MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 1998

TIME:

12:15 P.M. - 2:15 P.M.

DATE:

Wednesday, October 21, 1998

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Barker, Herzog, Jessen, Pauley, Torpey; Ms. Armstrong,

Ms. Goodspeed and Mrs. Nash

STAFF:

Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms

Ms. Barbara Conklin, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS:

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority

Susan Herron, D&R Canal State Park Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of NJ Nathan Allison, Amertech Engineering

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 September 16, 1998; Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. Ms. Armstrong, Mr. Herzog, Mr. Jessen, Mrs. Nash, Mr. Pauley, and Mr. Torpey voted in favor of the motion; Ms. Goodspeed and Mr. Barker abstained. The motion carried.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented a permit application to install a monitoring well on North Warren Street in Trenton for the purpose of monitoring potential petroleum contamination. The well would be next to the park path, and the well's cap would be flush with the ground. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the permit, Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon presented two "A" Zone applications for approval:

98-2214A - Carhart/Hollosy Residence Addition - Hopewell Township

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 Martin D. Jessen
Chairman Vice-Chairman

Winona D. Nash

Sam Herzog R. William Pauley Robert C. Shinn, Jr. Caroline J. S. Armstrong Douglas H. Palmer Marfy Goodspeed Mr. Amon said that an attic addition is being proposed for a house that is on the opposite side of Route 29 from the Canal Park, at the top of a slope with mature trees and approximately 300 feet from the canal. He said that the proposed addition is in harmony with the architecture of the building and will not be intrusive on the Canal Park.

98-2349A - Maxwell Assets - Lambertville

This project was previously approved with the condition that a landscape screen be installed along the rear fence line of the property which abuts the Canal Park; the new application stipulates that a row of Arborvitae will be planted.

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the two "A" Zone projects; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented an "A" Zone application for waiver from visual impact review:

98-2484 - Ritchie Residence Garage - Franklin Township

The applicant is proposing to construct a one-story 22' x 14' garage in place of a barn, approximately 800 feet from the Canal Park and screened by existing buildings, topography and vegetation. Mr. Jessen moved waiving the project from visual impact review; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

98-0779F - Greenbriar at Whittingham Village 3.3 - Monroe Township; 206 single family residences with 21.25 acres of new impervious surface; 2 retention ponds on an adjacent site will manage stormwater runoff and water quality.

98-2432 - Affordable Self Storage - West Amwell Township; a self storage facility with a total impervious coverage of 3.15 acres on 8.96 acres; one detention basin will manage runoff.

98-2441 - Faculty Road Parking Lot - Princeton Township; a 150-car parking lot and regional detention basin to manage stormwater runoff from this and other Princeton University sites.

98-2457 - Zaitz Subdivision - Cranbury Township; 9 single family houses and one detention basin on 35.38 acres. A stream corridor will be protected by farmland preservation restrictions; the detention basin is being proposed to be constructed within the corridor.

Mr. Amon said that the Zaitz Subdivision application is being reviewed by DEP's Stream Encroachment Division and therefore recommended it be waived from review of stormwater management. He also recommended it be approved conditioned upon receipt of county approval.

98-2496 - Pump Station #7 Improvements - East Windsor Township; construction of a concrete vault, and installation of equipment for the pumping station.

Ms. Goodspeed moved approval of the five "B" Zone applications with the condition as recommended for the Zaitz Subdivision; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented an application for waiver from strict compliance with the Commission's Stream Corridor Impact Regulation:

98-2492 - Route 206 Car Wash - Montgomery Township

Mr. Amon said that the car wash was previously approved by the Commission and that a maintenance easement for the detention basin had been filed with the County Clerk. The applicant proposes to expand the car wash, and also rehabilitate and expand the detention basin. The new project is not, by definition, a major project, and would not be subject to review by the Canal Commission; however, because the Canal Commission holds an easement for the upkeep of the original basin, the Commission has the authority to review and approve the modifications made to the basin according to regulations that are currently in place. The applicant, therefore, requests that the Canal Commission allow expansion of the car wash (13,000 square feet) into the stream corridor. The basin will be rehabilitated and expanded in accordance with the Commission's standards for stormwater management. Mr. Herzog moved approval of waiving the Route 206 Car Wash from strict compliance with the Commission's Stream Corridor Impact Regulation; Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF CELEBRATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE CANAL PARK

The Commissioners held a lengthy discussion about the upcoming 25th anniversary of the D&R Canal State Park, and made many suggestions regarding ways to celebrate the event. Ideas included "piggybacking" onto other local events, such as the Lambertville Historical Society's house tour. The Commissioners asked Superintendent Herron to research her Special Use Permit files and compile a list of organizations that hold events in the Canal Park. Other ideas were to publish a calendar of events, hold more ribbon-cutting ceremonies for completion of path segments, invite non-profit groups to put up information tables at events, exhibit historic postcards next to present-day photos of the canal, and hold fishing contests, canal art shows, historic house tours, and photo contests. Many other ideas were considered, and it was also suggested that the Commission look for ways to hire a temporary part-time employee to help plan and implement them. Mr. Torpey advised establishing a sub-committee that would be in charge of fundraising. The Commissioners agreed to meet again in order to focus on some of the ideas discussed.

Messrs. Jessen and Herzog left at 2:15 PM.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon said that Mr. Hoebel was currently pursuing a steamboat ride concession on the Delaware River that would feature educational programs on history and science.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Torpey suggested that the Commissioners hold another retreat in early 1999. He also spoke about the Open Space Referendum in the upcoming election.

CANAL STATE PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Herron said that she was starting to get acquainted with the park and with groups that are involved with the park. She said she was surprised to learn that funding for maintenance for the Canal Park was less than that for a smaller park that she had previously managed. She summarized a myriad of activities that took place in the park in September and October.

Mr. Shepherd said that the Water Supply Authority has started dredging near Griggstown and Stockton. The Lockatong Spillway repair is nearly complete, and the rehabilitation of the 4-Mile Spillway and Colonial Park culvert is underway.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Amon