

**Shade Tree Commission
Demarest Borough Hall
7:00PM**

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

February 12, 2026

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Linda Cetta opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the following announcement: PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting and notice of regular meeting was posted at Borough Hall, was mailed to The Record and was filed with the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Demarest on January 9, 2026.

1. **Roll Call:** Present, Linda Cetta, Dimitri Gatanas, Norman NG, Ted Alverontas, Maureen Neville, Faye Sloan via Facetime. Council Liaison Adam Collins. Absent, Kathy Kobylarz
2. **Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes from January 22, 2026. was made by Dimitri Gatanas second Linda Cetta. Correction of spelling of names from the minutes for Adam Collins and Ted Alevrontas
3. **Old Business:** Stelfox project was discussed. Linda Cetta informed the members that Shade Tree will Secretary Lee Campbell will be coordinating with the Contractor regarding planting. Adam Collins added the Contractor will plant the new trees in areas that will not interfere with future growth. Linda Cetta added 3 of the 10 trees for one of the properties, that cannot be planted in the ROW, will be planted on private property. She also suggested anyone living on Stelfox St. contact Lee Campbell with specific species of trees they wish to be planted. Linda Cetta also expressed that she hopes the Mayor and Council follow the plan that was submitted. Dimitri Gatanas informed the members that the Mayor and Council agreed on his suggestion for staking the new trees and added that part of the contract with the Contractor is to water the trees. Norman NG updated the members regarding the launch of the Shade Tree Commission Facebook's page. Discussions, to use the page to inform the residents/public of what the Commission's functions, list of upcoming events, giving awareness, and the Shade Tree Commission accepts donations. Dimitri Gatanas suggested not using the word unofficial in the title of the page, and asks, to what degree the Shade Tree Commission can advertise on Facebook. Norman NG requested if the Shade Tree Secretary can get involved? Adam Collins added that it would be a discussion with Lee Campbell regarding the other work she is doing. Dimitri Gatanas requested that all members be added as Administrators to have full access to adding/editing the Facebook page. Norman NG stated he set the page so no one can post anonymously and will only accept names to be shown in the comment sections. A motion to accept the amendments to the Bi-Laws was made by Dimitri Gatanas, second by Norman NG, Dimitri Gatanas added under the exception of the corrections, all were in favor. Linda Cetta reported the Trust Account

has \$16,440.00 and the Operating Budget has \$15,000.00 which she feels that there is a discrepancy.

4. **New Business:** Arbor Day is scheduled for April 25, 2026, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Linda Cetta expressed her concerns about the location since the Train Station is not available. The Commission discussed locations that would be visible to the public and have agreed upon the corner of Hardenburgh Avenue and Park Avenue. Linda Cetta will contact Borough Administrator Julie Falkenstern to see if there are any conflicts. Also discussed were the purchase of swag with suggestions to research different companies for merchandise. NJSTF Membership will be renewed adding Kathy Kobylarz and Ted Alevrontas. The membership fees will be \$200.00 with the addition of the two new members. Inspection of the ROW and member district has been updated and will be as follows, Dimitri Gatanas and Ted Alevrontas will be District 1, Linda Cetta, Maureen Neville, and Faye Sloan will be District 2, and Norman NG and Kathy Kobylarz will be District 3. Cemetery update, The DPW had reported damage to the Skip Laurels from Deer and weather-related conditions, upon inspection by multiple members, it has been determined and confirmed by Dimitri Gatanas the Skip Laurels other than 1 or 2 are in good shape. He will request DPW treat the Skip Laurels once the weather reaches 50 degrees. Dimitri Gatanas would like consideration for the Cemetery to have a clear path for visitors when it is snow covered.
5. **Open to the public:** No one present
6. **Motion to adjourn** was made by Maureen Neville and second by Ted Alevrontas

Respectfully Submitted, Lee Campbell Shade Tree Commission Secretary