Franklin Avenue

11. Tree Maintenance – moving inspection responsibility to DPW :

- Give Ray and Tom a break, also this should be on DPW.. and succession planning.
- Sally concerned that the person doing inspections should not have conflict of interest (not same person as doing the work) Ray will work this out w/ DPW Superintendent: Anthony Schiraldi, Arborist Dennis Banoff

12. Tree permits

Ray just approved 9 permits. Sadly, on Oneida Heritage trees will come down because 1 came down in the storm so homeowners want the healthy ones down.

13. Update from FOTST –

- Meetings: Billy reporting House tour—success
- October 3: exchange of perennials gathering at the Gazebo
- Fundraising:
- Wreath making event for December 2020. Ray in discussion with Mayor regarding our use of the Senior Center. Ideas include prepay and timed entry to limit number of participants and sanitize b/w sessions.
- Stop and Shop program: Dumont bag program raised \$159.00 (check came to Sally during the meeting! 😊) We have been asked to participate again in Tenaflly for October. Rachel and Abbie will promote on Social Media.

\October 19 will likely be a remote / dial meeting maybe again at Zendiggi depending on Weather

9:15pm Tom closed/Sally 2nd

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