



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 DECEMBER 1982

TIME: 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Canal House, Trenton, NJ 08625  
DATE: Tuesday, 21 December 1982

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Kropp and Mrs. Greenwald

GUESTS: Messrs. Guidotti and Stern, State Park Service

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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 property met.

The minutes of the meeting of 16 November 1982 were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mr. Zaikov and seconded by Mr. Jones.

LEASES

Gulick Farm Land - 11 Acres

Following a motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Torepy this lease was approved unanimously, with the exception of Mr. Kirkland who abstained.

REVIEW ZONE ACTION

Mr. Kropp submitted the Queens Square Project (81-0057) to the Commissioners for their approval. He noted that this project has been reviewed and recommended for approval from General Whipple in 1980, but had been lost in the files and that it had now been reviewed again and was being submitted for approval. Following a motion by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Sayen this project was unanimously approved.

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  
Bruce A. Hamilton

Stuart Zaikov  
Arthur J. Holland

James C. Sayen  
Frank J. Torpey

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Thomas H. Kean, Governor Robert E. Hughey, Commissioner

POLLUTION FROM URBAN RUNOFF IN TRENTON

Mr. Jones stated that he would like to see the Commission work with the Water Supply Authority to eliminate the pollution of the canal from the storm sewers that drain an industrial portion of Trenton and enter the canal in the U.S. Route One tubes. He said that this problem was recently brought to his attention again and he felt that a joint effort by the Commission and the Water Authority might help it to bear fruit. The Commission agreed that this project should be given the highest priority and concluded that Mr. Kirkland should appoint a committee to meet with Mr. Ricci to discuss it.

SUNSHINE LAW

It was moved by Mr. Zaikov and seconded by Mayor Holland that the Canal Commission will continue to meet the third Tuesday of each month in 1983 and that the meetings would start at 12:00 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

LAMBERTVILLE DEVELOPMENT

This is being post-poned to the January commission meeting. Mr. Amon reported that a designer in Lambertville is working with the city to make certain changes on Bridge Street and to design a small park located on Canal Park land near the Lambertville lock. Mr. Amon wanted to review the design with the Division of Parks and the Water Supply Authority before it is brought up at a Commission meeting. Mr. Sayen suggested that the Commissioners visit Lambertville and see the tremendous job that has been done with the Lambertville Railroad Station. The Commissioners requested Mr. Amon to check into having a Commission meeting there in April.

Mr. Kirkland requested that Mr. Amon look into the cost of parking for the Commissioners at the Capital Plaza Hotel.

DISCUSSION OF TRAP ROCK PROPOSAL

Mr. Kirkland welcomed the public to the meeting and invited them to inform the Commission of their thoughts on the proposed Trap Rock development. Mr. Amon first reported that several days after the November Commission meeting Trap Rock requested from the Commission conceptual approval of their proposed project. Mr. Amon responded by stating that no such approval had been agreed upon at the November meeting but he would bring it to the attention of the Commissioner's at this meeting. There follows a summary of the Public comment. (A complete text of letters and statements is available separately.)

Mr. Ronald Bond, President, D & R Canal Coalition:

The officers and trustees of the Coalition were in agreement that:

- 1) The road along the canal between 518 and 27 should not be built.
- 2) Rt. 518's realignment would be harmful to the canal.
- 3) The reclamation of the quarry as a reservoir seems good but questions remain unanswered.
- 4) Rt. 92 would be a good solution to many regional traffic problems.

Mr. Ronald Bond, President, A.N.J.E.C.:

The trustees of A.N.J.E.C. voted to oppose the road from Rt. 518 to Rt. 27.

Mr. McKim Norton, MSM Regional Study Council:

Mr. Norton presented a letter signed by Mr. H. Sayen, President of MSM which stated that the road along the canal would be harmful, that the use of the quarry as a reservoir might be very good, that Rt. 92 appears to be a much better solution. Mr. Norton emphasized the desirability of Rt. 92 and the unpleasant effect of trucks on roads next to the canal.

Ms. Rosemary Blair, Princeton Representative, D & R Coalition:

She also opposed the canal road and stressed the solution of building a leg of Rt. 92.

Ms. Ursula Buchanan, Griggstown Spokesperson:

Ms. Buchanan also opposed the new road but she emphasized a different problem. She stated that Canal Road north of 518 is slated for widening in the new Franklin Township master plan and that the land along it is zoned for such dense development that this road would certainly have to be widened. Widening Canal Road would, Ms. Buchanan stated, destroy one of the most lovely parts of the Canal Park.

Mr. James Gaffney, Stony Brook-Millstone Watersheds Association:

Mr. Gaffney concentrated on the use of the quarry as a reservoir. He said that his group was not opposed to the idea but he urged the Commission to look into the matter fully before accepting the idea. Many, many questions remain unanswered about its practicality and suitability.

Ms. Rosemary Blair, Sierra Club:

Ms. Blair presented a letter signed by Diane Graves of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Ms. Graves stated opposition to the proposed canal road and recommended Rt. 92 as an alternative.

Mayor Holland left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

The Commissioners discussed the comments of the public as they were presented and it appeared that everyone who opposed the new canal road was especially opposed to the southern half of the road and to any extension south of Rt. 27. The northern portion (from Rt. 518 to the southern end of the quarry) seemed to be acceptable in some form to everyone.

Considerable discussion ensued on the appropriate response from the Commission to Trap Rock, Inc.'s request for conceptual approval. Mr. Zaikov felt strongly that the Commission should not give such approval. Mr. Amon reported that D.A.G. Steven Gray had advised him via an earlier telephone conversation against giving conceptual approval. Nothing in the Commission's statute or regulations provided for such a procedure.

Mr. Jessen pointed out that Trap Rock, Inc. has been very open and eager to work with the Commission so he thought the Commission should be cooperative in whatever way they could.

It was resolved that Mr. Amon would prepare a letter for Mr. Kirkland's signature which reflected Mr. Amon's points in his earlier memo to the Commissioners, as follows:

1. No conceptual approval, but observations on material thus far presented.
2. Expansion of quarry and realignment of 518 are primarily local issues.
3. Construction of new canal road from 518 to southern end of the quarry can probably be done without hurting the canal but the rest of the road looks very problematic.
4. Conversion of the quarry to a reservoir seems like a good idea but questions must be answered.

Mr. Amon was further instructed to emphasize the suitability of Rt. 92 or a leg of that road as a possible answer to traffic problems connected with the Trap Rock expansion. It was agreed that a draft of the letter should be circulated among the Commissioners for their comments before it is signed by Mr. Kirkland.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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