



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 JULY 1982

TIME: 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: The Canal House
25 Calhoun St.
Trenton, New Jersey
DATE: Tuesday, 20 July 1982

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jessen, Sayen, Jones, Zaikov, Hamilton, and Holland

STAFF: Mr. Amon, Mrs. Perilli, Mr. Kropp

DAG: Ms. Fields

GUESTS: Mr. Guidotti, Mr. Stern, Mr. Kraml, Ms. Drake; Div. of Parks
Mr. Kroeck, Mr. Galley, Mr. Shaikh; NJ Water Authority
Mr. Talerico, Mr. Dionisio; PRC Harris

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Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order and stated that all applicable provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been properly met for the meeting of 20 July 1982.

The minutes of the meeting of 15 June were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mr. Zaikov and seconded by Mr. Sayen.

Leases

Mr. Jessen moved to approve the lease for the Griggstown Locktender's House as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sayen and carried unanimously.

Review Zone Action

The following projects were submitted for Commission approval:

- 81-0084 K-Mart
82-0113 Applied Color Systems
82-0119 Ukrainian Village
82-0123 Addition to State Gas Station

CN 402 25 CALHOUN STREET TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 609-292-2101

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR James C. Amon
COMMISSIONERS Benjamin B. Kirkland (Chairman), Martin D. Jessen (Vice-Chairman), Donald B. Jones (Treasurer), Robert E. Hughey, Stuart Zaikov, James C. Sayen, Bruce A. Hamilton, Arthur J. Holland, Frank J. Torpey

It was moved by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve all projects as presented. The motion was carried without dissent.

(Dr. Hamilton arrived at 12:40.)

Mr. Amon presented the plans for a new bridge over the Millstone River in Rocky Hill and said there were two issues he wanted to discuss regarding these plans. The first issue concerned the plans for the sidewalk to end at the bridge. Mr. Amon felt that it would be better to continue the sidewalk to the canal parking area, although it would involve clearing a heavily wooded area and partially filling a floodplain.

Mr. Amon then pointed out that the cross-section of the bridge shows the guard rails at the height of approximately 4½' which blocks the view of the river. Mr. Amon was told by the DOT's Bridge Safety Division that required guard rail heights are 3½' for bridges with pedestrian walkways and 2'3" without walkways. Mr. Amon suggested that the guard rails on both sides be lowered to the minimum height. The Commissioners concurred with Mr. Amon's recommendations.

#### Millstone Aqueduct Access Node

Mr. Amon told the Commission that he would like to defer discussion of this project so that he and the Parks staff could resolve some issues.

#### Fences Around Locks

Mr. Guidotti informed the Commission that Parks is proposing to put 6' chain link fences around the locks on the canal to insure the safety of visitors to the canal. Mr. Amon is opposed to fencing the locks in for historic and aesthetic reasons and pointed out that there have been no injuries at the Kingston Lock, which is not fenced and is one of the busiest recreational areas in the Canal Park. He also compiled a list of photographs of locks around the world that are not fenced in. The list he presented is as follows:

1. C & O Canal -- Georgetown Lock
2. San Antonio Waterway
3. Rideau Canal in Canada
4. Languedoc in France
5. New Hope Canal boat ride area
6. Kingston Lock
7. Bancroft Basin of the Avon Canal in England
8. Detsky Island Lock in Prague
9. Canal du Midi in France
10. Oswego Barge Canal in New York State
11. St. Lawrence Seaway
12. Zanesville Lock on the Ohio Canal
13. Grand Canal in Soochow, China
14. Vecht Lock -- outlet to Zuiderzee in Holland
15. Trent-Severn Waterway in Peterborough, Ontario
16. Erie Canal -- Weighlock Building in Syracuse

(Mayor Holland arrived at 1:00.)

Counsel was asked about the liability to the state if fences are not installed and it was Ms. Field's opinion that the state's liability would not be increased, that the state is liable merely by operating recreational areas in state parks.

Mr. Zaikov moved that the Canal Commission does not recommend the use of fences around canal locks consistent with the open area policy of the park 1) to insure the historic authenticity of the locks as instructed by the legislature, 2) to preserve the aesthetic value, 3) for ease of recreational use, 4) for ease of rescuing, and 5) for ease of maintenance. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hamilton and carried unanimously.

Mr. Kraml told the Commission that a state-funded youth program has authorized 10 15-18 year-olds to work on projects in the park. The projects proposed are:

1. 8 canoe docks: Blackwell's Mills, Griggstown Causeway, Griggstown Lock (2), Rocky Hill, Alexander Road, Weston Causeway, and Bull's Island
2. Stairs to Six Mile Run Creek at Blackwell's Mills
3. Bike and pedestrian bridge across swale at Griggstown.

It was moved by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Dr. Hamilton to approve the proposed projects with the stipulation that the Executive Director approve the sites. Mr. Sayen added that Parks should be commended for planning. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Holland reported that residents of Edgewood Avenue in Trenton have complained of water in their basements since the canal was drained and refilled. Mr. Galley said that his office is aware of the problem and they are investigating the cause. Mayor Holland requested a report on their findings.

#### Dredging

Mr. Amon asked what progress had been made since the meeting with Mrs. Fenske in investigating various methods to complete the rip-rap restoration work; specifically, how large an area will have to be restored, and what is the estimated cost.

Mr. Kroeck said there is no accurate way to estimate this cost. He went on to say that the Water Authority should be responsible only for the cost of repairing rip-rap disturbed by the dredging project and that rip-rap restoration of other areas should be paid for by DEP.

It was Mr. Amon's understanding that it was agreed at the meeting with Mrs. Fenske that the Water Authority would investigate the cost but Mr. Kroeck did not recall such an agreement. Mr. Amon asked Ms. Drake to check with Mrs. Fenske on this. Mr. Galley said that that was the agreement and that PRC Harris should prepare an estimate.

Mr. Amon pointed out that the \$600,000 per mile figure initially given by PRC Harris covered the cost of pulling out and replacing all the stone. He said this is not necessary, that no purchase of additional stone is required.

It was agreed that PRC Harris would prepare an estimate for the rip-rap restoration.

Mr. Jessen asked if the 2-1 slope under water was too steep and was assured by Mr. Dionisio of PRC Harris that it would be stable.

Selection of disposal sites was discussed with Mr. Kroeck explaining that two sites have been proposed: the Golden Nugget Flea Market near Lambertville, and Baker's Basin in Lawrence Township. The Commissioners felt that more disposal sites should be used and Mr. Amon pointed out that he has been contacted several times by farmers and local sod farms requesting the sediment, provided it is not found to be hazardous. Mr. Dionisio stated that soil studies are being conducted at Cook College and the question of disposal cannot be dealt with properly until the results of these tests have been received.

(Mayor Holland left at 2:20; Mr. Zaikov left at 2:45.)

#### Executive Director's Report

Mr. Amon explained that the Canal Commission staff did not receive the 7% cost of living raise that was part of the 2-year contract agreement because of a policy change in the Department. Commissioner Hughey changed the automatic cost of living raise to a merit raise for selected unclassified employees and awaited recommendations from agency directors. Since the Canal Commission was not notified of this policy change, Mr. Amon did not submit the required recommendations, therefore no 7% raises were approved for the staff. It was his understanding, however, that the 5% raises for Mr. Kropp and Mrs. Perilli had been approved.

Mr. Amon distributed a resolution requesting that the 7% raise be approved for the Commission staff, and, if it is impossible for Mr. Kropp and Mrs. Perilli to receive both the 7% and the 5% raises as originally approved by the Commission, that they should receive the 7% raise. It was moved by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Dr. Hamilton to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.