

Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission

James C. Amon,
Executive Director

COMMISSIONERS

Benjamin B. Kirkland,
Chairman

Martin D. Jessen,
Vice-Chairman

Donald B. Jones,
Treasurer

David J. Bardin
Lee Bullitt

Joseph H. Burns
Arthur J. Holland

James C. Sayen
Frank J. Torpey

MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: 18 March 1976
TIME: 12:30pm-4:30pm
LOCATION: Canal House, 25 Calhoun St., Trenton
ATTENDING:

COMMISSION: Mr. Benjamin Kirkland, Mr. Martin Jessen,
Mr. Donald Jones, Ms. Lee Bullitt,
Mr. Joseph Burns, Mayor Arthur Holland,
Mr. James Sayen, Mr. Frank Torpey,
Mr. Ian Walker.

COMMISSION STAFF: Mr. James Amon, Mrs. Elizabeth Ranney

DEP: Mrs. Barbara Levin, Mr. Mel Myers

DAG: Mr. Thomas Widner

GUESTS: Mr. Ted Smella and Mr. Norbert Wagner, Elizabethtown Water Company; Mr. David Abramson, architect for Trenton Department of Planning and Development.

Mr. Kirkland stated that the requirements of the Public Meeting Law had been properly met for the Commission meeting of 18 March 1976.

Minutes of 19 February 1976 Meeting

Mr. Burns moved that the minutes of the 19 February 1976 meeting be approved as transcribed. Ms. Bullitt seconded the motion which was passed with no dissenting votes.

Installation of Security Measures for Canal House by BWFO

Mr. Kirkland expressed the Commission's thanks and appreciation to Mr. Mel Myers and the Bureau of Water Facility Operations for their assistance in making the Canal House secure.

Meeting with Commissioner Bardin

Mr. Kirkland reported on the meeting which he and Mr. Amon had with Commissioner Bardin and the Commissioner's position that the water supply function of the canal is its primary one. The Commissioner requested that the Commission's Annual Report be rewritten to reflect this.

Meeting with Joint Appropriation Committee of the NJ Legislature

Mr. Kirkland reported that he and Mr. Amon had attended the meeting on 17 March 1976 of the Joint Appropriation Committee of the Legislature in which Commissioner Bardin encouraged the Legislature to restore, among other items, the budget of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission to its original level. The Commissioners expressed their concern over the budget cut and will personally contact every member of the Joint Committee to explain the financial needs of the Commission in order to carry out its legislated mandate in good and reasonable time. This is also the position of Commissioner Bardin.

Land Acquisitions

Mr. Amon discussed the necessity of tying land acquisitions to the goals of the Canal Park as set forth in the master plan and the need to set priorities for those recommended acquisitions. Mrs. Levin reported that the Division of Parks has waited to assemble its list of recommended acquisitions and critical areas as mentioned in the enabling legislation until it had a sense of the Commission's master plan and how any recommendations the Division might make would relate to it. She described all such lists being prepared by all offices of the Department of Environmental Protection for submission to Commissioner Bardin as "wish lists" in order to allow the Commissioner to get an overall view of department requests. The Bureau of Water Facility Operations will also be submitting its list to the Commissioner. Mr. Amon described each of his recommended acquisitions as presented on a list to be included in the master plan and the justification for them as they relate to the goals of the Canal Park.

Elizabethtown Water Company Proposal

Mr. Myers introduced the representatives of the Elizabethtown Water Company who presented their proposal for an underpass under the canal in the Port Mercer area. Both the Bureau of Water Facility Operations and the Division of Parks have given their approval for the project. The motion was made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Bullitt to approve the Elizabethtown Water Company's planned underpass under the canal. The motion was passed with no dissenting votes.

Mountain View Storm Drain Proposal

The plans presented by Mr. Myers on behalf of Ewing Township Engineer, Mr. Stratton, for a storm drain into the canal in the Mountain View section of Ewing Township were discussed. The

Commission was not satisfied that the plans as presented offered the best solution to the problem of water run-off in this area and authorized Mr. Amon to contact Mr. Stratton to explore the issue further. The proposal was tabled until further information is made available to the Commission.

City of Trenton Proposal

Mr. David Abramson made a slide show presentation of the City's proposal for the structural restoration and landscaping of Ellerslie Mansion in Cadwalader Park which is presently before Green Acres for approval. On a motion by Mr. Sayen, the Commission endorsed with enthusiasm the City of Trenton's proposal for a Green Acres grant for exterior renovation and landscaping of Ellerslie Mansion. Ms. Bullitt seconded the motion and all Commissioners present and voting concurred.

Financial Report

Mr. Jones discussed the unaudited quarterly financial statement of the Commission which shows a balance of \$28,873.13 in the Commission's account as of 18 March 1976.

Consultant Proposal

Mr. Amon explained the proposal made to the Commission by a small planning company to create an outline for the D&R Canal Commission planning phase and seek appropriate funding for various areas of that outline. It was the Commission's feeling that with its limited budget it is not in a position to discuss such proposals at this time.

A special meeting will be held to discuss the master plan on 25 March 1976 at 12:30pm at the Canal House.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.