

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 18, 1997

TIME: 12:15 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.
DATE: Wednesday, June 18, 1997
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Torpey; Ms. Goodspeed and Mrs. Nash
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General
GUESTS: Paul Stern, D&R Canal State Park
Jeff Douglass, NJ Water Supply Authority
Linda House, Canal Society of New Jersey

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 approval of the minutes of May 21, 1997; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented three permit applications. The Trenton Stone Corporation in Ewing has requested a special use permit from the Division of Parks and Forestry to use Canal Park property for accessing their stone yard. Mr. Stern said that part of their building is also on Canal Park property, as well as approximately 100 square feet of stone stockpiles. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the permit, Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The U.S. Geological Survey has requested permission from the Division of Parks and Forestry to install a gauging station on the Millstone River downstream of the Griggstown Causeway. It will consist of a box buried under the bank which is connected to a wire in the stream that will record the flow and height of the river, plus a 10-foot-tall pole with a radio transmitter to transmit the information. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the USGS permit; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

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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

Mr. Amon then described a Water Supply Authority project involving a weir that was built downstream of the confluence of the Raritan and Millstone Rivers for the purpose of raising the water level for withdrawal. He said that the whirl created by the weir has caused several drownings. The Water Supply Authority is proposing to install gabion baskets so that the water going over the weir will come down more gradually. Mr. Herzog moved approval of this proposal; Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

Mr. Amon presented the following "A" review zone projects:

97-2363 - Ceperley Residence Addition - Hopewell Township

Mr. Amon said that the proposed one-story addition in Titusville will replace an existing deck. It will be about 50 feet from the Canal Park path with a dense hedgerow screening it from the park. He recommended approval.

97-2222A - Windrows at Princeton Forrestal Center - Plainsboro Township

This previously-approved project has been revised, whereby one large detention basin is being proposed in place of three smaller ones. A wide buffer and road separate the project from the Canal Park. The Commission's Review Zone Officer, Ms. Guru, determined that the revised plans meet the Commission's standards for stormwater management and water quality, and recommended approval.

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the two "A" Zone projects, Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented an application for waiver from review:

Route 29 at Willow Street - Trenton

The Department of Transportation is proposing to improve traffic movements on Route 29 near Willow Street in Trenton. It is not visible from the Canal Park and drains directly into the Delaware River. Mr. Amon recommended that it be waived from review. Mr. Jessen moved waiver of the D.O.T. application from review; Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented five "B" Zone project applications for approval:

95-2261 Regal Theatre - North Brunswick Township
New movie theater and townhouses on 49 acres with one detention basin
managing stormwater runoff.

- 96-2310 St. Joseph Church Addition - Millstone Borough
Building additions, two new buildings, parking lot expansion and enlargement of an existing detention basin.
- 97-2359 Auten Road Elementary School - Hillsborough Township
New school on 49 acres with one detention basin.
- 97-2335 Assisted Living Associates of Hillsborough - Hillsborough Township
2-story assisted living facility on a 5.38-acre lot with one detention basin.
- 97-2358 Village Grande at Bear Creek - West Windsor Township
540 houses with 6 detention basins on 283.8 acres. The project requires a Stream Encroachment permit--Mr. Amon recommended that it be waived from stormwater impact review. The applicant previously received a waiver from strict compliance with the Commission's Stream Corridor Impact regulation. The Commission has not yet received a Conservation Easement for the stream corridor, therefore, Mr. Amon recommended the approval be conditioned upon receipt of an acceptable easement.

With the above-stated condition and waiver for the Village Grande at Bear Creek, Mr. Herzog moved approval of the five "B" Zone projects; Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon referred to a memo that had been distributed to the Commissioners regarding the length of the Canal Park. He said that after discussing it with Chief Ranger John Auciello, they both agreed that declaring the Canal Park to be 70 miles long was as accurate as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Amon reported that the Canal Commission has hired a part-time secretary to work two days per week. Mr. Torpey reported that public hearings for the Somerset County open space tax referendum had been well attended, and that by a large majority, comments have been in support of the tax.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Stern said that funds from the National Trail Systems have been obtained for making trail improvements and installing courtesy signs. He said that the new Route 202 parking lot has been fenced and will be landscaped soon.

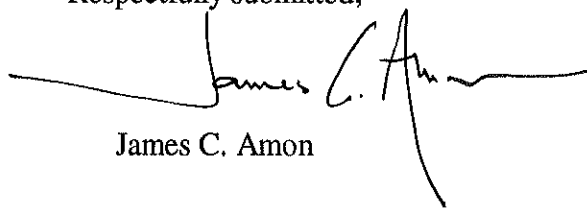
Mr. Marshall showed the Commissioners a newly-published camping directory and a final draft of the Division's STATE WIDE INTERPRETIVE PLAN. He said that the legislature has approved the use of Green Acres bond funds for park development--\$3 million will go to the Canal Park. He also said that a "Volunteer" bill has been introduced that would allow volunteers working in parks to be covered by worker's compensation. Public hearings have been held by the Governor's Council for New Jersey Outdoors regarding dedicated funding for the protection of natural and historic resources. Mr. Marshall also reported on a new "Corporate Partners Program" which has generated \$200,000 in donations from corporations.

PUBLIC FORUM

Linda House reported that she will be preparing Water Supply Authority maps of the canal for microfilming at the State Archives--this work is being funded by a Canal Society of New Jersey grant.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Amon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the left and a vertical line extending downwards from the end.

James C. Amon