

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 JANUARY 1991

TIME: 12:10 NOON - 2:20 PM  
DATE: Wednesday, 16 January 1991  
PLACE: D & R Canal Commission  
Prallsville Mills  
Stockton, NJ



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Amon and Dobbs; Ms. Holms  
Mr. Stephen Brower, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS: Barbara Thomsen, D & R Canal Watch  
Joe Bird  
Larry & Kay Pitt, Canal Society of NJ  
William Moss, Canal Society of NJ  
John Norwig, Somerset County Engineering Dept.  
Don Marshall, Somerset County Engineering Dept.  
Joe Skupien, Somerset County Engineering Dept.  
Eugene Gross, NJ Water Supply Authority  
John Kraml, Division of Parks and Forestry

Mr. Kirkland opened the meeting and announced that this was a regular meeting of the D & R Canal Commission and that all provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been met.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER

Mr. Jones moved that Mr. Jessen remain Vice-Chairman of the Canal Commission. Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mrs. Nash then moved the nomination of Mr. Jones for Treasurer. Mr. Zaikov seconded the motion, and it also passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the minutes of 19 December 1990, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent.

REVIEW ZONE

Mr. Amon presented the following "A" Zone projects:

- 90-1888 - River's Edge Garages - Lambertville  
12 garage units in 2 buildings
- 91-1955 - Kusant Residence - Stockton  
installation of vinyl siding on single family house

PRALLSVILLE MILLS

P.O. BOX 539

STOCKTON, NJ 08559-0539

609-397-2000

FAX: 609-397-1081

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**  
James C. Amon

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Benjamin B. Kirkland  
*Chairman*

Martin D. Jessen  
*Vice-Chairman*

Donald B. Jones  
*Treasurer*

Stuart R. Zaikov  
R. William Pauley

Judith A. Yaskin  
Frank J. Torpey

Winona D. Nash

The River's Edge Garages are 12 garage units in 2 buildings for residents of the River's Edge Apartments. Mrs. Nash suggested requiring landscape buffers as a condition for approval. Mr. Pauley moved approval of the project with the condition that an appropriate landscape buffer be planted at the time of construction, Mr. Jeseen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Kusant Residence's present exterior material is asphalt shingles; the applicant is proposing to replace them with vinyl siding. According to Mr. Amon, the house does not have any significant historic architectural features that will be affected by the vinyl siding, and he recommended approval. Mr. Zaikov moved approval of the Kusant Residence application, Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Dobbs presented the following "B" Zone projects:

- 89-1777 - Hilton Realty - Montgomery Twp.  
two 2-story buildings & one 1-story building plus  
expanded parking on 19+ acres; 21% impervious surface.
- 87-1367 - Rolling Hills - Franklin Twp., Somerset County  
101 townhouses, 144 garden apartments, 77 single family  
houses, two 2-story buildings on 101 acres;  
20% impervious coverage.

Mr. Dobbs stated that conditions for stormwater management and water quality protection had been met for all projects. Mr. Pauley moved approval of the two "B" Zone projects, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### PROPOSAL TO WIDEN EASTON AVENUE AT CEDAR GROVE AVENUE

The Somerset County Public Works Department is proposing to add a left turn lane to Easton Avenue at Cedar Grove Avenue; both sides of the road would be widened. According to Mr. Marshall of the County Engineering Department, approximately 20 mature trees would be removed on the canal side of the road. Mr. Amon said that this project does slightly increase the impact on the Canal Park side of Easton Avenue, but Somerset's design reflects an effort to reduce that impact. The road improvement is needed, Mr. Amon said, and no other effective mitigating measures are practical, so he recommended Commission approval. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the Easton Avenue widening, Mr. Zaikov seconded the approval, and it passed without dissent.

#### DISCUSSION OF GOALS AND PROJECTS FOR 1990 AND 1991

Mr. Amon reviewed goals and projects for 1990; he stated that the Port Mercer land acquisition proposal, consisting of 2000 acres in Princeton and Lawrence Township, is moving ahead. Due to continued budget limitations, development in the Canal Park has been slow, although a bill which allocates funds necessary for restoration of three canal houses has passed and is awaiting the Governor's signature. The goal to adopt the latest revision of the Review Zone Regulations was

completed in February of 1990.

Mr. Jessen suggested that the diversion of Trenton storm water be a goal for 1991. Mr. Gross stated that a contract would be let out soon for an Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Amon said that not much has been happening lately in regard to the Hunterdon County landfill, but that the County Solid Waste and Recycling Department is aware of the Commission's concerns. Mr. Jessen suggested notifying Middlesex County in order to discourage their proposal to put a landfill in Monroe Township, which is also upstream of the canal.

Mr. Amon reviewed 1990's projects: he is continuing work on a Scenic Road Addendum, plus meeting with state and local representatives about this issue. The first year of the Breeding Bird Survey was extremely successful. The project involving improved interpretation of the Canal Park has been slowed due mostly to a lack of funds.

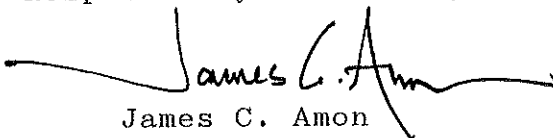
Mr. Amon then discussed goals and projects for 1991; besides continuing work on 1990's projects, he suggested two new projects--improving the Trenton portion of the Canal Park, and working with representatives of adjoining municipalities with their zoning regulations to enhance the park and surrounding areas.

Mr. Jessen felt that promoting the Canal Park in the Trenton school system was a good way to help Trentonians appreciate the park more. In regard to municipal zoning regulations, Mrs. Nash suggested helping municipalities implement tree ordinances.

Mr. Jessen suggested that another 1991 goal would be to continue improving relations and come to a better understanding with the Department of Transportation and the Office of New Jersey Heritage. Mr. Guidotti suggested that the Canal Commission work with the Historic Sites Council to support the Canal Park Master Plan and Development Guide, so that the philosophy of adaptive re-use may be better implemented. Mr. Kirkland suggested that there be a joint member of the Canal Commission and the Historic Sites Council. It was also suggested that Mr. Guidotti arrange a meeting between the staffs of the State Park Service, the Canal Commission, and the ONJH, so that these ideas could be discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James C. Amon