



MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 9 MAY 1977

TIME: 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
 PLACE: The Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street  
 Trenton, N.J.  
 DATE: Monday, 9 May 1977

ATTENDING:

- Commissioners: Mr. Kirkland, Mr. Jessen, Mr. Sayen,  
 Mr. Torpey, Mayor Holland, Mr. Burns,  
 Mr. Jones
- Staff: Mr. Amon and Mrs. Brown
- DEP: Mr. Frank Rigg, Chief, Bureau of Parks  
 Mr. Michael Galley, Chief, Bureau of  
 Water Facility Operations  
 Mr. Alfred Guido, Acting Director,  
 Division of Parks and Forestry  
 Mr. Frank Tourine, Division of Fish,  
 Game, & Shellfisheries
- DAG: Mr. Steven Gray
- GUESTS: Mrs. Dorothy Bayless, Lawrence Township  
 Environmental Commission  
 Mr. H.L. Birum, South Hunterdon Chamber  
 of Commerce  
 Mrs. Annette Mendelson, South Hunterdon  
 Chamber of Commerce  
 Mr. Lester Robbins, Trenton Chamber of  
 Commerce  
 Mr. Ernest A. Edwards, Princeton Planned  
 Unit Development  
 Mr. Wayne S. Patterson, Van Note-Harvey  
 Associates

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Chairman Kirkland brought the meeting to order and stated that the requirements of the Public Meeting Law had been properly met for the meeting of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission on 9 May 1977.

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, <i>Governor</i>			David J. Bardin, <i>Commissioner</i>			

MINUTES OF MEETING 11 APRIL 1977 AND  
MINUTES OF MEETING ON 21 APRIL 1977

Mr. Jones moved to accept the minutes of the meeting on 11 April 1977, and the minutes of the special meeting held on 21 April 1977. Mr. Burns seconded the motion: all Commissioners present and voting concurred.

ADOPTION OF THE MASTER PLAN AND DISCUSSION OF ITS PUBLICATION

Mr. Amon stated that he had spoken with the two absent members of the Commission over the telephone in order to record their responses to the adoption of the master plan in this meeting's minutes. Mr. Hamilton approves the Master Plan and its revisions without reservation. Betty Wilson also approves the Master Plan with the condition that the Commission continue to give consideration to the needs and activities of the Bureau of Water Facilities Operations. Mr. Guido, Acting Director, Division of Parks and Forestry, stated his concurrence with Ms. Wilson's response and added that as a master plan it can be used as a guide in setting priorities because its thrust is an appropriate one for the canal.

Mr. Galley brought up his concerns over the importance for the Commission to re-state in a stronger fashion the Commission's interest in maintaining the canal as a water conduit. He mentioned that engineering criteria will be very important to the canal and its maintenance. It was agreed that a single brief paragraph would be written into the master plan in order to satisfy Water Resources' concern for these kinds of significant aspects of canal water supply. Mr. Sayen motioned that an amendment be added which states that indiscriminate vegetation growth may need to be removed in order to maintain the structural and hydraulic integrity of the canal. Mr. Torrey seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

It was noted by the Commissioners that both Mr. Guido and Mr. Galley agreed with the master plan and have displayed their support of it.

Mr. Jessen moved to adopt the master plan and its revisions. Mr. Sayen seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Amon informed the Commission that he had asked two printers for estimates for publishing the master plan. Mr. Guido questioned whether the Commission has to follow the State Law on bidding as do other agencies in the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Gray thought that the Commission might be exempt from this, however, he will look into the matter

and inform Mr. Amon of the outcome. Mayor Holland motioned that Mr. Amon be able to go ahead with the master plan publication by utilizing the regular state purchasing procedure. Mr. Jessen seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

#### LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented to the Commissioners the two drafts of the two Stony Brook Sewer Authority canal crossings. The Commission's approval of these drafts was desired by the Sewer Authority. Mr. Amon restated the conditions which the Commission had previously set for the canal crossings. These conditions included restoration of the rip-rapping, construction only between October and May 1st, and the restoration of the canal's profile to its original configuration.

Mr. Jessen mentioned that the Commission should take further advantage of any construction work being done. He suggested that the parking areas originally constructed for work areas on state land could be built at the direction of the Commission and could, therefore, be used afterwards as public parking areas and access points to the Canal Park. Mr. Jessen motioned that the Commission formulate a policy stating that in future agreements of construction directly affecting the canal, the Commission try to encourage that the parking areas used by construction workers be made optimally so as to also be used as future access points to the Canal Park. Mr. Jones seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

Mayor Holland moved that the Commission approve the Stony Brook Sewer Authority drafts for a permit on the recommendation of the Executive Director. Mr. Sayen seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

Mr. Torpey stated that he felt uncomfortable that the Commission received the information on the drafts at such a late date. In the future, since the Commission is a deliberating body, more time should be afforded such matters.

Mr. Sayen motioned to approve the lease for the <sup>ie</sup>Nuce Lumber Company of Lambertville. Mr. Torpey seconded the <sup>A</sup>motion with no dissenting votes.

Mel Myers of the Bureau of Water Facility Operations explained that the Commission's approval was needed for replacement of timber "whalers" on the canal bank in Trenton. The repair consists of the replacement of rotted timber with new timber near State Street. Mr. Myers did not have any visual presentation of the repair area for the Commissioners to review.

Mr. Amon explained that he had thought that this kind of state action in the Canal Park required Commission approval and that he had asked Mr. Myers to bring pictures and diagrams of the repair area to this meeting.

The question was brought up concerning what kind of work constitutes repair or maintenance work, and what kind of work would be called improvements? Should the Commission review all repair work, or just that work designated as improvement? Mr. Sayen stated that the Commission should review all projects because it may be able to encourage projects or ideas that could be done simultaneously with the state work. Mr. Amon stated that this delineation of maintenance and improvement work is definitely a problem and should be discussed by a joint meeting of the Commission, the Bureau of Water Facilities Operations, and Betty Wilson as soon as possible in order to avoid conflicts in the future.

At this point, Mr. Sayen motioned that the Bureau of Water Facilities Operations be allowed to replace the rotted wood in its fence repair. Mr. Jessen seconded the motion with no dissenting votes.

#### PRESENTATION BY DAVID GIBSON, THE COMMISSION'S CONSULTANT ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Mr. Gibson explained to the Commissioners his historic preservation work on canal structures. His work includes an inventory of state property and other adjacent priority properties that are significant historically. The survey will be computerized and will eventually lead to an analysis of all properties and to proposals for future studies, enhancement activities, and involvement in specific restoration sites. Mayor Holland commented that perhaps the inventory should focus more on non-State properties because these would probably be the structures to be altered or destroyed first.

Ideally, this inventory will serve as an educational means of assisting interested community groups and municipalities, and not just as a regulatory means. Mr. Gibson also briefly mentioned that the survey would aid in applying for federal funding for historical preservation.

A brief slide show followed this discussion.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Birum, South Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce, would like to see the Bel-Del tracks remain from Lambertville to Trenton as a tourist item. He wanted to know the status of the tracks.

Mr. Guido answered by saying that the railroad tracks are the personal property of Conrail and, at this point, their fate is undetermined.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon showed the Commissioners a Resolution on I-295 which DOT would like the Commission to conceptually approve. Mr. Jessen pointed out that the Commission would like to cooperate, however, they have not seen the completed plans. It was suggested and decided that a letter be written indicating the relationship of DOT and the Canal Commission, and that no resolution be voted upon at this time. Mr. Amon and Mr. Jessen will make arrangements to see the DOT plans before the next meeting.

#### PRESENTATION OF PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ON PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LAND

The Commissioners were presented with the blueprint plans of the PUD in Plainsboro Township. The development will consist of low-middle income apartments, town-houses, and individual homes. The presentation was made by Mr. Edwards and Mr. Patterson, and was solely for informational purposes. No approval is necessary from the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 P.M.