



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

September 29, 1988

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 28 SEPTEMBER 1988:

TIME: 12:15 - 2:20 pm
DATE: Wednesday, 28 September 1988
PLACE: Canal Commission's Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

Commissioners: Mrs. Nash, Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Jessen,
Holland, Zaikov, Guidotti, and Pauley

Staff: Messrs. Amon, Dobbs, and Mrs. Hendricksen
Mr. George Cook, Deputy Attorney General

Guests: David Mackre, D&R Canal Coalition
Bill McKelvey, America Canal Soc./Canal Soc. of NJ
Rita M. Gallagher, Wyndmoor Assoc.
Paul Stern, D&R Canal State Park
Deborah Herzog, Wyndmoor Assoc.
Babs Thomsen, Friends of Prin. Open Space
Kay and Larry Pitt, Canal Society of New Jersey
Ursula Buchanan, D&R Canal Coalition
Abigail Barrows, D&R Canal Coalition
Jeffrey Freireich, Lawrenceville Assoc.
Jay Kapper, Lawrenceville Assoc.
Eugene Gross, N.J.W.S.A.
Don Kroeck, N.J.W.S.A.
Abe Shaik, N.J.W.S.A.
John Kraml, Jr., N.J. Division of Parks & Forestry
David M. Moskowitz, PE, A.G. Lichtenstein & Assoc.
Richard Kreppel, PE, A.G. Lichtenstein & Assoc.

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**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**
James C. Amon

COMMISSIONERS
Benjamin B. Kirkland
Chairman

Martin D. Jessen
Vice-Chairman

Donald B. Jones
Treasurer

Stuart R. Zaikov
Arthur J. Holland

Christopher J. Daggett
R. William Pauley

Winona D. Nash
Frank J. Torpey

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thomas H. Kean, *Governor* Christopher J. Daggett *Acting Commissioner*

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

MINUTES

Mr. Jones moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of 17 August 1988. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon said that he did not have any of the usual kinds of leases or permits for the Commission, but he did want the Commission to act on several projects from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority. Mr. Kroeck reviewed the projects for which he was seeking final approval. He said that the WSA would like to invite bids for these projects in October with construction starts in early spring, 1989. The projects involve repairs to the following structures:

1. Bull's Island Headgate
2. Alexauken Creek Aqueduct
3. Swan Creek Aqueduct
4. Millstone River Aqueduct
5. Kingston Waste Gate
6. Kingston Lock
7. Griggstown Waste Gate

Mr. Amon reviewed the projects, commenting on aspects of each that will benefit the canal as a recreational or historic resource. He recommended approval.

Mr. Jessen moved approval of all the projects (grouped into three separate contracts) and Mr. Pauley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Amon presented one A Zone project with his recommendation for approval:

88-1204: Socey Residence

Mr. Zaikov moved approval of this project, which was passed unanimously after Mr. Guidotti seconded it.

Mr. Dobbs then presented the following B Zone projects with his recommendation for approval:

- 88-1654: Dearfield
- 88-1634: G.E. Astro Space
- 88-1649: Cardinal Publishing Co.
- 88-1648: Wexford II at So. Brunswick
- 88-1094: Building 156-M of Heller Industrial Park
- 88-1645: Monroe Center Retail Building
- 88-1027A: Princeton Walk (Mt. Laurel Apts.)
- 88-1574: Lawrence Hollow
- 88-0694A: Squibb, Phase II
- 88-1662: Six Mile Run - The Forest

Mr. Zaikov moved approval of these projects, which passed unanimously after Mrs. Nash seconded it.

DISCUSSION OF NEW CANAL CROSSING

Mr. Amon referred the Commissioners to a memorandum and a map which he had sent them regarding a proposed new crossing of the canal in Port Mercer. He reported that a developer was being asked to build a new bridge over the canal and that Mr. Amon agreed to the concept and the location, but he wanted the Commission to express its opinion on several issues related to the crossing so that preliminary design work could proceed.

Mr. Amon had recommended that the existing bridge be closed to vehicular traffic and that the portion of Provinceline Road between the existing bridge and the proposed new bridge be closed to traffic.

Mr. Amon stated that Lawrence Township seems to want a three lane bridge so that a connecting road to Quaker Road can be maintained. Another option that Lawrence would like is to keep the old bridge open to accommodate traffic going to or from Princeton. Mr. Amon argued strongly against these ideas, stating that either would have a severely harmful impact on the Canal Park. The Lawrence officials who are in favor of keeping the connection with Princeton open along the canal are concerned about traffic impacts on their houses.

Two new ideas presented were to make the old bridge one way to Princeton and the second idea to keep both bridges open, but vacate the portion of Provinceline Road between the two bridges.

Mr. Freireich, representing the developer, made a request that the issue be tabled until the next meeting at which time he would have his experts testify on the traffic, wetlands, and bridge design issues. Mr. Kirkland made a motion to resolve that the Commission prefers the solution proposed by the Executive Director. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. After lengthy discussion about tabling the issue, Mr. Kirkland and Mr. Jones agreed to withdraw their motion and second. Mrs. Nash then moved to table the action until the next meeting and Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. It passed with affirmative votes from Mrs. Nash, Messrs. Kirkland, Jones, Jessen, Zaikov, Holland and Guidotti; Mr. Pauley voted against the motion.

It was agreed that the developer would have traffic information -- including projected traffic growth, wetlands information, as well as plans and perspective sketches of different bridge designs. It was also suggested that information from non-partison sources, such as MSM, and Mercer County should be obtained.

REVIEW OF CANAL PARK PROJECTS

Mr. Amon reported that he and Mayor Holland had received complaints from the Trenton City Council regarding the maintenance and police patrol of that portion of the Canal Park that is in the City of Trenton. At a subsequent City Council meeting, Councilmen who had been absent earlier picked up the same theme and complained bitterly about the problem.

Mr. Stern, Canal Park Superintendent, was asked to explain what his usual practice is for maintenance in Trenton. He said that in addition to the regular monthly mowing that all parts of the Canal Park receive, he had a crew of five people all summer who spent 20 hours per week cleaning the canal in Trenton. He said that no other section of the park receives treatment that is remotely comparable.

Mayor Holland said that it was his impression that the Councilman who was most upset was troubled more by dirt bikes using the abandoned railroad right-of-way.

Mr. Stern said that he has spent a great amount of time trying to catch the dirt bikers, but since they are local residents and since so many private homes have access to the path it is nearly impossible to catch them. Mr. Stern said he had a team of park rangers on stake out for a month trying to chatch the dirt bikers and that he had been to Council President Armenti's house to discuss this problem with him. He said that he will never be able to provide around-the-clock patrols of the area, but the Trenton City Police are welcome to make arrests in the State Park.

Mr. Amon said that the N.J. Water Supply Authority shares maintenance responsibilities and that Eugene Gross, who was present, has just been appointed to replace Richard Famularo, as the WSA person in charge of maintenance and operations. Mr. Gross said that he did not know what the WSA program has been for maintenance of the Trenton section, but he would find out and get back to Mr. Amon.

Mr. Holland said that the information he received was very helpful.

Mr. Kirkland welcomed Mr. Gross to his new position and moved that the Commission pass a resolution praising Richard Famularo for his effective and dedicated work. Mr. Jessen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Kirkland refered the Commissioners to a letter from Richard J. Sullivan regarding a meeting called The Common Wealth of New Jersey to be held on November 30, and the 1st and the 2nd of December. The Commission has been asked to meet in Parsippany with this group to promote issues relating to environmental preservation. The Commissioners expressed confusion about the purpose of the meeting and the role that the Commission is being asked to play. They requested that Mr. Amon get more information and report back to them. They also agreed that the regular November meeting should be held as usual but that as many Commissioners as possible should attend the meeting in Parsippany.

Mr. Amon passed out the "Project Status Report" from the State Park Service and a report that he had prepared which lists all Canal Park projects.

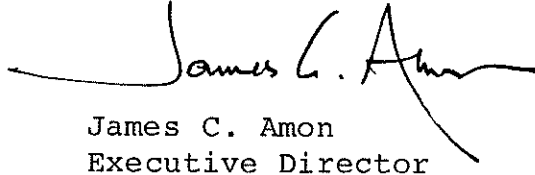
Mr. Jessen asked about the status of the project to direct the Trenton storm sewers from the portion of the canal that flows under the U.S. Route One freeway. Mr. Amon said that it has been deferred for lack of funds, which he felt reflects that the WSA has a low priority for this project. Mr. Jessen said that this should be number one priority (as the Commission had earlier resolved) because of the serious threat to the canal water from this area. He referred to the Rutgers report, which found many kinds of serious pollutants entering the canal at this area.

The Commissioners asked Mr. Amon to attend the next meeting of the Water Supply Authority to request that they give this project higher priority.

ADJOURNMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Amon
Executive Director

JCA/mh