



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 FEBRUARY 1987:

TIME: 12:16 - 2:20 pm
DATE: Tuesday, 17 February 1987
PLACE: D & R Canal Commission Office
Prallsville Mills
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Kirkland, Torpey, Jones, Guidotti,
Zaikov, Jessen, Torpey and Bullitt

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

GUESTS: Richard Famularo, N.J.W.S.A.
Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of N.J.
John Auciello, D & R Canal State Park
Ursula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition
Abigail Barrows, D & R Canal Coalition
Babs Thomsen, D & R Canal Coalition
Larry & Kay Pitt, Canal Society of N.J.
Denyse Reid, Princeton Borough

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. Guidotti, and a second by Mr. Jones the minutes of the meeting of 20 January 1987 were unanimously approved with the following correction. The minutes stated that Mr. Jones was in attendance and did not list Mr. Bullitt. They should have stated that Mr. Bullitt was in attendance and not Mr. Jones.

PRALLSVILLE MILLS P.O. BOX 539 STOCKTON, NJ 08559-0539 609-397-2000

| EXECUTIVE | COMMISSIONERS | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| DIRECTOR | Benjamin B. Kirkland | Martin D. Jessen | Donald B. Jones | Stuart R. Zaikov | Richard T. Dewling | Winona D. Nash |
| James C. Amon | <i>Chairman</i> | <i>Vice-Chairman</i> | <i>Treasurer</i> | Arthur J. Holland | John C. Bullitt | Frank J. Torpey |

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thomas H. Kean, *Governor* Richard T. Dewling, *Commissioner*

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Kirkland moved approval of the lease to Mr. Faherty of a small strip of land which gives access to the rear of a delicatessen and pub at Washington Crossing. Mr. Guidotti seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then reported that Sun Pipeline had two more sleeves on their pipeline that needed to be replaced. He said that all of the conditions of last month's approval would hold for these replacements. A motion was made by Mr. Zaikov, seconded by Mr. Guidotti and passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Dobbs was introduced to the Commissioners. He has replaced Mr. Baill as the Commission's Review Zone Officer. Mr. Dobbs reported that a new interchange between U.S. Route One and Quakerbridge Road has been reviewed by the Commission staff and found to meet the storm water management standards. Mr. Amon added that this is a significant project because it demonstrates the compatibility of our review zone regulations and DOT projects. Mr. Jones then moved approval of the proposed DOT application. This motion carried unanimously following Mr. Torpey's second. Mr. Famularo requested that the Water Supply Authority be given the opportunity to review the project. Mr. Jones then moved that his previous motion be amended to include review by the Water Supply Authority. This motion was seconded by Mr. Torpey and passed unanimously.

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

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 86-0201B | Williamsburg Estates, Section 4 |
| 86-0688B | High Technology Center III |
| 86-0965 | Hiller/Miller/Ravich |
| 86-1048 | Blackwells Mills |
| 86-1182 | South Brunswick Square |
| 86-1139 | Adjess Associates |
| 87-1217 | Santo V. Sorce |
| 87-1248 | Wheeling One-Thirty Associates |

Mr. Jones then moved approval of the above projects. Following a second by Mr. Torpey the motion carried unanimously.

HARRISON STREET BRIDGES OVER LAKE CARNEGIE AND D & R CANAL

Mr. Amon informed the Commissioners that he had received preliminary plans for the two Harrison Street replacement bridges in Princeton Township. Both the bridge over Lake Carnegie and the bridge over the D & R Canal are in the Commission's Review Zone and will require review and approval by the Commission before they can be constructed. After some discussion Mr. Kirkland suggested that the Commission send a resolution to the DOT which addresses the Harrison Street bridge over Lake Carnegie, the Harrison Street bridge over the canal, and canal bridges in general. The following resolution was proposed:

With respect to the proposal for a new bridge over Lake Carnegie, the Commission recommends that the final design include:

1. Sidewalks on both sides.
2. Walkways connecting with the canal bridge.
3. Coordination of design with the design of the canal bridge.
4. Simultaneous construction schedules for the two Harrison Street bridges.
5. The Commission wants to have an opportunity to review the color, texture, or other treatments of the concrete.

As general guidelines for all bridges over the canal, the Commission recommends new or replacement bridges over the canal should be wooden structures painted or stained white and be a design that is similar to other vehicular bridges over the canal.

For the Harrison Street canal bridge the Commission recommends the following additional guidelines:

1. Sidewalks on both sides.
2. No reduction in vertical clearance over water level and no reduction of the hydraulic capacity of the canal.
3. The pedestrian paths on the north and south side of the canal must be graded for easy use across the road and guide rails should be open for that use.

1:10 Mr. Jessen arrived.

Mr. Jones moved approval of the resolution. This motion was seconded by Mr. Torpey and unanimously passed.

PROPOSED ROUTE 92 CROSSING OF THE CANAL PARK

Mr. Amon introduced the proposed Route 92, a new highway which would cross the Canal Park between Kingston and Rocky Hill.

After lengthy discussion Mr. Amon was asked to draw up a draft response incorporating a number of issues mentioned by the Commissioners. This document will be reviewed by the Commission and acted upon at their meeting of 17 March. The Commission asked Mr. Amon to write to DOT requesting that the record be kept open for the Commission's response until the end of March.

PROPOSED SOMERSET EXPRESSWAY CROSSING OF THE CANAL PARK

Mr. Bullitt moved the Commission adopt the following resolution regarding the Somerset Expressway:

The Commission is opposed to the construction of the Somerset Expressway for the following reasons:

1. This is not a good location for a major crossing of the canal Park. The Canal Park Master Plan has designated this section as an area that is to be left in a natural state. It is also a bad site because it is an open, flat environment. The highway structure would be very visible and exceptionally intrusive.
2. The Commission is not convinced that this road will have a significantly beneficial impact upon the traffic loads of the existing crossings and parallel roads. It may reduce use of the Weston Causeway, but its positive affect on development in Hillsborough, along with the proposed interchange at River Road is likely to increase traffic on River Road. The Millstone and Blackwell's Mills crossing are not likely to be affected.
3. The potential impact on the Girl Scouts Oak Spring (for the southern alignment) or on the Smith farmstead (for the northern alignment) could destroy a highly desirable neighbor to the Canal Park.

Mr. Guidotti seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SUN PIPELINE BURN AREA

Mr. Amon passed out a letter from Richard Kane, Sanctuary Director, New Jersey Audubon Society, urging the Commission to adopt a policy of preserving the botanical and wildlife resources of the Canal Park by not cutting trees and shrubs along the towpath. Mr. Amon reported that he had talked with Mr. Kane who was under the impression that the Commission was about to cut trees along the entire length of the Canal Park.

Mr. Amon reported that at present no plans were being made except to remove trees killed during the January, 1986 fire that followed the rupture of the Sun pipeline. He said that there is a principal that the Commissioners should consider, however, in connection with this action. The historic towpath in this region had been abandoned in favor of a path on top of a flood guard embankment. The removal of the dead trees would open the towpath and the Commissioners should decide if they wish to keep it open, plant new trees in the towpath and continue to use the embankment path, or keep both paths open. He referred them to the two letters from Mrs. Minis that had been mailed to the Commissioners.

Mr. Bullitt said that he had walked this area and concluded that the towpath should be kept open. Mr. Jones felt that the Commission would have to have a very compelling reason before it should abandon a piece of the towpath. Mr. Jessen concurred.

2:12 Mr. Zaikov left.

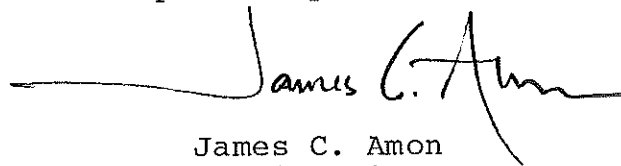
Mr. Jessen then moved to keep the towpath open. The motion unanimously passed following Mr. Bullitt's second.

2:20 Mr. Bullitt left. No longer a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Amon
Executive Director