

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15 MARCH 1989:

TIME: 12:15 -2:45 pm  
DATE: Wednesday, 15 March 1989  
PLACE: Canal Commission's Office  
Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Dobbs and Amon

GUESTS: Mary M. Penney, Central Jersey Sierra Club  
Richard J. Sommer, Graphic Designer  
Howard Chun, Central Jersey Sierra Club  
Dean Arrighi, Central Jersey Sierra Club  
Dolly Minis, D & R Canal Watch  
Barbara Thomsen, D & R Canal Watch  
John Kraml, Division of Parks & Forestry  
Dale B. Smith, Division of Buildings and Construction  
Terry D. Pollin, Division of Buildings and Construction  
Bernard Cedar, Lawrence Township Community Dev.  
Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park  
Jeffrey Freireich, Lawrenceville Assoc.  
Richard C. Kreppel, Lichtenstein Assoc.  
Steven Polinsky, Brach, Eichler, Rosenberg, Esqs.  
Jay Klapper, Lawrenceville Assoc.  
Ken Lelen, Belle Terre Press (Trenton Times)  
Harvey Yesowitz, Hanlyn Associates  
Carl Hintz, Hintz/Nelessen Associates, Lawrence Planner  
Kay Pitt, Canal Society of NJ  
Larry Pitt, Canal Society of NJ  
Deborah Herzog, Wyndmoor Assoc.  
Sam Herzog, Wyndmoor Assoc.  
Ellen Stark, Princeton Regional Planning Board  
Eugene Gross, NJ Water Supply Authority  
A. Gregg Chase, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Robert Rogers, Lawrence Twp. Traffic Consultant  
Henry Arnold, Henry Arnold Assoc.  
James Brighton, Henry Arnold Assoc.  
Leo Laaksonen, Mercer County Planning Dept.

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

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

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, *Commissioner*

MINUTES

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of 15 February 1989. Mr. Pauley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Amon presented one A Zone project:

89-1755 - Mrs. Janet Holbrook

He stated that it was for repairs to a store in Lambertville which is a mid-19th century structure and does contribute to the historic quality of the city. The repairs, however, will not change the exterior appearance of the building. Mr. Zaikov moved approval of this project, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Dobbs presented four B Zone projects:

89-1750 - Princeton Township Regional Detention Basin G

88-0461A - Pleasant View Farms

88-1015C - 155 M Building

85-0793 - Wedgewood Acres

Mr. Dobbs stated that all of these projects meet the Canal Commission's storm water management standards and are therefore recommended for approval. Mrs. Nash moved approval of all four; Mr. Pauley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SIERRA CLUB SIGN

Mr. Amon introduced Ms. Mary Penney, the President of the Central New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Ms. Penney said that the Sierra Club had worked with Paul Stern and Chief Ranger John Auciello on a clean-up day project along the canal and they decided they would like to take on a larger project to benefit the Canal Park. Mr. Auciello had worked with them to erect signs at all of the public access areas of the Canal Park that would not only identify the Canal Park but give information about it. Ms. Penney then introduced Richard Sommer, a graphic designer who has prepared a model.

Mr. Sommer showed the Commissioners his draft which includes a map of the entire Canal Park, some text about the park and on the canal's history, and a modification of the Commission's logo to identify the park. Mr. Sommer stated that he had worked with Mr. Auciello and Mr. Amon on the sign.

Mr. Amon stated that the sign still must be approved by the Division of Parks and Forestry but he recommended Commission approval.

Ms. Penney said that the Sierra Club will be seeking money from corporations and individuals to pay for these signs.

Mr. Jessen said that he has had a great deal of experience with these kinds of signs and he recommended several design modifications.

Mr. Kirkland said that this was a wonderful project and he would like to make a motion which thanks and enthusiastically endorses the Central New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### REVIEW OF PORT MERCER CROSSING

Mr. Amon distributed copies of a memorandum which outlines the existing road system at Port Mercer and describes three alternative changes. He stated that Lawrence Township had requested another discussion with the Commission in order to seek a resolution of this problem.

Mr. Bernard Cedar, Mr. Harvey Yesowitz, and Mr. Robert Rogers spoke in behalf of Lawrence Township's position, which was that the Township would accept either a new crossing with an intersection on the canal's west bank (with the old crossing closed) or keeping the old crossing open for Quaker Road traffic only and having a new crossing for Provinceline Road. The solution preferred by the Commission (close the existing crossing, have a new crossing for Provinceline Road without an intersection to Quaker Road), according to the Lawrence spokesmen, would not be acceptable to Lawrence and the existing situation would be kept rather than make that change.

Mr. Cedar pointed out that by having both bridges in operation the portion of Provinceline Road that is on the canal bank could be deeded to the State for inclusion in the park.

Mr. Laaksonen, Mercer County Planning Director, stated that the County would not approve the Yorkshire Village project without an improvement to the existing road pattern.

Ms. Ellen Stark, member of the Princeton Regional Planning Board stated that Princeton is very interested in this issue since it will affect them but that they have not yet reached an agreement about the best solution.

Mr. Zaikov stated that as far as he was concerned the Commission reached a decision on this issue several months ago and it should not be wasting time discussing it again.

Mr. Jessen pointed out that there is another alternative, which would be a new crossing as proposed to connect with Provinceline Road and another new crossing to connect with Quaker Road. Mr. Laaksonen pointed out that there is no apparent source of money for a second new crossing and that to explore this option would involve West Windsor Township.

Mrs. Barbara Thomsen, President of Canal Watch, stated that their board met on 14 March and unanimously support the Commission's proposed alternative for Port Mercer.

Mr. Kirkland stated that he felt the Lawrence people must realize that the Commission's job is to protect the Canal Park, not to solve the region's traffic problems.

Mr. Cedar requested that, rather than take a formal position, the Commission table the issue for one more month while the municipalities, the county and Mr. Amon try to work out a solution that is acceptable to all. This suggestion was quickly agreed with.

LAMBERTVILLE AND TRENTON PATH

Mr. Amon introduced Mr. Henry Arnold, who has been hired by the State Park Service to design a path along the canal in the cities of Lambertville and Trenton.

Mr. Arnold then reviewed the preliminary plans for the two path segments, discussing the exact location, path materials, and necessary accompanying facilities.

The Commissioners expressed great pleasure with these plans.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon stated that he had received a letter from Mrs. Rightmire, President of the Griggstown Historical Society, expressing their concern over the possible loss of the historic barns at the Blackwell's Mills Canal Park headquarters.

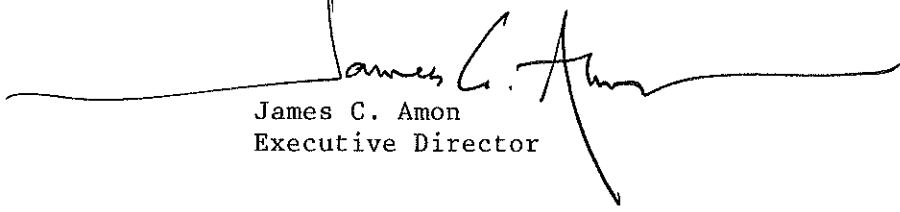
Mr. Pauley said that he, too, was concerned and he passed around some photographs he had taken to show how attractive these barns are. He said that he believed they could be rehabilitated to serve the cold storage needs of the park office.

Mr. Kirkland then referred to a letter he received from Mrs. Laura P. Terhune, Franklin Township Historian, also expressing this concern. He suggested that the Commission hold its next meeting in Blackwell's Mills so that the Commissioners can see the site.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James C. Amon  
Executive Director