

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 16, 1997

TIME: 12:15 P.M. - 2:10 P.M.  
DATE: July 16, 1997  
PLACE: Canal Commission Office  
Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Jessen, Pauley, Torpey; Ms. Armstrong and Mrs. Nash  
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms  
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General  
GUESTS: Kay and Larry Pitt, Canal Society of NJ  
Bill McKelvey, Friends of NJRR & Transportation  
Museum  
Tom Hall, Hall Wallace  
Brian Flannery, Flannery, Webb & Hansen  
J. Towle, Calton Homes  
Linda House, Canal Society of New Jersey  
Ed Buss, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Joanne Chrestos, D&R Canal State Park

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

Due to a lack of a quorum, it was agreed to postpone approval of the minutes of June 18, 1997 until the next meeting.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon presented the following "A" Zone application for waiver of visual impact review:

Coe Residence Addition - Lambertville

He said that the proposed addition and deck will not be seen from the Canal Park and recommended waiver. Mr. Jessen moved approval of waiving the application from visual impact review; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion. Messrs. Jessen, Pauley, Torpey and Mrs. Nash voted in favor of the motion; Ms. Armstrong abstained. There being no quorum, the application for waiver was tabled.

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.  
Caroline J. S. Armstrong

Douglas H. Palmer  
Marfy Goodspeed

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Christine Todd Whitman, *Governor* Robert C. Shinn, Jr. *Commissioner*

Mr. Amon then presented two "B" Zone applications:

96-2292 - Marriott Princeton Courtyard - Plainsboro Township

Mr. Amon said that the project would require a Stream Encroachment permit and therefore recommended waiving it from Canal Commission review of stormwater management and water quality. He said that the applicant has agreed to connect a proposed path from the hotel to an existing path in the Canal Park at the Millstone Aqueduct, and recommended approving the application with the condition that the applicant submit plans that show the paths and connection.

97-2336 - Howell Sand & Gravel Residences - Millstone Township

Mr. Amon said this was a proposal to construct 43 houses on 94.86 acres with two detention basins to manage stormwater runoff, and recommended approval. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the two "B" Zone projects, Mr. Pauley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Calton Homes at Montgomery - Montgomery Township

Mr. Amon then presented an application for waiver of strict compliance with the Commission's Stream Corridor Impact regulation. He said that the applicant had presented plans previously to the Commission showing substantial intrusion into the stream corridor. Their amended plans show townhouses totaling  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of intrusion into the corridor, along with detention basins, considered a conditional use in the stream corridor. In mitigation for the intrusion, the applicant has proposed preserving 2.55 acres on the other side of the stream. Mr. Amon felt the applicant had made a commendable effort with their revision and recommended approval. Mr. Jessen moved approval of waiving the project from strict compliance with the Stream Corridor Impact regulation; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### DISCUSSION OF SIGN PROGRAM FOR CANAL PARK

Mr. Amon said that Ms. Cathy Drake of the Division of Parks and Forestry had planned to discuss a new corporate donor/interpretive sign program being initiated by the Division, but requested postponing the discussion until August's meeting.

#### REVIEW OF WSA PLANS FOR LOCKATONG CREEK SPILLWAY RESTORATION

Mr. Amon said that in recent years the Water Supply Authority has had to make emergency repairs on the Lockatong spillway because flooding had damaged it. The spillway is a wooden crib with rubble stone inside and cut stone on top. The Water Supply Authority proposes to replace the wooden crib with a concrete core, but restore the cut stone on top. Mr. Jessen recommended that as part of the project an interpretive sign about spillways be installed. He moved approval of the conceptual design of the spillway restoration, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon reported that a previously-approved embankment repair project would not require the proposed use of a helicopter to fly in materials, because of its excessive cost.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Torpey spoke of the recent \$65,000 appropriation the Canal Commission received to be used for strengthening links between the Canal Park and the natural and cultural resources within the 22 adjoining municipalities. He said this project reflected one of the main goals discussed at the January retreat, that of establishing partnerships with the canal's adjoining municipalities. Mr. Amon recommended that a meeting of the Commission's Technical Advisory Committee be convened as a first step in determining the project's direction. Mr. Torpey recommended that some of the Commissioners attend this meeting. Mrs. Nash and he agreed to participate.

Mr. Amon announced that Senate Bill 2021 passed on July 10, appropriating 1.8 million dollars for park improvements to the D&R Canal State Park. This would include improving roads, driveways, and parking lots; a new office and sanitary station at Bull's Island, improving the Belle Mead maintenance building, clearing and resurfacing the towpath, improving the Bull's Island playground, and demolishing some structures. He said the bill also appropriated 1.5 million dollars toward the relocation of Rockingham.

A discussion ensued about the \$450,000 settlement awarded the State by the Sun Pipeline Company as a result of the pipeline fire eleven years ago. Mr. Amon said that plans for landscape restoration were being discussed and would be presented at the August or September meeting.

## CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

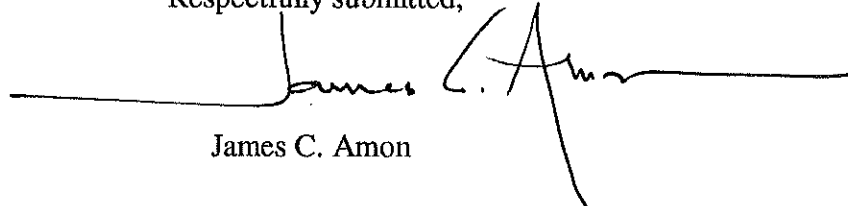
The Commissioners discussed methods of counting park visitors with Chief Ranger Chrestos.

## PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. House said that she and Mr. McKelvey recently toured canals in Ohio and were impressed by their interpretive signs. She said that she and other members of the Canal Society of New Jersey would like to see more funding geared toward interpretive signage on the D&R. She also asked about the status of planning for a canal boat ride. After a brief discussion it was agreed that more should be done to establish a ride on the D&R.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Amon