MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 APRIL 1985:

TIME: 12:30 - 2:25 pm
PLACE: Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton
DATE: Tuesday, 16 April 1985

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Zaikov, Jones, Torpey, Jessen and Mrs. Nash

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Baill and Mrs. Greenwald
Mr. George Cook, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS: Mr. William McKelvey, Canal Society of New Jersey
Mr. E. Carlson, Canal Society of New Jersey
Mrs. Abigail Barrows, D & R Canal Coalition
Mrs. Ursula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition
Mr. A. Gregory Chase, N.J.W.S.A.
Mr. Richard Famularo, N.J.W.S.A.
Mr. Frank Guidotti, Parks & Forestry
Mr. Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park
Mr. Mel Myers, N.J.W.S.A.
Mrs. Rosemary Blair, D & R Canal Coalition
Mr. Sam Hamill, MSM
Mr. James Gaffney, SB-MWA
Mr. William Starr, SB-MWA

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

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

MINUTES

Following a motion by Mr. Zaikov and a second by Mrs. Nash, the minutes of the meeting of 19 March 1985 were unanimously approved.
DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

Mr. Amon explained the changes that had been made in the DEVELOPMENT GUIDE in response to the Commissioners' comments at the March meeting. Several categories were combined and the over-all plan was enlarged. Mr. Kirkland said that he had discussed the implementation strategy with Assistant Commissioner Donald Graham. Mr. Graham suggested presenting it to Commissioner Hughey, who would then present it to Governor Kean. The Commissioners could then press for its support from legislators that they know. Mr. Graham observed that it is too late for the budget talks that are going on right now.

It was suggested that engineering and design costs (approximately $2.8 million) be added to the request.

Mr. Jessen moved that the DEVELOPMENT GUIDE be accepted. Mr. Zaikov seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Kirkland reminded the Commissioners that they have not taken any formal action on the DEVELOPMENT PLAN which was prepared by consultants to the Division of Parks and Forestry. Mr. Guidotti said he would see if copies can be made available for each Commissioner.

PROJECT GREENWAY

Sam Hamill, Executive Director of MSM, and James Gaffney, Executive Director of the SBMWA, reviewed the goals and structure of Project Greenway. The project is aimed at establishing a network of open space that is tied to the D & R Canal corridor. It is envisioned that a single staff person, working out of the SBMWA office and using their staff support, could run this program for two years. They requested that the Commission enter a contractual arrangement with the Watersheds Association so that in exchange for $20,000 the Commission would receive services that could lead to a greatly expanded Canal Park network.

Mr. Gaffney pointed to development which retains 40% of the site as open space as one of the project goals. Changing municipal zoning ordinances to require open space preservation is another goal. Receiving property or easements on property from large land owners would be a third goal.

Extensive discussion among the Commissioners followed. All Commissioners agreed that this is an admirable project but disagreements arose about the advisability of the Commission’s financial involvement. Among the points raised were:

1. The Commission should concentrate on improving the Canal Park and its structures.

2. Perhaps this open space could be preserved through our Review Zone.

3. This project should be financed privately.

Mr. Jones moved that the Commission give conceptual approval to the project and support a specific aspect of it up to a maximum of $10,000. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion. A roll-call vote produced the following:
Mr. Zaikov - No
Mrs. Nash - Yes
Mr. Jones - Yes
Mr. Torpey - No
Mr. Jessen - No

Mr. Jones then moved to conceptually approve the plan for Project Greenway as presented. A second roll-call vote produced the following:

Mr. Zaikov - No
Mrs. Nash - Yes
Mr. Jones - Yes
Mr. Torpey - Yes
Mr. Jessen - Yes
Mr. Kirkland - Yes

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented the following lease to the Commissioners for their approval:

Finkle Hardware Store Land $75.00 per year

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the above lease. Following Mr. Jones' second the motion passed unanimously.

GLEN AFTON FENCE

Mr. Amon reported that the Water Supply Authority and the Division of Parks and Forestry have agreed to jointly erect and maintain an 8 foot tall chain link fence between the Canal Park and homes in the Glen Afton section of Trenton. This is in response to a request from the Glen Afton Civic Association's committee on this issue. Mr. Jones moved that the fence be approved subject to the approval of the Glen Afton Civic Association. The motion was carried unanimously after Mrs. Nash's second.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Baill presented the following B Zone projects to the Commissioners for their approval:

84-0488 - Montgomery Evangelical Free Church

Mr. Torpey moved approval of the above project. Upon Mr. Jessen's second the motion carried unanimously.

85-0693 - Torsiello Associates

Upon a motion by Mr. Jessen and a second by Mr. Torpey the above project carried unanimously.

TURNING BASIN BRIDGE

Mr. Amon showed the Commissioners a design for a bridge over the opening to the turning basin at Alexander Road. Mr. Jessen moved that it be approved. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Barrows said that municipalities in the canal region are looking for tougher stances from the Commission. She suggested revision of the Review Zone regulations.

No longer quorum.

Mrs. Blair reviewed the stances that she and the Coalition have taken recently.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

James C. Amon
Executive Director