



4 January 1984

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 13 DECEMBER 1983

TIME: 12:00 noon to 3:35 pm
PLACE: Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton
DATE: Tuesday, 13 December 1983

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Torpey, Jessen Sayen and Myers

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Carr and Mrs. Greenwald

GUESTS: Messrs. Galley and Kroeck, N.J.W.S.A.
Mr. P. Stern, State Park Service
Mr. L. Pitt, Canal Society
Mr. W. McKelvey, Canal Society

Mr. Kirkland opened the meeting and stated that all applicable provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been properly met.

The minutes of the meeting of 15 November 1983 were unanimously approved following a motion made by Mr. Torpey and seconded by Mr. Jessen.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon and Mr. Carr recommended the following review zone projects to the Commission for approval:

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 82-0136 | American Home Products |
| 83-0178-A | Princeton South at Lawrenceville |
| 83-0209 | Mahoney-Troast |
| 83-0231 | Pavilions at Princeton |
| 83-0232 | R.H. Development Corp. |

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
James C. Amon

COMMISSIONERS	Benjamin B. Kirkland	Martin D. Jessen	Donald B. Jones	Robert E. Hughey	Stuart Zaikov	James C. Sayen
	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	Bruce A. Hamilton	Arthur J. Holland	Frank J. Torpey

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Torpey and seconded by Mr. Jessen the above review zone projects were unanimously approved with the exception of Mr. Jessen's nay vote on the Mahoney-Troast project.

Mr. Amon and Mr. Carr then recommended that the proposed addition to the First Baptist Church of South Bound Brook be waived from Commission review. This was made into a motion by Mr. Jessen and unanimously carried following Mr. Torpey's second.

Mr. Amon proposed two changes in the Review Zone Regulations that would improve the administration of the program. Those changes are:

1. We would send prospective applicants a "fact sheet" which they must fill out. This sheet would supply information about the project and project sponsors which is presently difficult to find.
2. We would establish as a permanent condition of all Certificates of Approval that the Commission be notified before construction would begin.

There was a discussion about having a time limit to the notification before starting construction but, following Mr. Jessen's suggestion, it was concluded to leave it as "immediately prior to the start of construction."

Following a motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Sayen the following resolution passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION: That we submit the above changes to DAG Steven Gray so that he can review them for legal form and then to publish them in the New Jersey Register.

DREDGING CONTRACT III - Moores Creek to Prallsville Lock

Mr. Galley and Mr. Kroeck presented Contract III of the dredging project to the Commissioners' for their approval. Mr. Amon stated that all of the concerns he has expressed regarding this project have been satisfactorily resolved and he recommended unconditional approval. Following some discussion Mr. Jessen moved approval, followed by Mr. Sayen's second and unanimously approved.

Mr. Myers arrived at 1:35 pm.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Amon and Mr. Kirkland reported that they had met with Mr. Myers, Mr. Guidotti, and Mr. Garcia to review the Canal Park Development Plan.

Mr. Kirkland said that this plan is of vital importance to the future of the Canal Park and he recommended that the Commission hold a special meeting so that it can be reviewed by all the Commissioners. A meeting date of 4 January 1984 at 10:00 a.m. at the Canal House was agreed to by all present.

CRITIQUE OF THE CANAL COMMISSION

The Commissioners discussed a critique of the Canal Commission written for a graduate class in public administration. The critique was harshly unfavorable because the author felt that the Commission has not been adequately vigilant in its role of watchdog.

Considerable discussion resulted in the conclusion that there is reason to be concerned that the development pressure in the region will result in demands for widening roads that parallel the canal (particularly Canal Road in Franklin Township) and for increased crossings of the canal -- perhaps in places that we would view as particularly unsuitable. It was, therefore, decided that Mr. Amon should examine the Somerset County Master Plan and meet with the appropriate people in their Engineering or Planning Departments to determine how they envision future traffic patterns in the canal vicinity.

After these conversations the Commission will decide if they should hire a traffic consultant to give a general survey of the region and determine what alternative patterns would satisfy needs with the least harmful impact on the Canal Park.

CANAL PARK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

See attached sheet.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon told the Commissioners that their FY 1985 budget request for \$147,000 had been cut to \$100,000. He said that this was not enough money to run the office and suggested that the Commissioners go to the Legislators that they know to obtain a supplemental appropriation to bring our budget back to what we need. Mr. Amon was asked to supply the Commissioners with information that would allow them to discuss the budget with Legislators.

Mr. Amon also reported that the Commission's Administrative Assistant position was covered by the State Employees' Union and so Mrs. Greenwald has (or will) receive the pay raises won by the Union. The other two Commission employees will not receive pay raises without specific Commission request, however. Mr. Amon suggested they request 3% effective 1 January 1984, which is the amount established by the Union for professional and supervisory personnel. Mr. Jones moved and Mr. Jessen seconded this amount as a resolution and it passed unanimously.

It was agreed that the 1984 Commission meetings would continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon. The January meeting (January 10th) will begin at 10:00 a.m., however, in order to allow time for a discussion of sesquicentennial celebration plans.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

REPORT TO THE CANAL COMMISSION
13 November 1983 to 13 December 1983

Report #10
3 January 1984

Over the last month the following projects have been accomplished:

1. Continued to clear fields along River Road to provide access to the Millstone River.
2. Spread lime on Blackwells Mills and Griggstown day use areas.
3. Continued with trash pick up along the tow path.
4. The Canal Park hosted a competitive ride with over 30 horses participating in the event.
5. The Park staff helped a community action group remove accumulated debris from between Hermitage Avenue and Prospect Street. 30 yards of trash was removed.
6. The Multi-Use Trail was started and completed on time between Washington Crossing and Belle Mountain.
7. The Canal Park grew by approximately 100 acres and approximately 10 miles with the acquisition of the railroad right-of-way from Bulls Island to Frenchtown.

In the month to come we will be involved in the following:

1. Devising a boundary marking plan and clearing selected boundary lines.
2. Begin construction of replacement mile markers.
3. Continue with renovations of Bulls Island office.
4. Continue pruning of trees along the tow path between Kingston and Griggstown.
5. Begin interior painting and floor refinishing at Belle Mead office.

Report submitted by Paul Stern, Superintendent
D & R Canal State Park