

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1996

TIME: 12:15 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.
DATE: Wednesday, September 18, 1996
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Pauley, Torpey;
Ms. Goodspeed and Mrs. Nash
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General
GUESTS: Kay & Larry Pitt, Canal Society of New Jersey
Linda J. House, Canal Society of New Jersey
Thomas A. Price, NJ Water Supply Authority
Joe Bird
Bill McKelvey, Friends of NJ RR & Transportation Museum
David Byers, NJ Dept. of Transportation
Cindy Bloom, NJ Dept. of Transportation
Paul Stern, D&R Canal State Park
Tom O'Shea, Van Note-Harvey Associates

Mr. Torpey 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 the approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 21, 1996; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented one lease application: the Division of Parks and Forestry is proposing to lease the Calhoun Street Bridgetender's House in Trenton to the City of Trenton, who will sublet it to a non-profit organization called "Visions", a group that works with community youth. The lease is for one year. Mrs. Nash moved the approval of the lease; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRALLSVILLE MILLS P.O. BOX 539 STOCKTON, NJ 08559-0539 609-397-2000 FAX: 609-397-1081

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR James C. Amon	COMMISSIONERS Frank J. Torpey Chairman	Martin D. Jessen Vice-Chairman	Winona D. Nash Treasurer	Sam Herzog R. William Pauley	Robert C. Shinn, Jr. Benjamin B. Kirkland	Douglas H. Palmer Marfy Goodspeed
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NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Christine Todd Whitman, Governor Robert C. Shinn, Jr. Commissioner

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon presented three "B" Zone applications:

87-0332D - South Brunswick Industrial Park - South Brunswick Township
96-2272 - Northeast Great Dane - Hillsborough Township
96-2269 - Part of Lot 3.01 & 3.02 - Millstone Township, Monmouth County

Mr. Amon said that the application for South Brunswick Industrial Park is for re-approval--the original Certificate of Approval will expire on December 31, 1996. It involves the construction of two buildings and parking on a previously-approved 104-acre site; the existing detention basin will manage stormwater runoff. The application called Northeast Great Dane is for a proposed expansion of an existing building and parking area on 17.5 acres with one detention basin. A stream corridor will be protected by easement. The project requires a Stream Encroachment permit, therefore, Mr. Amon recommended it be waived from review of stormwater management. The third application is for construction of 35 single family homes on 88.57 acres with one detention basin managing stormwater runoff. This project also contains a stream corridor. Mr. Amon recommended all three projects be approved, with a condition for 96-2269 whereby an acceptable conservation easement for the stream corridor be recorded before the Certificate of Approval is released. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the three "B" Zone applications with the above-mentioned condition for 96-2269; Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon presented two "A" Zone applications:

96-2303 - Hanover Street Canal House Restoration - Trenton
96-2304 - Scheier Residence Addition - Stockton

Mr. Amon said that the City of Trenton is proposing to restore the bridgetender's house on Hanover Street in accordance with historic photographs of the building, and use it as an office. He said that the Scheier addition is a partial second-story addition that will not be higher than any surrounding residences, and will not create a harmful visual impact on the Canal Park. He recommended approval. Mr. Herzog moved approval of the two "A" Zone projects; Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented a third "A" Zone application:

96-2305 - Route One Roadside Rehabilitation - Trenton and Lawrence Township

Mr. Amon said that the NJ Department of Transportation is proposing to make landscape improvements on Route One between Perry Street in Trenton and Carnegie Road in Lawrence Township. They will remove weedy vegetation and plant trees, shrubs and grasses. Mr. Byers gave a more detailed presentation of the proposal. He added that they would remove debris and

graffiti on walls near Whitehead Road, plus plant flower beds and evergreen screening. Mr. Amon recommended the project be approved with the stipulation that the application of herbicide be approved by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the Route One Landscaping project with the above-mentioned condition; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented two applications for waiver from the Stream Corridor Impact Regulation. The Princeton Theological Seminary is proposing to build new student housing in West Windsor adjacent to the floodplain of the Stony Brook. West Windsor Township has required the applicant to place a "greenbelt" easement on land that includes the floodplain. A sewer easement presently exists next to the greenbelt. The DRCC 100-foot buffer incorporates part of the greenbelt and sewer easement, but also extrudes beyond the sewer easement in two small areas. Mr. Amon said that because the township's greenbelt was larger than the designated DRCC stream corridor, he recommended that a waiver from strict compliance with the stream corridor impact regulation be given with the understanding that the Canal Commission would hold an easement that encompassed the township's greenbelt. Mr. Jessen moved waiving the application from strict compliance of the stream corridor impact regulation; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Eden Institute in West Windsor also requested a waiver from strict compliance of the Commission's stream corridor impact regulation. Mr. Amon explained that a portion of the Millstone River's floodplain covers a small area across Harrison Street on the 8.3-acre site that the Institute is proposing to build. Mr. Amon said that the applicant has reduced the original amount of parking and plans to remove a house that presently exists in the stream corridor. He also said that they will preserve a copse of large trees on the property. He recommended the application be waived from strict compliance of the stream corridor impact regulation. Mr. Herzog moved waiving the application from strict compliance with the stream corridor impact regulation, Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CANAL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Amon distributed a list of improvement projects from the Commission's DEVELOPMENT, ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN. He said that of the 32 projects listed, 18 had already been started. He also said that before any development could be implemented, it must be assured that there are enough resources available for maintenance of the project.

A lengthy discussion about volunteers and maintenance ensued. Several Commissioners requested a list of volunteer groups that currently help the Canal Park, and a list of maintenance needs and problems. The Commissioners agreed to schedule a retreat to further discuss this issue.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Amon reported that Trap Rock Industries completed their improvement projects to the Canal Park, but that there were problems with the new path. Because berms were installed next to the path, water is washing down onto the path and washing the path's stone dust into the canal. Trap Rock has agreed to dig ditches and install pipes to help solve the problem.

He also reported that the Safety Study Commission met with the Department of Transportation, and according to Mr. Kirkland, who represented the Canal Commission, the Safety Study Report was received very favorably. Ms. Goodspeed said that she attended a press conference regarding the report which also went well.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

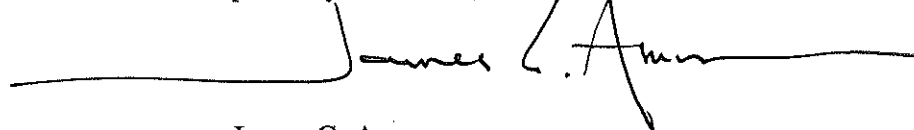
Mr. Stern said that mowing was continuing and equipment was being repaired. He said that employees of Bristol Myer Squibb have volunteered to paint the Muletender's Barracks and plant shrubs at Bull's Island. He also said that sections of Six Mile Run had to be re-posted for hunting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. House commented on plans for the rehabilitation of the double outlet lock in New Brunswick.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James C. Amon', written over a horizontal line.

James C. Amon