



MINUTES OF MEETING 18 DECEMBER 1979

TIME: 12 noon - 2:30 p.m.
PLACE: The Canal House
25 Calhoun Street
Trenton, New Jersey
DATE: Tuesday, 18 December 1979

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jessen, Jones, Sayen,
Burns, Graham, Holland, Hamilton

STAFF: Mr. Amon, Mrs. Perilli

DAG: Mr. Gray

GUESTS: Mrs. Mannon-Barwick
Mr. Frank Morrison
Mr. Frank Guidotti, Div Parks and Forestry
Ms. Laura Terhune, Griggstown Historical Society

* * * * *

Mr. Jessen called the meeting to order and stated that the requirements for the Open Public Meeting Law had been properly met for the meeting of 18 December 1979.

It was moved by Mr. Sayen and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the minutes of the 20 November meeting as submitted. The motion was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Stony Brook Sewerage Authority:

Mr. Amon reminded the Commission members of the contract with the sewerage authority allowing them to cross the canal in two locations, providing that the replacement of the rip-rapping is done according to specifications provided by the Canal Commission. Mr. Amon reported that, at the Princeton-West Windsor crossing, half of one

P.O. BOX 1390 25 CALHOUN STREET TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 609-292-2101

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONERS

DIRECTOR Benjamin B. Kirkland Martin D. Jessen Donald B. Jones Jerry F. English Joseph H. Burns James C. Sayen
James C. Amon Chairman Vice-Chairman Treasurer Bruce A. Hamilton Arthur J. Holland Frank J. Torpey

side of the bank is restored using historically accurate stone. However, the correct stone is gradually replaced with Belgian block. The West Windsor bank has a layer of gravel, with irregularly shaped stone dumped on it.

At a meeting in New York with representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency, it was agreed that the federal office will oversee the rip-rap restoration in Kingston. The problem of the Princeton-West Windsor bank restoration remains.

Mr. Graham moved that the Executive Director try to resolve the problem at the administrative level by sending a letter to Stony Brook Sewerage Authority expressing the Commission's conviction that the rip-rap job should be properly done; if not resolved at that level to present the problem to the Attorney General's office. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously.

(Mr. Kirkland arrived.)

Smith's Mill:

Mr. Kirkland introduced Mrs. Mary Mannon-Barwick and Mr. Frank Morrison, who were present to address the Commission concerning the acquisition of Mrs. Mannon-Barwick's property at Smith's Mill. Mr. Amon stated that although the Commission had recently voted to acquire the property, the issue should be reconsidered. It was pointed out that the house, which is on the national register of historic sites, would be better protected if occupied, than if it were state-owned and unoccupied. It was also brought to the attention of the Commission that the owners were making improvements to the property and the property was now in better condition than when the acquisition decision was made.

Mr. Jones felt that this property is an important part of a unit and that the entire Smith's Mill site is an ideal place for public use. He felt it would be best to remove private interests from the right-of-way.

Mr. Guidotti stated that the Division of Parks and Forestry now recommended that the property not be acquired.

After much debate, Mr. Graham moved not to acquire the property at the present time and recommended that the Executive Director look into the matter of securing the future maintenance needs of the property, protecting the state's interests on the right-of-way, and to report his findings to the Commission at its next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jessen and carried with Mr. Jones abstaining.

Canal House Repairs:

Mr. Graham announced that the Canal House Commission office will be painted in the spring; and other improvements or repairs will also be discussed.

Glen Afton:

Mr. Graham informed the Commission members that the Glen Afton right-of-way is now state-owned and vertical barriers will be installed to prevent motor vehicles on the right-of-way.

Griggstown:

Mr. Amon reported to the Commission that he had discussed plans for use of a recently acquired building in Griggstown with the Division of Parks and Forestry. He was told that the state intended to evict the present tenant to make a study to determine the best use for park purposes. Mr. Amon felt that use of the building should be resolved through the Canal Commission and also that the tenant should not be evicted until the house can be utilized by the state. He wrote a memo stating this to Mr. Guido. Mr. Amon later learned that the tenant has received an eviction notice. Representatives of the Griggstown Historical Society attended the meeting with the tenant in order to emphasize their concern that this historically significant structure remains occupied to prevent vandalism. The Commission members were in agreement that the Canal Commission should be notified in advance of any such action taken by the state.

Mr. Graham felt that the Commission was not prepared to resolve the problem at this time, but would look into the matter and meet with the tenant at a later date.

LEASES

Mr. Jessen moved to approve the lease as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW ZONE APPLICATIONS

Several points were discussed regarding the procedure for application review:

1. Two lists will be presented to the Commission: one will consist of all projects eligible for peremptory approval; the second will be projects not eligible for peremptory approval with individual staff reports.
2. Mr. Amon will check into having business cards made for the Commission members.
3. It was agreed that a member of the staff will see each project site.

4. Mr. Gray interpreted the statute to read that even if eligible for peremptory review, all projects must be presented to the Commission for approval.

5. Mr. Gray said that Mr. Amon may be delegated the authority to sign approvals after the Commission has met.

6. Mr. Jessen moved to hold the Canal Commission meetings for 1980 on the third Tuesday of each month, at the Canal Commission office, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton, at 12 noon. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and carried without dissent. Notice of change will be issued when a permanent meeting place has been established.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon reported that there has been a problem obtaining a car to lease for the historic survey project. He recommended that the Canal Commission purchase a state car to be used for the historic survey project as well as by the review zone officers. Mr. Jessen moved to authorize the Executive Director to secure transportation for the Canal Commission staff. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.