



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

DATE: 28 September 1976
 TIME: 12:30 - 3:45 p.m.
 LOCATION: The Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton, New Jersey
 ATTENDING:
 Commission: Mr. Kirkland, Mayor Holland, Mr. Sayen, Mr. Torpey, Ms. Wilson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Jessen, and Mr. Burns
 Staff: Jim Amon, Nancy Di Salvi
 DAG: Steven Gray, Esquire
 DEP: Alfred T. Guido, Acting Director, Division of Parks and Forestry; Mr. Frank Rigg, Chief, Bureau of Parks; Mr. Michael J. Galley, Chief, Bureau of Water Facility Operations
 ABSENT: Mr. Bruce Hamilton
 GUESTS: Mrs. Gund and Mrs. Barrows of the Somerset Citizens for Environmental Protection, and Mr. Samuel M. Hamill, Jr., of M-S-M Regional Study Council

Chairman Kirkland brought the meeting to order and stated that the requirements of the Public Meetings Law had been properly met for the meeting of the D & R Canal Commission 28 September 1976.

Minutes of 19 August 1976 Meeting

It was moved by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Torpey to accept the minutes of the 19 August meeting as transcribed; all Commissioners present and voting concurred.

Leases and Permits

It was moved by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mayor Holland, with no dissenting votes, for approval of the first three leases on Jim Amon's memo to the Commissioners dated 28 September for the approval of 4 leases and permits.

EXECUTIVE	COMMISSIONERS					
DIRECTOR	Benjamin B. Kirkland	Martin D. Jessen	Donald B. Jones	David J. Bardin	Joseph H. Burns	James C. Sayen
James C. Amon	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	Bruce A. Hamilton	Arthur J. Holland	Frank J. Torpey

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brendan Byrne, *Governor* David J. Bardin, *Commissioner*

It was moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Sayen, with no dissenting votes, that the fourth, a permit in the name of R. C. Maxwell Company for a signboard be approved for one year only, with ensuing written notification of termination at the end of that one-year period; and that future signboard applications be rejected as a D & R Canal Commission policy in view of Mr. Guido's report that Parks is phasing out the use of signboards as environmental intrusions on State-owned lands, unless there is some exceptional reason or hardship for acceptance of future signboard applications.

Approval was also granted to the Laurie Rubber Company in recognition of their full compliance with State and Canal Commission specifications. Mr. Sayen made a motion of approval, which was seconded by Mr. Jessen, no dissenting votes.

Approval was granted to the Apex Lumber Mart for a five-year lease. The motion of approval was made by Mr. Jessen, seconded by Mr. Sayen, with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Jones made a motion for approval of the recreation area proposed by the Borough of Millstone to be located in the Canal Park; seconded by Mayor Holland, with no dissenting votes.

Jim Amon reported that the Franklin Township Planning Board had requested the Commission's comments on a proposed restaurant on Easton Avenue near the intersection with JFK Boulevard. Mr. Amon pointed out that the proposal ignores the neighboring Canal Park and he recommended that the Commission tell the Franklin Planning Board that the Commission would like development in this area to adorn the Canal Park. Commissioners Jessen, Torpey, and Burns said that this section of Easton Avenue was already so completely developed that it would be best to have this project well screened from--rather than integrated into--the Canal Park. The other Commissioners concurred with this view and Mr. Amon was asked to convey it to the Franklin Planning Board.

Salvage of "Deep Lock"

Mr. Galley reported that the salvage operation will be performed by the Army Corps or Engineers. Some discussion took place as to who will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the lock (City of New Brunswick, DEP, Parks, DOT, Canal Commission???). It was agreed that Mr. Amon, Mr. Jessen, and a representative from BWFO meet at "Deep Lock" in order to check out salvage possibilities and items of historical value.

REVIEW OF STATUS OF MASTER PLAN

Samuel Hamill, Executive Director of the M-S-M Regional Study Council, spoke to the Commission about its master plan. Mr. Hamill stressed his belief that the master plan should be used to "sell" the idea of

the Canal Park and that the revision should strengthen its description of the park. He also pointed out that the Commission is in a unique position as the only existing regional planning agency in Central New Jersey with genuine planning authority. He urged the Commission to use this authority in a manner that will be innovative and instructive to the regions municipal planning agencies. He also urged a speedy adoption of a master plan so that the Commission will have a context with which to evaluate all subsequent proposals.

GRIGGSTOWN BRIDGE

Mrs. Gund and Mrs. Barrows, representing the Somerset Citizens for Environmental Protection, presented a report on their concern for the dangerous condition of the present one-lane bridge, and the proposed new two-lane bridge which they oppose. They have a petition in opposition to a two-lane bridge with over 400 signatures. Maps of the proposed two-lane bridge construction were presented to Mr. Amon. Both Parks and the Commission assured Mrs. Gund and Mrs. Barrows that several State agencies must give their approval before any further action can be taken toward the repair or reconstruction of the bridge. No action was taken because no request for action from Somerset County Board of Freeholders has been received.

HISTORIC SITES CONTRACT

A motion was made by Mr. Torpey for the approval of the contract subject to the confirmation of Mr. Gibson's credentials as an Architectural Historian, seconded by Mr. Sayen, with no dissenting votes.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1978 FISCAL YEAR

A budget request of \$140,000.00 for the 1978 fiscal year was approved subsequent to a motion by Mr. Jones and a second by Mr. Torpey. There were no dissenting votes. The budget was divided as follows:

(1) Office expenses and salaries-----	\$ 52,500.00
(2) Master Plan-----	\$ 50,000.00
(3) Review Zone administration-----	\$ 22,500.00
(4) Municipal involvement in Review Zone---	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL:	\$140,000.00

It was agreed that a subcommittee, headed by Betty Wilson, together with Mr. Jones and Mr. Jessen, discuss Mr. Amon's future salary and report back to the Commission at the 26 October meeting.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The quarterly financial report was approved as written following a

motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Sayen, with no dissenting votes.

PARKS' LIASON

Mr. Guido introduced Mr. Frank Rigg, Chief, Bureau of Parks, as his liason who will be attending future Canal Commission meetings representing Parks.

ETHICAL STANDARDS CODE

Betty Wilson expressed her belief that a Code of Ethics for the Canal Commission should be adopted in order to protect public interest and the interests of the Commission. She reported that DEP is in the process of preparing a Code of Ethics, and the Commission agreed to review it and accept or modify it to suit the needs of the Commission.

MUNICIPAL POLICING OF CANAL PARK LANDS

Mr. Kirkland reported that he has received complaints from Lambertville residents about disruptive use of the canal's towpath. The Lambertville police cannot do anything because they do not have jurisdiction over the State-owned area. Mr. Kirkland said that Mr. Guido would be glad to give this authority to local police if it is requested by the municipality. Mr. Kirkland will suggest to Lambertville officials that they make such a request. It was agreed by the Commissioners that if this works with Lambertville other municipalities might be given similar advice.

CANAL HOUSE SECURITY

Betty Wilson stated that Commissioner Bardin would like to have a report on all three of the burglaries which have taken place during the past year. He would like to know what type of alarm system will be installed; whether or not it is known who broke into the building; why cash was kept in the building, so that he will be able to report to the Prosecutor.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.