



# Meeting Minutes

## DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

**10/19/2020**

**Monday, 7:30-9:00 pm ZOOM**

<https://attpm.zoom.us/j/9159594987>

Call to Order L 7:30pm Rachel/Tanya

Attending: Ray Slaman, Abbie Slaman, Bill Zitelli, Kathryn Zitelli, Tom F, Veronica Greco, Conor Gorman, Tanya Zimmerman, Tara Barker, Rachel Bunin (taking minutes)

*1. Review Prior Meeting Minutes Accepted July 2020, and August 2020 meeting minutes*

2. COVID 19 update

Conor G: Council Liaison: spoke with Chris Tully (Dumont Boro Admin) reporting

- Rise in Covid 19 numbers in town (global condition)
- Policy: Boro Hall still closed, those entering need to pass Temp Checks
- Mailbox for DSTC is ok at new Boro Hall
- Storage for DSTC at new Boro Hall: for now, all extra storage space is being assigned for families at risk in Dumont food and clothing. After pandemic we shall see situation and hopefully some storage space will be assigned to DSTC for our supplies
- New boro hall opens in January 2021 (on schedule for now)
- Wreath event cannot happen at Senior Center as in years past due to covid
- FOTST is running so can be at Elks (see below for wreath info discussion)

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

No homeowners on Zoom Ray trying to figure out a way to include public in our virtual meetings

4. Fall activities + Other projects/suggestions? a. Wreath making

- Date: 12/7/2020 (Monday?) last year was Tuesday 12/10/19 but Monday 12/7 is on boro calendar so that's our plan once approved by Elks (Rafael Riquelme is Tara's contact)
- Time for event: 7:30-9pm we will ask for hall from 6-10pm
- Tara: confirm no fee to Elks for our use
- FOTST is non profit so can run event
- Rafael said max 30 people so we will open to 20 paid wreath-makers giving us a buffer for FOTST people
- changes we need to make include:
  - COVID-19 mandates (masks, gloves (?), byo tools—no sharing of tools, Temp checks
  - Temps: town has some thermometers, Sally has 3 temp guns we can borrow
  - No snacks
  - pay in advance (venmo to let's give the account? Tanya said we can use her venmo or cash to Tara?),
- limit to 20 people (but maybe not 20 wreaths and you pay by the wreath?)
- Location: confirm that is at Elks club? address?
- time: 7:30-9pm

- No walk-ins all must pay in advance
- Rachel will send around last year FB invite so we can create a new one for 2020
- transfer of ticket is ok/

b. Tree labels for the Arboretum – Sally and Ray working on options

- Some trees don't have labels
- Swamp White Oak is mislabeled
- Possible mislabel on others (discussion w/ Tom and Ray)
- Sally submitted proposal to Written in Stone to get pricing for tags/ labels

c. Walking tour curriculum

- Ray requested volunteers to put together curriculum
- Tom has walking tour from years ago that we can use as a basis for tour
- Also use what we learned from Honiss Presentation
- Rachel and Tanya volunteered to help with project

d. Holiday Concert at the Gazebo

- Ray working with Erin to gather ideas and talent
- All virtual? Maybe not... better to have some audience
- FB/IG live not good in dark
- Maybe do afternoon? Limit attendance
- Singers bring own lights? Flashlights? Audience brings own flashlights?
- Need to select a date
- There are no lights in the Gazebo
- Positive event, all in favor of making this happen

5. Education – annual conference – NJSTF this week!

- Rachel, Ray, Sally, Tom, Tanya, Bill, and Kathy in attendance; Positive feedback for the virtual/Zoom presentations.
- We have met our CEU requirements
- Concern for boro employees (DPW) having Core training and appropriate CEU credentials. Compliance? Conor should investigate
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6. Community outreach and communication

- Website – [www.dumontshadetree.org](http://www.dumontshadetree.org) maintained by Tanya
- Newsletter- Rachel didn't get to it yet, hoping for end of year publication all digital
- Social media – Abbie: reporting 266 followers in Instagram. Abbie did a FB live for tree planting had many views, Rachel shared it to 5 Dumont groups to spread the word, Rachel also posted a video of tree watering to encourage good stewardship for newly planted adopt-a-trees

7. Arboretum.

- maintenance, inspections, general upkeep (monthly assignments)
- Kathy Z reporting mostly looks good
- some trimming needed
- No flyers in Gazebo (Tom will refill)
- Corkscrew willow needs trimming
- Some deer damage to bark on several trees
- Deer are eating the arborvitae



b. New gardeners/volunteers

- Billy Z: Garden event was a success. Plant exchange went well

c. Brick installation / Brick sales

Rachel and Sally did a brick inventory. All ordered that were received from WIS were installed. Three outstanding orders now in to WIS, Ray asked if order comes in before freeze, he will install them.

Report from Sally:

We have 3 bricks on order now. To make a long story short, when Ray sent me the email from Lori, I found not only hers but 1 more from August. I'm not sure why the email notices didn't reach my inbox, and will look into fixing it and/or will plan to log into PayPal more often.

Anyway, I dropped off the 3 bricks, the check and the instructions at Written in Stone, and hope that they are not too busy and can get to them reasonably quickly.

Regarding FOTST Accounting, we have funds in the bank as follows:

\$3,862.08 Mariner's Bank  
\$2,012.07 PayPal  
\$5,874.15 Total Assets

2019 Wreath Deposit was \$645

2020 we distributed \$1000 (\$500 to each of 2 scholarship winners)

Sally will catch up with bookkeeping to let you know how much balance in each of the restricted accounts.

8. Tree Nursery – Veronica Greco a. Maintenance / weeding

- Veronica reporting that most trees are doing very well. Some loss at the transplant to the new bed. Second raised bed installed!
- We could use a 3<sup>rd</sup> raised bed.
- Veronica watered the trees 3-4 times/ week (WOW!) during the summer.
- Weeding is a battle.
- May start adopting trees out as early as next spring
- Mulching will help with weeds
- Dedication after pandemic is over?

Sally: Zendiggi has hay at Zendiggi that needs to be 'moved' Ray wants it for the nursery. Rachel volunteered her van to move the hay. Rachel, Sally, and Ray arranged for the move on Sunday 10/25/2020 at 9am.

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9. Dedication and memorial – Kathy Sheridan, Ryan Normoyle

Bench for Kathy is almost ready—place near tiny library?

Ideas for a memorial space at Arboretum for Ryan (and others?)

Ideas for a leaf wall, planting trees for each memorial?

- GRANT for Native plants:
- Tanya presented the Grant for native plants through the organization (?) Grant is for \$500 to plant native plants. This might work for the memorial garden space? Need to get grant in by