



Meeting Minutes 6/19/23 DUMONT SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Monday, 7:30 PM Dumont Borough Hall 50 Washington Avenue Dumont Borough Hall

In Attendance: Rachel Bunin, Tanya Zimmerman, Jackie Corless, Rex Harvilla, George Harvilla, Tom Fisichella, Tara Barker, Wayne Cahilly, Sally Tayeb, John Russell, Veronica Greco, Sasha Attanasio, Stephanie Petriello

Call to Order: 7:30pm Tanya/Rachel

1. Review and approve prior meeting minutes from May 15, 2023 accepted: Rachel/Tom

2. Swearing in of new commissioners Councilman John Russell swore in Stephanie Petriello and Sasha Attanasio as DSTC commissioners. We now have a full slate of seven commissioners including: Tanya Zimmerman, Rachel Bunin, Tom Fisichella, Sally Tayeb, Wayne Cahilly

3. Arboretum Water Feature Pump: Rex explained how the pump is no longer working and out of warranty (was a 5 yr. warranty) pump should have lasted 20 years. But didn't, it seized. Not sure why that happened but a new pump needed for summer. Sally made motion to pay for new pump from FOTST funds. \$600+ Tom F will look and try to 'fix' current pump. If not able, we will buy a new one.

4. Tree Removals on List/Risk Assessment Plan and Inclusion of Sidewalk Remediation List of 16 critical trees; Tanya read responses from Dennis, Jeanine re: status. Estimated 1/week and have started to remove. 84 Andover one of the first to go. Discussion on removing sidewalks where trees are an issue and homeowner cannot pay to replace. Tanya will run idea by borough engineer. Public safety is our first priority.

5. Homeowner Issues/Borough Tree Issues Sally explained how many trees net loss over 15 years in boro. Looking for grants to plant trees. Adopt-a-Tree program not keeping up with loss.

Rachel will contact CVS management to see if they would plant in area by parking lot at Veterans Plaza

Veronica mentioned need to plant evergreens in Memorial Park. Also 20 pocket parks in borough need trees

Dead trees on Blauvelt/Howard and Depew need to come down. DPW to be notified.

6. Davies Tree Survey—update needed. Started on June 12 Survey has started. Training session will include Rachel, Stephanie and we want to include Cathy Romeo. Date TBD

7. Monthly Arboretum Inspections—Sally—June Sally's report is in Excel, very detailed. Future reporting will use same spreadsheet but saved as a Google Sheet so all can share and see if issues were attended to. DPW is aware that the gazebo needs maintenance and staining

Motion to remove dead rose bushes. Discussion on status of roses, some dead, some may survive with treatment. Tanya will contact Davis Johnson Garden rose caretaker to see what to do. All in favor of removing dead bushes and replacing with native, low maintenance perennials,



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possibly deer resistant. Decision on bushes that may survive will come after professional assessment.

Volunteers for Arboretum inspection months:

July: Jackie, August: Veronica, September: Rachel, October: Tanya, November: Stephanie, December: Sasha

8. Library "All Together Now" Summer Reading Program Presentation, public invited, Mon., June 26, 6:00 PM–8 PM, working on presentation Commissioners will attend. WE will discuss Lantern fly. NJ Trees giving out traps. John will be getting them. (won't have them for presentation but will tell people where/how to get them.) John will pick up the traps to distribute at the Bergen County Mosquito Control on 6/30/2023

9. Shade Tree Resolution/Ordinance– NO changes

10. Budget Update we have money for 2023. Use it or lose it. Likely on trees as is our mandate and on dues, membership fees for NJ Tree Federation. We didn't spend all of 2022.

11. Memorial Tree for Women's Club of Dumont Presentation, June 20, 1:30 PM at Memorial Park. All are invited. DSTC commissions will attend

12. Memorial Tree(s) for BOE Garden

13. FOTST Report Ray has officially resigned. Sally asked for volunteers to join board (currently Sally, Tom, Rachel). John Russell and Veronica Greco will join FOTST board.

14. Additional business

Save the Dates

Sept. 9, Dumont Day, Noon–6 PM, our space is reserved

NJ Tree Federation Annual Conference: Oct. 26 & 27, Cherry Hill, NJ

Question: NJ Tree Federation Annual Membership Dues??? Who has info?

Tanya has a bill from Tom for the NJ Tree federation membership. Will give it to Sally to pass onto the Borough Hall/Finance.

Shade Tree Annual Seminar, Nov. 13, Elks, Program TBD

Meeting closed 8:57pm Rachel/Sally

Next meeting, Mon., July 17, 7:30 PM at the ARBORETUM