



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9 AUGUST 1983

TIME: 12:45 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.
 PLACE: Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton
 DATE: Tuesday, 9 August 1983

ATTENDING:

- COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Jessen, Holland and Hamilton
- STAFF: Messrs. Amon and Carr, Ms. Greenwald
- GUESTS: Mr. L. Pitt, Canal Society
 Mr. M. Galley, N.J. Water Supply Authority
 Messrs. Guidotti, Kraml and Stern, State Park Service
 Mrs. U. Buchanan, Mrs. A. Barrows, Mrs. B. Davidson, D & R Canal Coalition
 Mrs. Ruth Birkhead, Girl Scout Council
 Mr. E. Maissel, South Brunswick
 Mr. H. Zahn, Department of Transportation

Mr. Kirkland opened the meeting and stated that all applicable provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1974 had been properly met.

The minutes of the meeting of 19 July 1983 were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Jones.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon informed the Commissioners of the following leases which required their approval. Following a motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Hamilton, they were unanimously approved:

GAF Corporation	Land	\$200.00 per year
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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*

Laurie Rubber Compounding Corporation	Land	\$500.00 per year
Delaware Valley Boat Owners Association	Land	Improvements made by Tenant
Mohawk Canoe Club	Dwelling	\$152.00 per year

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Amon introduced Mr. Jeffrey J. Carr to the Commissioners. Mr. Carr will be replacing Mr. Kropp as the Review Zone Officer. Mr. Amon then presented the following project to the Commissioners for their approval:

83-0206 Somerset Residence Corporation

Following a motion made by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Jones the above referenced project was unanimously approved.

Mr. Amon requested that the Commissioners waive review requirements on a proposed addition to the Elizabethtown Water Company plant in Princeton Township. Mr. Amon stated that vegetation and existing structures combined to assure that the plant would not be visible from the Canal Park. Mr. Jessen moved that the project be waived; Mr. Holland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES AT MILLSTONE AQUEDUCT AND BOGAN MEADOWS

Mr. Kraml and Mr. Guidotti of the State Park Service reviewed plans for bridges over the canal at the Millstone Aqueduct and Bogan Meadows. In order to comply with the requirements of the Coast Guard the bridges were designed with an 8' clearance. At the Millstone Aqueduct this has resulted in 60' long ramps on each end of the bridge, 30' wide. At Bogan Meadows there are steps up to the bridge. Mr. Kraml acknowledged that within the last few days it has become clear that the Coast Guard requirements are not valid but he argued for continuation of the present design because it could be done quickly. To change the design now would mean a six to eight month wait for the bridges.

Mr. Amon recommended that the Commission reject these designs. He said that if the height requirements are not needed it would be far better to lower the bridges and eliminate the huge approach structures. Mr. Holland moved that the Commission accept Mr. Amon's recommendation. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BRIDGES OVER THE CANAL

Mr. Howard Zahn of the Department of Transportation discussed three prospective projects that would include bridges over the D & R Canal:

Route I-295: This road is part of the "Trenton Complex" which includes I-295, I-195, Route 129, and possibly the extension of Route 29. There are several stages to this project, some of which are presently in construction, while others will not be completed until well into the 1990's. The construction of I-295 over the canal and alongside it in the Duck Island area is scheduled to be completed in 1989. The project will include a scenic pull-off for traffic in both directions. There is, however, virtually no likelihood that a bicycle trail will accompany the road.

Route 92: Mr. Zahn reported that this project is still in a very preliminary stage. DOT is examining the feasibility of several alternative routes at present. If it is ever built, it will not happen before 1990.

The Somerset Expressway: This is a proposed four-lane road on the route of the now-defunct Route I-95, which is in a stage of planning somewhat like Route 92. It is being promoted by Hillsborough Township and the DOT is about to consider its feasibility. Mr. Zahn said that now would be a good time for the Commission to let the DOT know its thoughts on the potential impact of this road on the Canal Park. Mr. Kirkland asked Mr. Amon to prepare a letter from the Commission to DOT Commissioner Sheridan. This letter will be circulated to the Commissioners prior to the next meeting and edited or amended as seems suitable at that meeting.

CANAL PARK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The majority of time was expended in normal grounds maintenance over the last month. The following projects were accomplished:

1. Maintained grass mowing & trash pick-up operations.
2. Brushed back the railroad right-of-way from Titusville to Firemans Eddy.
3. Installed a low fence at Kingston Lock.
4. Began removing & repairing a fence at the Sherman House.
5. Removed dead trees from the Blackwells Mills day use area.
6. Completed 90% of the repainting of the park office.
7. The Cottage 3 Program has been working with us for most of the month and has helped with the baracade and fence tops.
8. There was no volunteer activity this month.
9. Use at Bulls Island has been extremely heavy: Note on closing the campgrounds to campers only.

IN THE MONTH TO COME:

1. Brush back railroad right-of-way from Washington Crossing to Hermitage Avenue.
2. Begin stockpiling of fill by DOT for spreading on tow path.
3. Complete fence at Sherman House.
4. Begin repairing roof and dutch gutters at park office.
5. Maintain grass mowing & trash pick-up operations.
6. Treat seed & fertilize lawn at Griggstown day use area.
7. Install exhaust fans at Bulls Island wash-house.

NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Mr. Michael Galley discussed his agency's plans to repair the sheet-piling along the canal's edge in much of downtown Trenton. A combination of repair techniques will be used, none of them resulting in a significant alteration of the appearance of the present piling. Also, no sheet-piling will be put where none exists already. Mr. Holland moved to approve the project. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon distributed to each of the Commissioners a "Friend of the D & R Canal State Park Certificate". The Commissioners were very pleased with the certificates and suggested that a few be prepared for each meeting.

Mr. Larry Pitt informed the Commissioners that the Canal Society is working on having plaques with historic photos and they have expressed interest in rehabilitating the Griggstown barrack as an interpretative center.

Mr. Jessen thinks that we should have local companies "buy" milestones. They would pay for the reconstruction of missing stones and then receive a duplicate for their own display purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.