MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 NOVEMBER 1982

TIME: 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Canal House, Trenton, NJ 08625
DATE: Tuesday, 16 November 1982

ATTENDING:
COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Zaikov, Hamilton and Jessen

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Kropp and Ms. Greenwald

GUESTS: Mr. Galley, N.J. Water Authority
Messrs. Guidotti and Stern, State Park Service
Ms. Dudley, Commissioner's Office
Trap Rock Industries
(List of citizens kept separately)

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.

The minutes of the meeting of 19 October 1982 were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Jessen.

LEASES

It was moved by Mr. Zaikov and seconded by Mr. Jessen to approve the following lease:

L. Terhune; land for agricultural use

The motion was carried unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon and Mr. Kropp submitted the following plans for Commission approval:
1. Somerset County - Millstone Bridge over 518 82-0157

When this project had been discussed at an earlier meeting it had been agreed to request that a sidewalk be built from the bridge to the parking area next to the canal. It was also suggested that the bridge be designed so that individuals driving over it could have a good view of the river. The present design includes both features. Mr. Jones felt that the Commission pass a resolution of appreciation to the County for their efforts and design. Mr. Jessen then made this into a motion which was unanimously passed following a second by Mr. Jones.

The following actions were approved unanimously following a motion made by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Zaikov:

2. P. A. Patscenter 82-0140
3. Somerset Professional Realty 82-0151
4. Recordings for the Blind 82-0143
5. Princeton Airport Corporate Park 82-0124
6. I. Heller Construction Company 82-0161
7. Princeton Corporate Center Building #3 82-0152
8. Georgetowne 82-0162

Mr. Jessen felt that the names and addresses of the owners of these projects should be on the forms given to the Commissioners for Review Zone action. It was agreed that this would henceforth be done.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Fiscal Report

Mr. Amon reported to the Commissioners that 4% of the Commission's budget for fiscal year 1982 went unused. This amounted to about $4,600.00.

D & R Canal Coalition - Friends of D & R Canal

Mr. Amon reported that he has been working to revise the old Canal Coalition which would serve as a support group for the Canal Park. He is trying to obtain names and addresses of individuals who might be interested in forming such a group. He noted that he would like to get individuals from all areas of the canal, not just one particular area. Mr. Guidotti asked Mr. Amon whether he had spoken to Mrs. Fenske or Mr. Myers, stating that this project should be a common effort. Mr. Jones suggested that each of the Commissioners provide Mr. Amon with two names from their counties. Mr. Jessen requested that a letter be written to the Commissioners stating the goals of the group and reminding the Commissioners to supply names. Mr. Jessen also requested that we develop some type of special certificate to award people who help the Canal Park.
Bel Del Bike Path

Mr. Amon asked Mr. Guidotti about the progress of the Bel Del Bike Path. Mr. Guidotti stated that the bike path should be opened around Thanksgiving. Mr. Amon expressed his interest in a dedication ceremony to open this path. Mr. Guidotti replied that this was discussed and it will be done sometime in early spring.

TRAP ROCK INDUSTRIES

Representatives from Trap Rock Industries gave a presentation of their plans to expand their Kingston Quarry. The plan would involve the following:

1. Expansion of the size of the quarry in an easterly direction.

2. Straightening of Route 518 east of the canal to allow expansion of the quarry in a northerly direction.

3. Removal of the northern half of Laurel Avenue so that the rock under this road can be quarried, and to open the quarry to a single operation.

4. Construction of a new road (Canal Road?) along the canal between Rt. 518 and Rt. 27, and possibly extending along an abandoned railroad right-of-way to Mapleton Road.

5. Gradual conversion of the quarry into a reservoir which would hold 19 billion gallons and might be used both as a water resource and a recreation area.

Considerable attention was paid to the construction of the road along the canal. The Trap Rock representatives pointed out that the northern half of the road would be depressed and have a landscaped berm to mitigate the noise and visual intrusion. Further south, there is not enough room for a berm but they would construct a stone or wooden wall between the road and canal. Furthermore, they proposed construction of an access and interpretation area for users of the Canal Park. If the road would be continued between Route 27 and Mapleton Road they would also put a little access park around the Kingston Turning Basin. Furthermore, they would build a trail along the canal to accompany the road.

Considerable discussion ensued. Several members of the public expressed concern about the expansion, the impact of the new road, and pollution of the canal from the road. Mr. Jessen suggested that Trap Rock consider moving Rockingham back to its original position (which would be next to the canal). Mr. Amon said that he had worked closely with the Trap Rock people in the development of the plan. He felt, however, that the road might be better if it did not go the full length between Rt. 518 and Rt. 27, but extended instead only between Rt. 518 and the present quarry haul road, then went out to the present Laurel Avenue.
Mr. Hamilton said that local approvals might be very difficult to obtain because there are at least three controversial parts to their proposal.

Mr. Kirkland thanked the Trap Rock people for their presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.