



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION HELD ON FRIDAY, 7 MARCH 1980.

TIME: 12 noon to 2:30 p.m.
PLACE: The Canal House
25 Calhoun Street
Trenton, New Jersey
DATE: Friday, 7 March 1980

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Sayen, Holland
and Torpey

STAFF: Mr. Amon, Mrs. Perilli

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Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order and stated that the requirements for the Open Public Meeting Law had been properly met for the special meeting of 7 March 1980. The meeting was held to discuss funding for the restoration of the Hanover Street Canal House.

Mr. Amon explained the background of the funding problem to the Commission, stating that last year the Canal Commission gave \$12,000 in surplus budget funds to the City of Trenton, matching a grant from the Office of Historic Preservation.

The low bid for the restoration project -- which was to make basic renovations to make the house habitable -- was \$34,000. The City of Trenton asked the Canal Commission if it could give an additional \$10,000 and the Commission passed a resolution at its 19 February meeting authorizing the transfer of the money.

The City of Trenton, unable to raise \$3000 to cover contingencies, again requested the money from the Canal Commission.

The Commission discussed the practicality of restoring the canal house in view of the fact that the cost of repair exceeds the market value of the house. Mr. Jones felt that restoration of the house was an over-improvement and was not worth the cost.

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

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Mayor Holland felt that restoration of the house might be used as a focus on this part of the city as a restoration move. He suggested that the North 25 Project might be interested in helping with the restoration. Mr. Sayen suggested contacting Reverend Woodson of the Shiloh Baptist Church and suggesting the organization of a citizens group to assist in the project.

It was agreed that the Commission would invite Reverend Woodson, Bob Graham of the North 25 Project, and Senator Merlino to attend the March meeting of the Canal Commission to discuss possible support and assistance.

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