



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 JULY 1987:

TIME: 12:15 - 2:30 pm  
DATE: Wednesday, 17 July 1987  
PLACE: D & R Canal Commission Office  
Prallsville Mills  
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Dobbs and Mrs. Greenwald  
Mr. George P. Cook, DAG

GUESTS: Richard Famularo, N.J.W.S.A.  
Larry Pitt, Canal Society of N.J.  
Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park  
Larry Pitt, Canal Society of N.J.  
Gail Firestone, Mayor, Princeton Township  
Phyliss Marchand, Princeton Twp. Councilwoman  
George C. Olexa, Jr., Princeton University  
Robert V. Kiser, Princeton Township  
Duggan Kimball, Regional Planning Bd, Princeton  
Leo Laaksonen, Mercer County  
Urusula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition  
Abigail Barrows, D & R Canal Coalition  
R. A. Pege, NJDOT  
Jack Dunn, NJDOT  
Lauralee Rappleye-Marsett, NJDOT  
Andy Fekete, NJDOT  
Laurie Gutshaw, NJDOT

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. Jessen and a second by Mrs. Nash, the minutes of the meeting of 17 June 1987 were unanimously approved.

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

<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b> James C. Amon	<b>COMMISSIONERS</b> Benjamin B. Kirkland <i>Chairman</i>	Martin D. Jessen <i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Donald B. Jones <i>Treasurer</i>	Stuart R. Zaikov Arthur J. Holland	Richard T. Dewling John C. Bullitt	Winona D. Nash Frank J. Torpey
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NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Thomas H. Kean, Governor Richard T. Dewling, Commissioner

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon presented the following review zone project to the Commissioners for their approval:

86-1190 Raritan Pointe

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

87-1332 Flower Time Inc.  
86-0936A Vantage Business Park, Phase II  
87-0492A Regency Industrial Campus  
87-1369 Modular Inventory Building  
86-1160 Community Baptist Church  
n/a Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation  
84-0563 The Preserve  
87-1434 Renaissance Station  
87-1431 Franklin Industrial Park  
87-0872A Montgomery Estates West, Phase II  
87-1438 Princeton Oaks

Following a motion by Mr. Jessen, which was seconded by Mr. Jones, the above A and B Zone projects were unanimously approved.

Mr. Jessen then discussed the effectiveness the the Commission's requirements for detention basins. Mr. Dobbs reported that he has been in contact with various engineers regarding this and that a possible meeting with the county and township engineers may take place sometime in November.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY PROJECTS

Mr. Famularo presented a request to the Commissioners to line the Canal on Edgewood Avenue in the City of Trenton with a plastic sheet. He reported leakage in this area and requested approval to do the work. After some discussion it was agreed that the Authority would be responsible for rehabilitating the area back to its present condition once the work is complete. Mr. Amon recommended that the Commission approve the above request with the Authority's responsibility for rehabilitation. This was made into a motion by Mr. Jessen, seconded by Mr. Kirkland and unanimously approved. Mr. Amon and Mr. Famularo are to get together to work out the wording.

Gauging Station

Mr. Amon presented a request from the U.S.G.S. to construct a gauging structure next to the canal in the Port Mercer vicinity. The Commission understands that the roof and walls will be clad with cedar shingles and that the door will have a window which will allow a visitor to read an interior sign which explains the purpose of the structure. Mrs. Nash expressed concern about the potential for vandalism. Following some

discussion Mr. Jessen moved approval of the project. Mr. Jones seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

HOVNANIAN PROJECT - TOWN AND COUNTRY ESTATES

Mr. Amon informed the Commissioners of the Hovnanian project called "Town & County Estates", located in Franklin Township. He reported that there are two plans for the pattern of development on the site and he recommended that the Commission endorse the Township Environmental Commission's plan. Mr. Jones moved and Mr. Torpey seconded a motion of endorsement for the Environmental Commission's plan. The motion was passed unanimously. The Commissioners agreed that it is highly desirable to consolidate and increase the amount of preserved land in the region near the canal.

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES

Mr. Amon informed the Commissioners of the current status of the three pedestrian bridges. Mr. Jessen feels the price of \$600,000 is outrageous and that this money could be better spent.

PROPOSED LAKE CARNEGIE BRIDGE AT HARRISON STREET

Mr. Jack Dunn, NJDOT presented the the Harrison Street Bridges' designs to the Commission and requested their approval. Lengthy discussion then insued between the Commissioners, Princeton Township representatives and the NJDOT concerning the construction of two sidewalks on the Lake Bridge and also the historic character of the area.

Mr. Torpey stated that the two bridges should be compatible with each other as well as with the character of the area. Mr. Dunn responded that no effort was made to relate the designs of the two bridges to each other since they were different kinds of bridges.

Three issues relating to the bridge over Lake Carnegie were discussed. The depth of the arches, the inclusion of a second sidewalk, and the design of the hand rails. Mayor Firestone of Princeton Township explained that Princeton had wanted arches with the same seven foot depth as are on the existing bridge, sidewalks on both sides of the bridge, and wooden or wooden-faced hand rails. The DOT had told them that the Federal Government, who is paying approximately 80% of the cost of the bridge, refused to pay for the arches or for more than one sidewalk. The Township, Princeton Borough, Princeton University, and Mercer County had therefore contributed a combined total of \$150,000 toward the cost of the bridge. This sum was sufficient to pay the cost of arches with a depth of four feet but it was not enough to cover any other changes.

Mayor Firestone emphasized the Township's desire for speedy construction but also stated that they were not satisfied with the present design. Her comments were supported by Mr. Kimball, Director of the Princeton Regional Planning Board, and by Mr. Kiser, Township Engineer.

Mr. Laaksonen, Director of Planning for Mercer County, said that the County is eager to have the roadway reopened and that they are in support of the DOT designs.

Mr. Amon asked a series of questions of Mr. Dunn and it was discovered that while the Federal Highway Administration had denied funds for a second sidewalk and deeper arches, they had done so after the State DOT had advised them that these features were not necessary and not wanted.

The Commission then advised the DOT to open these issues again in a meeting with FHWA that would also be attended by Commission, Township, University and County representatives.

The issue of wooden facing for the hand rails was discussed but not resolved. The DOT representatives said that wooden facing would not be allowed by FHWA.

Mr. Dunn submitted a sketch for the canal bridges which included most of the design features approved by the Commission at the June meeting. Mr. Jessen advised them to use wood facing on the abutment walls. He recommended that the formwork be designed to be left in place. The DOT representatives offered several reasons why this could not be done and then conceded that it would be studied.

The sketch of the canal bridge did not, however, show pilings and bumpers to replicate the historic structure as was suggested by the Commission in June. Again, the DOT representatives offered several reasons why this could not be done, most forcefully asserting that it would violate paragraph 106 of the Federal Historic District law.

At this point it was apparent that no solution would be reached. Mr. Kirkland suggested that the DOT reexamine the issues discussed and try to resolve them at the staff level before the August meeting.

2:30 Mrs. Nash left. No quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James C. Amon", written over a horizontal line.

James C. Amon  
Executive Director