



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 JUNE 1983

TIME: 12:00 noon to 2:05 p.m.  
PLACE: Smith's Mill in Stockton  
DATE: Tuesday, 21 June 1983

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Kropp and Ms. Greenwald

GUESTS: Messrs. F. Guidotti, P. Stern and C. Potdevin, State Park Service  
Mrs. Rosemary Blair and Mrs. Betty Davison, D & R Canal Coalition  
Messrs. W. McKelvey & L. Pitt, Canal Society  
Messrs. E. Buss and G. Chase, New Jersey Water Supply Authority  
Ms. Jane Wycoff, Hunterdon County Democrat

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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 met.

Mr. Kirkland then introduced himself and the members of the Commission to the audience, followed by Mr. Stern's introduction of Parks personnel and then Mr. Chase's introduction of Water Supply Authority personnel.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon told the Commissioners that a woman is seeking to lease the East Millstone Canal house for 25 years. She expects to invest approximately \$40,000 in repairs and improvements to this house, all of which will be in keeping with the building's historic character.

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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*

Mr. Amon said that the woman is eager to start work so he requested approval from the Commission to sign this lease when it comes in. Mr. Zaikov moved approval conditioned upon preventing the lease holder from subletting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jessen and unanimously approved.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Kropp presented the following review zone projects for Commission approval:

82-0120	Dutch Neck Village
82-0131	Brandywine Woods
83-0180	Society Hill at Lawrenceville
83-0192	The Seltzer Organization
83-0193	Nelson's Shopping Center
83-0195	Tamar Heights
83-0196	Tamar Heights
83-0198	Atrium at Lawrence
83-0199	The Linpro Company
83-0200	Blackwells Mills Farms
83-0203	Firestone Tire and Rubber Company
83-0205	Applied Data Research

A motion was then made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Sayen that the above review zone projects be approved. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jones then moved and Mr. Sayen seconded approval of the following project:

83-0204 Mercedes Benz

Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Sayen and Zaikov voted aye, Mr. Jessen voted nay.

MILLSTONE RIVER TRAIL

Mr. Stern distributed copies of a map showing the proposed new trail along the Millstone River, covering 3.5 miles. Following a motion made by Mr. Jessen and a second by Mr. Sayen to approve the proposed Millstone River Trail, the motion was unanimous.

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

Mr. Kirkland reported that the Joint Appropriations Committee had approved the additional \$15,000 to be transferred to D & R Canal Commission accounts to plan for the sesquicentennial celebrations.

Mr. Amon reported that Mr. Zaikov, Mr. Torpey, Mr. Pitt, Mrs. Blair and Ms. Tompsen had met recently to discuss ideas for the celebration activities.

The Coalition and the Canal Society of New Jersey have jointly agreed to try to obtain a lease on half of the Barracks, and to use this half as an interpretative center. The Coalition and the Canal Society will need letters from their Boards indicating their commitment to take the lease.

Mr. Jessen showed the Commissioners the plaques that Metuchen puts at places of interest. They have photographs and text etched into them. He suggested that the Canal Commission consider doing this at places along the canal. Mr. Pitt said that the Canal Society may be willing to take this on as a project. Mr. Jessen also asked about commemorative stamps and cancellations and he was asked to look into these.

#### CANAL PARK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Mr. Stern reported on the following projects:

##### FOR THE PAST MONTH:

1. Continued grass mowing. It has been a constant battle due to excellent growing conditions.
2. Brushed back and created openings between the canal and the towpath from East Millstone to the Kingston Aqueduct.
3. The Corrections crew has been working on the East Millstone Canal House and along the towpath north of East Millstone.
4. Began to paint the Blackwells Mills office.
5. Cleaned up and unclogged the drainage ditches between Calhoun Street and Fowler Street.
6. Continued to repair flood damaged sites at Bulls Island.
7. Performed minor renovations to the upstairs section of the office at Blackwells Mills and to the kitchen and back room of the Bulls Island Office.

##### IN THE MONTH TO COME:

1. Maintain grass mowing operation.
2. Continue with brushing back of the towpath.
3. Continue with the painting of the Blackwells Mills office.
4. Continue with the renovations at the Blackwells Mills and Bulls Island offices.

5. Install a low fence along park grounds along the eastern boundary of the park near the Kingston Lock and the Turning Basin.
6. Install barricades at the pull-off at Maddock Road. Department of Transportation was unwilling to close this break due to opposition by local fire companies.
7. \$10,000 has been transferred to New Jersey Department of Transportation for work on the towpath. The money will be used for grading, filling pot holes, or top dressing.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Stern if it would be alright for the Delaware Township Police to patrol the area from behind the mill up to Bulls Island if the need arose. Parks personnel replied that normally a letter is sent to the Police authorizing their access.

#### LEASES

Mr. Amon informed the Commissioners of a request to lease the farmland associated with the Jimison Farm in Lambertville. Mr. Amon recommended the approval of this lease to the Commissioners. Mr. Stern questioned if there was a provision in the lease for sowing winter ground cover. Mr. Zaikov made a motion to approve the lease with the amendment of the sowing of winter ground cover which was seconded by Mr. Sayen and unanimously approved.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Rosemary Blair informed the Commissioners that the railroad right-of-way along the canal in Kingston was abandoned and should become part of the Canal Park. She said that South Brunswick Township intends to acquire the portion of the railroad lands from Kingston to U.S. Route One (and possibly further east) to be developed as a trail. Mr. Guidotti agreed that it is his Office's intent to acquire some of this land but they had not yet determined how much. He stated that a resolution by the Commission would be in order. At the suggestion of Mr. Stern, the Cook Natural Area was agreed upon as the eastern terminus for the property to be acquired by the State. Mr. Zaikov then moved a recommendation to acquire the railroad right-of-way from its western terminus near the Kingston Trap Rock Quarry to the approximate area of the Cook Natural Area. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sayen and unanimously passed.

Mr. Amon then told the Commissioners that from Landing Lane bridge to the outlet lock in New Brunswick had been given to the City of New Brunswick for a dollar, that the City in turn sold to N.J.D.O.T. the portion on which Route 18 was put for \$150,000. The City has also come to the Department for an environmental review of a plan for the development of their river front which includes filling the rest of the canal. Mr. Amon felt that it really should be part of

the State Park. He suggested that the Commission pass a resolution endorsing a meeting with New Brunswick officials to discuss the situation. Mr. Zaikov moved that representatives from the Commission meet with New Brunswick Mayor Lynch to discuss the development, preservation, and ownership of the portion of the canal in New Brunswick below Landing Lane bridge. Mr. Sayen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Torpey and Mr. Zaikov were selected to represent the Commission. Mr. Pitt volunteered to participate in the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Over the last month, we have done the following:

1. Continued with our grass mowing. It has been a constant battle due to the excellent growing conditions.
2. We have brushed back and created openings between the canal and the towpath from East Millstone to the Kingston Aqueduct.
3. The Corrections crew has been working on the East Millstone Canal House and along the towpath north of East Millstone.
4. We have begun to paint the Blackwells Mills office.
5. We have cleaned up and unclogged the drainage ditches between Calhoun Street and Fowler Street.
6. We continued to repair flood damaged sites at Bulls Island.
7. We have performed minor renovations to the upstairs section of the office at Blackwells Mills and to the kitchen and back room of the Bulls Island office.

In the month to come, we intend to:

1. Maintain our grass mowing operation.
2. Continue with brushing back of the towpath.
3. Continue with the painting of the Belle Mead office.
4. Continue with the renovations at the Belle Mead and Bulls Island office.
5. Install a low fence along park grounds along the eastern boundary of the park near Kingston Lock and the Turning Basin.
6. Install barricades at the pull off at Maddock Road. Department of Transportation was unwilling to close this break due to opposition by local fire companies.
7. \$10,000 has been transferred to New Jersey Department Of Transportation for work on the towpath tread. We will be working up a plan for repairs of the tread to use this money. The dollars will be used for grading, filling pot holes, or top dressing, depending on the area.



PS:kal