



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 1999

TIME: 12:10 P.M. - 2:35 P.M.
DATE: Wednesday, January 20, 1999
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Pauley, Torpey; Ms. Armstrong,
Ms. Goodspeed, and Mrs. Nash

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

GUESTS: Susan Herron, D&R Canal State Park
Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of NJ
Stanley Cutler, Lanfrit, Liscinski & Rossenwasser
Carl Loutzenheiser, NJ Water Supply Authority
John Chadwick, Canal Walk Associates
Anatol Hiller, Canal Walk Associates
David J. Minno, Minno & Wasko Architects
William J. Cerynik, State Park Service Central Region

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.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER

Mr. Torpey moved that Mr. Jessen serve as Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Nash serve as Treasurer; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the minutes of December 16, 1998 and Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. Ms. Armstrong, Mr. Herzog, Mr. Jessen, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Pauley, Mrs. Nash and Mr. Torpey voted in favor of the motion; Ms. Goodspeed abstained. The motion passed.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Mr. Amon presented the following "A" Zone application for approval:

99-2512 - Josten Residence Deck - Franklin Township, Somerset County

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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.
Caroline J. S. Armstrong

Douglas H. Palmer
Marfy Goodspeed

Mr. Amon said that the applicant is proposing to replace an existing deck with a new one which is approximately 900 feet from the Canal Park and will be screened by the house and trees. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the Josten Deck; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon presented two "B" Zone applications:

98-2495 - Rosedale Mills - Hopewell Township

Conversion of bank building site into a retail store site on 3.91 acres with one detention basin.

98-2455 - Homestead Village Hotel - West Windsor Township

Construction of a 92-unit hotel on 14.9 acres with two detention basins.

Mr. Amon said that Ms. Guru had determined that the applications met the Commission's stormwater regulations. Ms. Goodspeed moved approval of the two "B" Zone projects; Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented an "A" Zone project for general development plan approval:

97-2337 - Canal Walk - Franklin Township, Somerset County

Mr. Chadwick described the proposed project for adult residential housing, which would have a maximum of 1,261 dwelling units on Weston Canal Road across from the Canal Park in Franklin Township. He said that the farmhouses fronting the property would remain, and that a buffer from 200 to 1,000 feet would help visually shield the park from the development. An existing hedgerow and forested area would also be preserved. As part of Phase I of the proposal, the applicant will renovate the State-owned Weston Canal House at the Weston causeway. Mr. Amon prepared a draft resolution for comments, and suggested adding a provision that ensures that the canal house renovation is part of Phase I of the development. Mr. Weyl suggested that the resolution identify the minimum buffer, and that it refer to the preservation of woodlands to the maximum extent possible. He also suggested that language be added to ensure that the farmsteads be preserved. Mr. Marshall requested that the resolution state that the plans for the rehabilitation of the Weston Canal House be approved by the Division of Parks and Forestry and the Historic Sites Council, in addition to the Canal Commission. With those additions, Mr. Jessen moved approval of the resolution approving the General Development Plan for Canal Walk; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. It was agreed that the Commissioners would review the final resolution at the next meeting.

REVIEW OF WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY PLAN FOR WASHINGTON CROSSING SPILLWAY RESTORATION

Mr. Amon described concept plans proposed by the Water Supply Authority to restore the Washington Crossing spillway. He said that a gate used to control overflow is not able to be closed completely. The Authority is proposing to repair it and install a control mechanism so that the gates can be opened and closed by phone, instead of onsite. He said that the concrete walls of the spillway will be resurfaced, the splash pad will be realigned, and the stone walls will be rehabilitated. He expressed concern that the historic cobblestone surface on the splash pad was being harmfully impacted by vegetation and had suggested that it be grouted. The Water Supply Authority, however, maintains that if it were grouted properly, the cobblestones would not be able to be seen.

After further discussion about solutions for preserving the cobblestone surface, Mr. Herzog moved approval of the concept plan for the repair of the Washington Crossing Spillway with the proviso that the cobblestone surface of the splash pad be maintained so that it will retain its historic condition. Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon reported that New Jersey Transit has agreed to build a pedestrian walkway next to the proposed Crosswicks Creek railroad trestle, and that an agreement has been reached with the Yacht Club to provide access to the walkway from Bordentown.

He also reported that the Department of Transportation is building a path from Lock 2 to Trenton as part of the Route 29 work. They have also begun plans for a riverfront walk to Calhoun Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Torpey commented on the Governor's proposal to appropriate 3½ million dollars for new staff for the Division of Parks and Forestry.

Mr. Torpey asked the Commissioners for comments on the draft Annual Report. Mr. Pauley suggested mentioning the Governor's bicycle tour last summer on the towpath. Mrs. Nash noticed reference to path rehabilitation in West Windsor, and expressed concern that the proposed path from the Nassau Park Pavilion to the Canal Park would never be built. Ms. Armstrong suggested that the section on the 25th anniversary be more inspirational, and that the status of the State Plan be mentioned.

Mr. Amon asked that the Commissioners change the date of March's meeting. The Commissioners agreed to move it to March 10.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

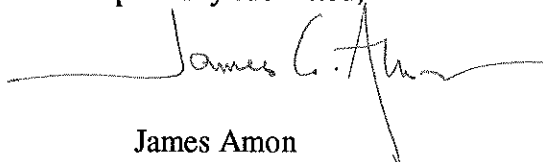
Ms. Herron reported that the path at Lock 1 has been cleared by a crew from the Department of Corrections, and that they have started clearing a path between Lock 1 and Lock 2. The Canal Park will soon be hiring a new assistant superintendent and a historic preservation specialist.

25TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING

The Commissioners discussed a one-day symposium on the Canal Park to be held in November, possibly at Prallsville Mills. They suggested the possibilities of TV and radio programs. Mr. Amon talked about a "history" bike tour. Mr. Torpey discussed a possible bus tour.

The meeting ended at 2:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Amon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James Amon