

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 MAY 1992

TIME: 12:20 PM - 2:20 PM  
DATE: Wednesday, 20 May 1992  
PLACE: City of Trenton Museum  
Cadwalader Park  
Trenton, NJ



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

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

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

GUESTS: Paul Stern, D & R Canal State Park  
Joe Bird  
Kay & Larry Pitt, Canal Society of NJ  
A. Gregory Chase, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Ursula Buchanan, D & R Canal Coalition  
Barbara Thomsen, D & R Canal Watch  
Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of NJ  
Lynn Hunt, D & R Canal Watch  
Erik Jetzt, Isles, Inc., D & R Canal Watch  
Jean Shaddow, City of Trenton  
Deborah Strauss, City of Trenton  
Chris Sturm, Capital City Redevelop. Corp.  
Laura Palumbo, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Ed Buss, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Robert von Zumbusch

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. Zaikov moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of 18 April 1992; Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Dobbs presented one "B" Zone project for reapproval:

88-1726 - Heritage Park at Cranbury  
Cranbury Township, Middlesex County  
115 single family houses on 102 acres with 24%  
impervious coverage.

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

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
James J. Florio, Governor Scott A. Weiner, Commissioner

Mr. Dobbs recommended renewal of the approval for this project. Mr. Dobbs then presented the following new "B" Zone projects for approval:

91-2008 - Kingwood School Addition  
Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County  
1-story addition on 16+ acres with 14% impervious increase.

Mr. Dobbs stated that a 350-foot wooded area, including a 100-foot deed-restricted buffer, would provide for stormwater management in lieu of detention basins. Mr. Kirkland asked what would happen if the woods were disturbed in the future. Mr. Amon stated that any future building would have to come before the Commission, and that presently, the 100-foot buffer satisfies current Commission stormwater management requirements.

92-2029 - Princeton Ridge Section 3B  
Princeton Township, Mercer County  
22 single family houses on 94+ acres with 5% impervious surface and 67+ acres open space.

90-1942 - Pondview  
Princeton Township, Mercer County  
31 single family houses and 14 townhouses on 72 acres with 11% impervious coverage.

91-1961 - Springmeadow Estates  
Ewing Township, Mercer County  
80 single family clustered houses and 102 townhouses on 61+ acres with 21% impervious coverage and 30% open space.

87-1568 - Bridle Club  
Hopewell Township, Mercer County  
598 housing units on 186+ acres with 23% impervious area and 36+ acres open space.

Mr. Dobbs stated that all of the new applications met the Canal Commission's regulations and recommended approval. Mr. Zaikov moved approval of the "B" Zone projects. Mr. Jessen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY PROJECT

Mr. Amon reviewed plans for two overbank spillways for which the Commission had previously approved preliminary plans. One would be located at Jacob's Creek in Ewing Township, and the other downstream of Scudder's Falls bridge over the canal. According to the Water Supply Authority, a 100-year storm could cause water to spill over canal banks and over the path in these areas. The proposal is to raise the bank slightly plus install gabion baskets covered with topsoil and seeded in two places. Some trees will be cleared for the installation of the gabion baskets, and there will

be slight depressions in the multi-use path. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the project, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY TRENTON HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND CAPITAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ON INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE THE CANAL PARK IN TRENTON

Ms. Diane Strauss reviewed plans that several government agencies are working on with regard to improving the downtown area where the canal runs from Calhoun Street to Route 1. The Trenton Department of Housing and Development and the Capital City Redevelopment Corporation are conducting a large-scale plan to see how the Canal Park can function more effectively as a park in this area, and how it can help pull the neighborhood together. Ms. Strauss displayed a map showing publicly-owned land and abandoned properties adjacent to the Canal Park that could possibly be used for park expansion. The plan would also help determine how best to use incoming funds for Trenton improvement projects.

Mr. Amon reviewed current improvement projects: Isles-sponsored clean-up days, improvements to the Canal Park opposite the PSE&G generating station, and the possibility of one million dollars from a federal transportation act slated for completing the multi-use path in Trenton and Lambertville.

Mr. von Zumbusch said that the plan was encouraging and that it was similar to the Commission's Development Plan. He said that a commitment was needed from both the Canal Commission and the City. He also suggested extending the plan to link the old canal to the abandoned section of the canal in Bordentown.

Mr. Torpey moved approval of a resolution that supports the plan, stating that it is compatible with Canal Commission plans. Mr. Zaikov seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Palmer joined the meeting at 1:15. Mayor Palmer stated that he was pleased with the cooperation thus far between the City and the Canal Commission; he also stated that, in regard to the canal, it was his position that the fences must come down, and that this is something the City would continue to work on.

Mrs. Thomsen asked how much electromagnetic radiation would be produced by the expanded generating station in Trenton near the Canal Park. Mr. Amon said he would look into it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon spoke of a new organization, the East Coast Greenway, that is trying to make a continuous bike trail from Boston to Washington D.C., and would be using a section of the Canal Park toward this purpose. The Greenway requested a letter of support. Mr. McKelvey suggested that the East Coast Greenway include the entire Canal Park on their trail map. Mr. Torpey moved approval of

a resolution stating that the Canal Commission is in favor of this proposal; Mr. Zaikov seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Stern stated that the maintenance crew was starting its first mowing cycle. A summer interpretive specialist has been hired and will be staffing the Griggstown Muletender's Barracks on Saturdays and Sundays. Mr. Stern reviewed progress that Somerset County was making on drainage improvements along Weston Canal Road, noting that a staging area in the park is not back to pre-construction condition yet, which was a condition of the Commission's Approval for this project. He said he would remind the County of this condition.

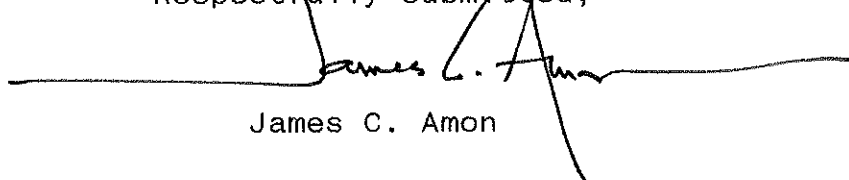
Mrs. Nash asked whether the path on the east side of the canal between Baker's Basin Road and Route 1 could be cleared of poison ivy. Mr. Stern said it was impossible to get a mower in that section.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Buchanan commented on the destruction of the bluffs between Griggstown and Route 518, by badly designed development.

Mr. Bird noted that a requirement of Commission approval for expansion of a tire store in Trenton was the planting of trees along Passaic Street, but that no trees had been planted yet. Mr. Amon said he would pursue the matter right away.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Amon", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

James C. Amon