MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 1995

TIME: 12:10 PM to 1:15 PM
DATE: Wednesday, October 18, 1995
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
        Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Barker, Jessen, Kirkland, Pauley,
                Torpey, Zaitkov; Mrs. Nash, Ms. Goodspeed,
                Ms. Shaddow (representative for Mayor Palmer)

STAFF: Mr. Amon, Ms. Holms
       Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS: Kay & Larry Pitt, Canal Society of New Jersey
        Thomas A. Price, NJ Water Supply Authority
        Fred Brown, D&R Canal Watch
        Paul Stern, D&R Canal State Park
        Linda House, Canal Society of New Jersey
        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

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the minutes of September 20th;
Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Amon presented six "B" Zone applications for approval:

95-2202 - First Property Group - Lawrence Twp.
         17 single family homes on 9.6 acres with one
detention basin.

95-2128A - Six Mile Run Village C - Franklin Twp., Somerset
          County.
          63 single family houses on 60+ acres with one
detention basin.

95-2235 - Mercer County Juvenile Detention Center - Ewing Twp.
          new detention center on 6.04 acres with one
detention basin.
90-1883A - Executive Place Golf Center - Hillsborough Twp. golf driving range on 52+ acres with approximately 1.3 acres of impervious surface; runoff to be managed by swales and a wetland area.

95-2225 - Forsgate S-124 - South Brunswick Twp. 340,099 square foot warehouse with 367 parking spaces on 33.4+ acres.

95-2237 - Forsgate S-128A - South Brunswick Twp. relocation of Thatcher Road and existing detention basin. Basin to be redesigned.

Mr. Amon said that in regard to the last project, Forsgate S-128A, he would recommend approval with the following conditions: 1) the applicant shall prove that the site was a farm field prior to development, and 2) should the DRCC Review Zone Officer determine that it is necessary, the applicant shall supply new drawings demonstrating that the basin has been enlarged. He recommended approval for the remaining five "B" Zone projects. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the six "B" Zone projects, with the conditions as stated for Forsgate S-128A; Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPMENT, ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Amon explained to the Commissioners how he would be conducting the two public meetings about the Development, Acquisition and Management Plan, and asked for their comments. He mentioned that a horseback-riders’ group would be coming to the Stockton meeting to voice their complaint about the present ban on horseback riding along the feeder canal. Mr. Stern said that it would cost $23,000 per mile to resurface the multi-use trail, making it cost prohibitive to allow horseback riding on this section of the Canal Park.

Mr. Torpey joined the meeting at 12:45 PM.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Amon reported several items of good news. He said that according to the attorney representing the Yorkshire Village developers, Mr. Anthony Vaccaro may be able to move his house to another location on the property. He said that the contractor for the Provinceline Road bridge has requested using real stone for facing on the concrete bridge abutments, instead of artificial stone facing.

Mr. Amon also reported that the New Jersey Department of Transportation contacted him to see if the Canal Park had any paths that needed to be constructed, to be paid for as part of funds coming from a "congestion mitigation fund" which specifies that the
money be used to build recreational and commuting paths. He recommended a new path to be built on the eastern side of the canal from Alexander Road to the Millstone Aqueduct, along with two bridges to connect the path to the western side.

Mr. Amon said that a landowner has agreed to give the D&R Greenway 230 acres of land next to the canal in Franklin Township. The D&R Greenway would then turn it over to the State, but it would be managed under a 10-year lease by Rutgers as part of the university’s successional forest research project.

Finally, Mr. Amon reported that PSE&G has offered to repair damaged rail along the Canal Park in Trenton.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Stern said that the maintenance staff was repairing wood roofs on several park structures, plus they were repairing the footings of the Kingston Bridgetender’s Station which had termite damage. They are also repairing the Zarephath Canal House water supply system, and beginning their field mowings. Campsites are being renovated at Bull’s Island, and gates along the multi-use path are being repaired. Mr. Stern reported that there were several walk events in Franklin Township.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Amon