

Minutes of Meeting

DATE: April 17, 1975  
TIME: 3:00 - 5:00 PM  
LOCATION: Red Room, Labor and Industry Building, Trenton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSION--Mrs. Lee Bullitt, Mr. Joseph Burns, Mr. Martin Jessen, Mr. Donald Jones, Mr. Benjamin Kirkland, Mr. Frank Torpey and Mr. David Bardin

DEP--Mr. Michael Galley, Mr. Alfred Guido and Mrs. Barbara Levin

ATTORNEY GENERAL--Jonathan Weiner

GUESTS--Mr. Arthur Holland and Mr. James Sayen; Mr. John Clarke, Mr. Philip Caton, Mr. Mark Sherman and Mr. Lee Weintraube of the Trenton Planning Department; Mr. Dirk Hofman of the Department of Environmental Protection

ABSENT WITH CAUSE--None

ABSENT WITHOUT CAUSE--None

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Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM.

Mr. Kirkland suggested a motion of appreciation to the Department for arranging and conducting the April 5th tour of the canal for the benefit of the Commission. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and the Commissioners present and voting unanimously concurred.

At the request of Commissioner Bardin, Mr. Dirk Hofman (Chief of the Bureau of Flood Plains Management and Dam Analysis) presented a brief description of the flood hazard area delineation program and the proposed state regulations for land uses within the flood way. He pointed out that the municipalities are responsible for establishing regulations for controlling land use within the flood fringe area according to guidelines established by the state. Mr. Bardin said that the proposed state Land Use Regulations for Floodways will be officially adopted by the Department on April 22, 1975.

At the outset of the delineation program, Mr. Hofman said, a decision was made to include the D & R Canal in the floodway wherever it was engineeringly possible. This was done in the case of the Raritan and Millstone rivers.

Trenton Study

Mr. John Clarke, Director of the Department of Planning and Development of the City of Trenton, along with members of his staff presented to the Commission the scope, findings and recommendations of a study the City is conducting of the D & R Canal in Trenton and the Cadwalader Park. The study is being funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The City's recommendations include proposed areas or nodes of development. The City has identified what agency or level of government is most appropriate to handle the development of each of these areas. More detailed proposals will be presented to gain their support and cooperation at a later date.

Lake Hackensack Study Plan

Mr. Bardin requested that Mr. Guido distribute to each Commissioner a copy of the Lake Hackensack Study Plan. The Plan, resembling a linear park, may provide examples or ideas appropriate to the development of the canal.

### Executive Director

Mr. Kirkland distributed to the Commissioners the job description prepared by the subcommittee appointed at the Commission's last meeting. It was suggested by several Commissioners that the description be re-written to include some changes. Among those specifically mentioned were the following:

1. full-time dedication to responsibilities;
2. number of working hours per week should be described as "no limit";
3. mention should be made of the numerous evening meetings the executive director will be expected to attend;
4. omit number of years of experience;
5. executive director may not serve on other committees or boards but rather act as a liaison with these groups on behalf of the Commission;
6. no additional work for pay may be undertaken;
7. mention the responsibility for delineation and revision of the review zone;
8. the salary as stated does not include fringe benefits--these should be itemized separately.

Mr. Kirkland recommended that the subcommittee should meet again to consider these revisions. Mr. Holland moved that this be done and Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. The subcommittee will meet at Mr. Sayen's home on April 25 at 3:00 PM.

### Franklin Township

The amendment to the zoning ordinance proposed by Franklin Township to temporarily protect the canal from further encroachment from new developments was presented for discussion.

Mrs. Bullitt and Mr. Burns said they had understood that section 313.3 had been omitted. Inaccuracies in 313.4 were noted as to the title of the Commission and the proper sequence of steps in the review process.

It was decided that Mr. Burns should call the Township attorney to clarify these points.

### Review Zone

The pros and cons of developing quickly a temporary review zone were discussed at length. There are a number of problems involved; some of those mentioned follow:

1. the arbitrariness of a set width (e.g., 200');
2. bypassing public hearings;
3. if zone is delineated, Commission must be prepared to process projects for review;
4. definition of projects subject to review.

It was noted that already existing controls--Water Policy Board, stream encroachment, floodway--provide protection to much of the canal and areas surrounding it, although they are undoubtedly not comprehensive.

### Administrative Procedures

Mr. Bardin proposed that the Commission familiarize itself with the modus operandi of similar groups--the Natural Resources Council and the Water Policy Council--to see if any of their procedures should be adopted by the Commission.

### Next Meeting

Mr. Kirkland indicated that he would like to invite Mr. Gene Schneider,

executive director of the Legislative Study Committee that investigated the canal and prepared legislation for the creation of the Canal State Park and the Canal Commission. The purpose of the visit would be to have Mr. Schneider explain the background and intent behind the legislation, especially the review zone.

It was felt that meetings will be needed more frequently than once a month if the Commission is going to make progress in dealing with the problems and responsibilities facing it. Therefore Mr. Kirkland suggested that the next meeting be held in two weeks on May 1, 1975. It was also felt that the meetings should be longer. The May 1st meeting will probably begin around lunch time and extend through the afternoon. Finally, it was also suggested that a meeting place other than the Labor & Industry Building might provide greater comfort and convenience in parking. The Princeton Country Club and the Holiday Inn were proposed alternatives.

Final arrangements for the meeting will be made and each Commissioner informed of its time and place.

Mr. Kirkland adjourned the meeting at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara W. Levin*

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Barbara W. Levin  
Acting Secretary