

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 APRIL 1991

TIME: 1:05 PM - 1:45 PM
DATE: Wednesday, 17 April 1991
PLACE: Muletenders' Barracks
Griggstown, NJ



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

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

STAFF: Messrs. Amon and Dobbs; Ms. Holms
Ms. Carol Blasi, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS: Donna Bundt, D & R Canal Watch
Lester and Laura Terhune, Griggstown Historical
Society
Bill Moss, Canal Society of NJ
Bill McKelvey, Friends of NJ RR & Trans. Museum
Kay & Larry Pitt, Canal Society of New Jersey
Abigail Barrows
Ursula S. Buchanan, Canal Coalition
Mary Tanner, D & R Canal Watch
John Kraml, Jr., NJ Div. of Parks and Forestry
Joe Bird
Barbara Thomsen, D & R Canal Watch
Sue Rightmire, Griggstown Historical Society
Lynn Hunt, D & R Canal Watch
Charlotte Wengel, Blackwells Mills Canal House
Association
Robert von Zumbusch
Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park
Sid Palius, River Road Association
Liz Palius, River Road Association
Ed Buss, NJ Water Supply Authority
Eugene Gross, NJ Water Supply Authority
Lawrence Tarantino, AIA, Millstone Planning Bd.

Before the meeting began, Mr. Amon informally discussed the relationship of the Griggstown area to the Canal Park. He reviewed Franklin Township's Canal Preservation Zone and Scenic Road Ordinance. He also discussed Montgomery Township's Open Space Plan and planning issues as they relate to River Road in Montgomery and Hillsborough. He talked about the status of Six Mile Run "Reservoir"--according to the latest Eastern Raritan Basin Water Supply Study, it is unlikely that the Six Mile Run area would be used for a reservoir. The Division of Parks and Forestry is currently looking at mixed usage--

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

Scott A. Weiner
Frank J. Torpey

Winona D. Nash
Douglas H. Palmer

recreational, agricultural, and historic preservation uses. Mr. Amon then reviewed land preservation efforts by D & R Greenway and Zarephath.

Mr. Palius said that River Road recently was designated an historic district. He also said that Bellemead Development Corporation is working on a design for a new intersection at River Road and Bellemead-Griggstown Road.

Mr. Tarantino asked whether the Commission could encourage the placement of a 4-way stop sign at the Blackwell's Mills causeway and Canal Road. He also asked whether a pedestrian bridge across the canal to Colonial Park would be possible. Mr. Amon replied that he has often suggested the stop sign to the Department of Transportation, so far with no results, and that Colonial Park is not in favor of a pedestrian bridge.

Mrs. Buchanan noted that one suggestion being looked into for use of the Six Mile Run Reservoir was a lake for swimming, with beach, bathhouse, etc. She felt that this area could not handle the resultant traffic.

Mr. Palius asked whether the Commission could endorse the placement of speed limit signs and a yield sign on the Griggstown Causeway. Mr. Amon said he could write to the County Freeholders; Mr. Kirkland suggested calling the County Engineer.

At 1:05 a quorum was attained. 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.

MINUTES

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the minutes of 20 March 1991, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent.

Mr. Marshall joined the meeting at 1:15 PM.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

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

91-1963 - Dome Salt Storage Building, Lawrence Township
NJ Dept. of Transportation project, not visible
from the Canal Park.

90-1885 - McAteer's Restaurant, Franklin Twp., Somerset Cty.
Addition to restaurant plus expanded parking.

Mr. Amon stated that Mr. Dobbs worked with county engineers on a storm water management system for the restaurant that would satisfy Canal Commission requirements. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the "A" Zone projects, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented two applications for waivers. In Kingston, a homeowner wishes to build a garden house and trellis in his back yard. Although within 1000 feet of the canal, it is not visible from the park, and Mr. Amon recommended waiving the project. In Franklin Township, Easton Avenue, MacDonald's is proposing a drive-through window. Mr. Amon stated that the impervious surface will be decreased by a small amount, and it is not visible from the Canal Park. Mrs. Nash asked whether the noise level would be increased. Mr. Amon felt that the noise level would not impact the park. Mr. Jessen moved waiving these two projects, Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Messrs. Jessen, Jones, Kirkland, Marshall, and Pauley voted in favor of the motion, Mrs. Nash voted against. The motion carried.

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

- 90-1902 - American College of Orgonomy, Franklin Twp.
Three 2-story buildings on 9 acres, 20% impervious surface.
- 90-1859 - Route 1 Car Wash, South Brunswick Township
1-story car wash on 4+ acres, 55% impervious surface.
- 91-1954 - Block Drug Warehouse, South Brunswick Township
2-story building with parking on 20 acres, 26% impervious surface.

Mr. Dobbs stated that stormwater management and water quality requirements had been met for all three projects. Mrs. Nash moved approval of the "B" Zone projects, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion; Messrs. Jones, Kirkland, Marshall, Pauley, and Mrs. Nash voted in favor of the motion with Mr. Jessen abstaining. The motion carried.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY PROJECTS

1. Landing Lane Spillway Reconstruction

The New Jersey Water Supply Authority is seeking concept approval from the Canal Commission to rebuild a spillway located near the Landing Lane Bridge. According to Mr. Amon, it has suffered damage from previous floods and has never been properly repaired. Less than half of the spillway is the original structure. The Water Supply Authority proposes to build a concrete wall with plank facing; they would rebuild the spillway using stones already there plus new ones to match. By raising the spillway two tenths of a foot higher than a spillway downstream, they would reduce flooding the path to occurrences directly after heavy rainstorms. Mr. Jessen moved concept approval of the spillway, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Spillways at Jacobs Creek and Scudders Falls

The construction of these spillways would be similar in design to that of the Landing Lane Spillway. The spillways are needed as a result of development in Ewing Township during the 1950's and 60's. Mr. Jessen moved concept approval of the two spillways, Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon requested the Commissioners pass a resolution recommending a 5% merit raise for Ms. Holms, retroactive to her anniversary date of April 8th. Mr. Jones moved approval of the resolution, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CANAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

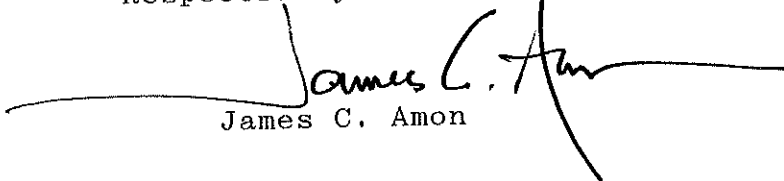
Mr. Stern announced that summer season maintenance work was underway; mowing, raking, pruning, etc.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Rightmire asked when the renovation of the residence across from the Muletenders' Barracks would be completed. Mr. Stern replied that the tenants have agreed to apply their rent money toward the restoration of the building, and that the exterior work required more than was currently available, but that work would be continuing. Mrs. Buchanan commented on the litter that fishermen leave in the Canal Park; Mr. Stern replied that signs are posted prohibiting litter, and that summons are issued when the offenses are discovered.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


James C. Amon