MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18 JUNE 1985:

TIME: 12:06 - 2:05 pm
PLACE: Canal House, 25 Calhoun Street, Trenton
DATE: Tuesday, 18 June 1985

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Marshall, Jessen and Mrs. Nash

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Baill and Mrs. Greenwald
Mrs. Dorothy M. Highland, DAG

GUESTS: Mrs. Abigail Barrows, D & R Canal Coalition
Mrs. Ursula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition
Mr. Larry Pitt, Canal Society of New Jersey
Mr. William McKelvey, Canal Society of New Jersey
Mr. Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park
Mr. Richard Famularo, N.J.W.S.A.
Mr. Victor Sestokas, Elizabethtown Water Company

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

The Secretary informed the Commissioners that she had left Mr. McKelvey's name off the minutes of the meeting of 21 May 1985. Following that inclusion Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes of 21 May 1985. His motion was unanimously passed following Mrs. Nash's second.

Mr. Kirkland informed the Commissioners that Senator Foran plans to introduce a resolution for $500,000 for design work on the D & R Canal.

The Commissioners were asked to write to the Governor in support of Mr. Foran's resolution.
LEASES AND PERMITS

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

   Mr. & Mrs. Bernard               Locktender Station               Rental for Shop

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the above lease. Following Mrs. Nash's second the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Victor Sestokas from Elizabethtown Water Company requested Commission approval for the construction of a pipe under the canal in the vicinity of Elizabethtown's Princeton plant. Rebuilding of the hand-laid embankment stone would accompany the project, as would replanting of any areas where clearing might be required. Mr. Sestokas reported that the project is urgent because this section of the canal is presently without water and they want to take advantage of this condition.

Mr. Jessen moved approval conditioned upon the resolution of replanting and embankment stone restoration by Mr. Amon. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Bail presented the following review zone projects to the Commissioners for their approval:

83-0269                     Mansion Hill
85-0677                     Miles Truesdell
85-0703                     Murray Industrial Park @ Franklin
85-0665                     Veronica Development Associates
85-0724                     Young Men's Athletic Club (A Zone)
85-0725                     John Crawford (A Zone)
85-0692                     Princeton Forrestal Village

Mr. Jessen stated that his firm is currently working on the Murray Industrial Park project and requested that this project be voted on separately.

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the above projects, with the exception of Murray Industrial Park @ Franklin. Mr. Jones seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Jones then moved approval of the Murray Industrial Park project. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion which carried unanimously with the exception of Mr. Jessen who abstained.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Jessen moved adoption of the Development Plan for guidance only. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion. Mr. Jones wanted the following included in the motion: "That the Canal Commission reserves the right to adjust or amend the plan as necessary."

Mrs. Nash was concerned to know if the Canal Commission is locked into this plan or would they be able to respond to changing circumstances.

Mr. Marshall informed her that the Canal Commission would not be locked into it, that it was a planning document.
Mr. Amon praised the Development Plan. He said that it is a sensitive plan, which builds directly upon the Commission's previously adopted Master Plan and Design Guide.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Commissioners then discussed problems that will arise in connection with the increased development rate in the region. Mr. Jessen suggested that Mr. Kirkland and Mr. Amon visit the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation and request that he assign someone to study the problems of road development and protection of the Canal Park.

Mrs. Nash said that she thought the Review Zone should be more stringent and more assiduously administered. She expressed particular concern about enforcement. She also suggested that the Commission staff should be in close touch with the planning and engineering staff of those municipalities where most of the development is occurring. She said that she believes that more could be gotten from developers that would enhance the Canal Park if there was some effort made before the project goes too far at the local level. She summarized the Commission's Review Zone efforts as often being too little too late.

STAFF SALARY INCREASES

Mr. Jessen moved approval of a three percent increase for the Canal Commission staff. This raise is in accord with the State contract which covers all State employees. Mr. Jones seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

See attached report.

Mr. Marshall commented on the Glen Afton fencing. He said that the present plan is to install a single gate at a city-owned lot.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Buchanan stated that fishermen in her area are terrible litterbugs. She requested a sign to help make people aware of not littering, picking flowers, etc. be posted.

Mr. Amon responded by stating that posting of a lot of signs adds to visual litter.

Mr. McKelvey questioned if Mr. Stern had enforcement authority to which Mr. Stern stated yes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.