

Botanic Gardens
Parks, Recreation & Beaches Department
P.O. Box 3740
DURBAN

1990-02-21

The Department of Manpower
P.O. Box 940
DURBAN
4000

Attention : Mrs Mann

Dear Sir

I was sentenced to six years of Community Service starting 1988-12-01. I am qualified as a schoolteacher, having completed a B Sc degree and H.D.E. diploma.

Afer being sentenced it was explained to me by the Department of Manpower that teaching was no longer permissible as Community Service - so I suggested the Durban Parks Department, because of my interest in Botany. Also, I had been in touch with the Parks Department and they had assured me that I would be used in an education capacity as far as possible (see ** schedule of duties enclosed). Admittedly, Mrs De Lange of the Department of Manpower in Durban was skeptical at the time, but no other suitable post was available then.

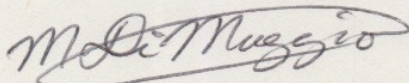
After one year and two months with the Parks Department I feel I have not been used in my capacity in any significant way. As far as my daily duties at the moment are concerned (please see list again), duties Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 6 have practically fallen away and I spend 95% of my time undertaking menial maintenance and development work. Only occasionally do I get to conduct a guided tour of the Garden (in 14 months I have taken exactly 10 school groups around the Garden, for 1 hour at a time).

Recently, with the reduction of Community Service to three years, a friend of mine finished his sentence at the Durban Natural Science Museum. At the same time, I read that the Museum was to be expanded and this would increase the workload of the two Education Officers there.

I therefore had the idea of requesting a transfer to the Museum where I could prove to be more useful. The Museum Director has agreed to take me on and the Training Officer of the Parks Department has kindly agreed to let me go. Since this will be an internal transfer and I will remain with the Durban Corporation, my Community Service details will not need to be altered in any way.

I would greatly appreciate you considering my request.

Yours sincerely



M. DI MAGGIO

MDM/jw

*sent off
week of 20 FEB.*

Mario Dimaggio

Corporation of the City of Durban.

PARKS, RECREATION & BEACHES DEPT.

20 January 19 89

TRAINING DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO : MRS DONNA MITCHELL
CITY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

SCHEDULE DUTIES : MARIO DIMAGGIO : CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR : HORTICULTURAL ASSISTANT

1. Horticultural Assistant -general horticulture maintenance procedures of the Botanic Gardens and Old Fort.
2. Tree labelling and allied Botanical application and research.
3. Maintenance and overseeing of the Indigenous Natural Area of the Botanic Gardens.
4. Manning Information kiosk as required and providing a relevant information service to the public.
5. Conducting tours of the Botanic Gardens for public groups as and when required.
6. As required, research for preparation of information brochures on the Botanic Gardens.

G.J. Croom
G.J. CROOM
TRAINING OFFICER

P.S. Sentence per se of 2175 days
commenced 1 December 1988

encl./ Academic certificates

GJC/ml