



**Minutes of the Meeting
Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission
June 20, 2018**

TIME: 10 a.m.
DATE: June 20, 2018
PLACE: Prallsville Mills, Stockton, New Jersey

Attending Commissioners:

Vice Chairman John Loos, Commissioner Bruce Stout, Commissioner Mary Leck, Commission Philip Lubitz, and Director Oliva Glenn

Staff : Executive Director John Hutchison, Mr. Joseph Ruggeri via telephone, DAG Melissa Abatemarco, Ms. Colleen Christie Maloney, Ms. Tammy Romsdahl

Guests: Superintendent Patricia Kallesser; Mr. Michael Sellar, NJWSA; Ms. Stephanie Fox, D&R Canal State Park Naturalist; Ms. Vicki Chirco, D&R Canal State Park Historian; Ms. Hannah Webster, D&R Canal State Park; Mr. Ryan Kennedy, Stevens and Lee; Ms. Pamela V'Combe, D&R Canal Watch; Mr. Tom O'Shea, Van Note-Harvey Associates; Mr. Dave Stires; Ms. Kathy Hall, NJWSA; Mr. Tom Letizia, Pepper Hamilton, LLP; Mr. Robert von Zumbusch, DRCC Master Plan Advisory Committee; Mr. TG Jadico, PE, Johnson and Johnson; Ms. Meghan Baratta, NJ State Historic Preservation Office

At 10:05 a.m., there was not quorum. Vice Chairman Loos noted he was not calling the meeting to order but the group would proceed to hear reports until there was a quorum for the meeting.

D&R Canal State Park Superintendent Report

At the request of Superintendent Kallesser, the commission observed a moment of silence in honor of Henry "Buzzy" Tuliszewski, who passed away on June 13, 2018. Mr. Tuliszewski was a park maintenance specialist on the main canal section of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park.

Superintendent Kallesser noted there was a fatality in the park in Stockton on Memorial Day Weekend, and more details were not known. She noted that summer hiring is proceeding. She reported on a Sunoco pipeline repair in Jacobs Creek.

New Jersey Water Supply Authority Report

Mr. Sellar reported on completion of the Route 1 tunnel cleaning, the dredging project is starting to mobilize with further tree removal, the contract award for the Griggstown Waste Gate, aquatic vegetation management including Hydrilla and Fanwort, continued tree removal related to the March

nor'easter, three large washouts of the Stony Brook into the canal related to weather on Memorial Day weekend, and proposed work for the Six Mile Culvert.

Mr. Sellar and Commissioner Stout discussed the areas of the canal south of Bulls Island which the NJWSA identified as in need of repair and the tarped areas in Stockton.

Superintendent Kalleser and Commissioner Stout discussed the status of the swing bridge proposed for the area of Moore's Creek and bids received for the work.

Executive Director Report

Director Hutchison reported on the monthly work load, fee collection, and purchasing matters related to review zone officers.

At 10:25 a.m., Director Glenn entered the meeting. Vice Chairman Loos noted there was a quorum. He called the meeting to order and announced that this was a monthly meeting of the D&R Canal Commission and that all provisions of the "Senator Byron Baer Open Public Meetings Act" had been met in the scheduling of the meeting.

Director Hutchison continued his report. He reported on the Amwell Road bridge replacement and discussions with DOT to relocate a utility line under the canal. He reported that roofers are replacing the office roof, and a pest management program in the office. The director reported that he was following the PennEast pipeline legal matter. He reported on the records storage project and introduced Ms. Bennett who is working on a temporary basis in the office. Director Hutchison reported on continued concerns of area residents related to a county road project on Route 604 in Delaware Township. He reported on design of conservation easement signage and a commission seal by DEP staff.

Director Hutchison reported on a meeting with the D&R Canal State Park Superintendent and DOT during which, at the request of Stockton residents on South Main Street, they reviewed water collecting in a ditch in the rear of the properties. It was determined that the ditch would need to be cleared and that bridges constructed by property owners across the ditch to the park path would be problematic and need to be removed.

Vice Chairman Loos asked for a motion to accept all reports (Park Superintendent, NJWSA, and Executive Director) that were given prior to the start of the meeting. Commissioner Stout motioned to do so and Commissioner Lubitz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Administrative Items

The Commission confirmed the July 18, 2018 Commission meeting date. Commissioner Lubitz noted he will be unable to attend the July and August meetings. Vice Chairman Loos noted he would not be in attendance at the November and December meetings.

Minutes

Vice Chairman Loos called for a motion on the May 23, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lubitz made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Loos asked for any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, he called for a vote. The minutes were

approved unanimously.

Review Zone Projects

Zone A

Vice Chairman Loos noted that project DRCC# 18-5233 Resurfacing of Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park Multi-Use Trail would be reviewed and voted on after the other projects as there may be discussion related to it.

18-4096D PCAE at St. Joseph's Seminary (Plainsboro)

Vice Chairman Loos asked for a motion on the St. Joseph's Seminary project. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the project and Commissioner Lubitz seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Loos called for comment, and hearing none, he called for a vote. The project was approved unanimously.

Zone B

Vice Chairman Loos noted that two projects were removed from the agenda as they were not complete:

18-5185 Ssquare GSquare Carport Solar Installation (Franklin)

18-5168 17 Research Park (Montgomery)

Vice Chairman Loos requested a motion on the remaining Zone B projects:

17-2756B Muslim Foundation Private School (Franklin)

17-5054 Laird Terrace Stormwater Basin Retrofit (Franklin)

17-5055 Renoir Way Stormwater Basin Retrofit (Franklin)

17-4021A Johnson and Johnson Hangar (Ewing)

18-5213 Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad (Princeton)

17-5138 US Tank Painting (Millstone Twp)

Commissioner Stout moved to approve the projects and Commissioner Lubitz seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Loos called for comment, and hearing none, he called for a vote. The projects were approved unanimously.

Zone A Project: 18-5233 Resurfacing of the D and R Canal State Park Multi-Use Trail

Park Naturalist Fox reported on the NJDEP Park Service plan to resurface the multi-use trail. She discussed cost and use of gray quarry dust on park path areas throughout the park, as compared to gray quarry dust in some areas and red shale in others. She noted the cost of gray quarry dust is \$54,000 per mile, while the red shale is \$155,000 per mile. There was discussion about the park path surface including how the gray stone is more affordable and it compacts better than the shale. There was discussion about the original materials used on the towpath and railroad bed areas of the park.

Mr. von Zumbusch noted his professional involvement in developing the D&R Canal State Park planning documents, including a 1984 Historic and Recreational Plan, in which color and width of the path would vary, and color would be determined by the color of the local dirt. The later Development and Acquisition and Management Plan was a time at which Mr. von Zumbusch and Mr. Amon planned that gray stone would be used for the areas of the path which were exclusively railroad beds, and canal paths would remain dirt path reflecting color of the local dirt. He suggested that the project be deferred to allow for further research, including recommendations from the National Park Service, and for further consideration by SHPO.

Ms. Baratta, noted that SHPO found the gray quarry dust to meets the standards for rehabilitation, with consideration canal park users, maintenance, and budget limitations.

Ms. Chirco noted that she is sympathetic to Mr. von Zumbusch's concerns about authentic materials, but that the park is heavily used, and the public expects a walkable and cyclable trail that is maintained, with the limited staffing. She suggested establishing a section of the path which could be treated in an historically accurate way. She noted the park has evolved into a heavily used recreational area and the first job of the park service is to serve the public.

There was discussion of funding sources for maintenance of the path and placement of the project on the capital projects list for the DEP. There was discussion related to current use and maintenance of the trail as a recreational path. Vice Chairman Loos suggested the NJDEP develop a 10-year plan to manage care of the path and that the commission and DEP should consider, with that, the future increased use of the park and multi-use path. Commissioner Lubitz noted that the D&R Canal State Park path is largely well maintained, as compared to the Delaware Canal.

Director Glenn thanked Mr. von Zumbusch for bringing his viewpoint and information to the commission. She noted the park must consider the constraints of financial and staffing matters, and noted the path is not only used recreationally, but also it is a transportation corridor by pedestrians and cyclists. It is part of an 800-mile regional trail network, which creates a circuit of trails as an alternative transportation amenity. Director Glenn noted it might be possible to take a portion of the park's multi-use path for historic interpretation. Vice Chairman Loos, Director Glenn, and Ms. Fox further discussed funding, including use of mitigation funds, county support, resources such as NJDOT TAP grants, federal funds and groups such as the William Penn Foundation.

Vice Chairman requested a motion. Commissioner Lubitz moved to approve the project and continue to research alternative methods of resurfacing additional areas of the D&R Canal State Park path. Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Loos called for further comment, and hearing none, called for a vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old/New Business

There was no discussion of old/new business.

Public Forum

There was no public comment.


Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Loos called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stout moved to adjourn and Commissioner Lubitz seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John Hutchison, Secretary