



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 19, 1999

TIME: 12:10 P.M. - 2:35 P.M.  
DATE: Wednesday, May 21, 1999  
PLACE: Canal Commission Office  
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Pauley, Torpey; Ms. Armstrong and Mrs. Nash  
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms  
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General  
GUESTS: Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of NJ, et al  
Richard Goeke  
John Duggan, Jr., GA Environmental Services  
Carl Loutzenheiser, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Rebecca Williams, D&R Canal State Park  
Peggy Killmer  
Pat Buchanan  
Win Buchanan  
Susan Herron, D&R Canal State Park  
Susan Valentine  
Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority  
Todd Rittenhouse

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

Ms. Holms noted that the minutes of April 21, 1999 incorrectly stated that the meeting ended at 2:30 PM, when in fact it ended at 2:40 PM. With that correction, Mrs. Nash moved approval of the minutes of April 21, 1999 and Mr. Herzog seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Nash then moved approval of the minutes of the special "retreat" meeting of April 21, 1999; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mrs. Nash then moved approval of the minutes of the Executive Session of April 21, 1999; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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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

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

## LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented an application from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority for final approval of the restoration of the Washington Crossing Spillway. Mr. Amon said that the Commission had given concept approval to the proposal several months ago. The restoration would include installation of automatic waste gates, replacement of the wall next to the canal, replacement of a cracked end of the outlet side headwall, restoration of the surface of the stone apron, and repair of the concrete apron. Mr. Amon said that the final plans are in keeping with the concept plans formerly approved. He also added that he recommended approval provided that the plans require the contractor to restore the spillway "to the satisfaction of the Canal Park's Superintendent and the Commission's Executive Director." Mr. Jessen moved approval of the plans for restoration of the Washington Crossing Spillway; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

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

99-0779G – Greenbriar at Whittingham Village 1.4 – Monroe Township

Mr. Amon said that the Commission's Review Zone Officer reviewed this project and found it to be in compliance with the Commission's standards for stormwater management and water quality.

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the project known as Greenbriar at Whittingham Village 1.4; Mr. Pauley seconded the motion. Messrs. Marshall, Pauley, Torpey, Jessen, Ms. Armstrong and Mrs. Nash voted in favor of the motion; Mr. Herzog abstained. The motion passed.

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

96-2264 – Girth Subdivision – Monroe Township

98-2476A – Crown Pointe II Modification – West Windsor Township

98-2436E – Bristol-Myers Squibb Building 17A – Hopewell Township

98-2474 – Quaker Bridge Auto Campus – Lawrence Township

99-2274A – Merck Corporate Hangars – Ewing Township

Mr. Amon said that these projects, too, were found to be in compliance for stormwater management and water quality, according to Ms. Guru. Mr. Herzog moved approval of the five "B" Zone project applications, Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

99-2465A – Village Charter School Administration Building – Trenton

Mr. Amon said that the applicant proposes to restore an historic stone building; he said that the

proposal would enhance the Canal Park.

#### 99-2535 – Hermitage Plaza – Trenton

The applicant proposes to remove a derelict building and make two additions to existing buildings in a shopping plaza adjoining the Canal Park. In exchange for use of approximately 800 square feet of park property for use as access to the shopping center, the applicant has agreed to clean up a section of adjoining park property and maintain it for ten years.

#### 99-2529 – 14 Bridge Street Addition – Lambertville

The applicant proposes to build a second floor addition on an existing building next to the canal path. Mr. Amon said the addition is in harmony with the architectural character of the building.

#### 98-2426 – Willow Green – Trenton

This is a proposal for 28 townhouses on a site next to the Canal Park. The project will include the creation of a small park next to the Canal Park.

Mr. Herzog moved approval of the “A” Zone project applications, with two conditions for Hermitage Plaza—that the applicant be required to produce an annual report describing the maintenance work, and that a Certificate of Occupancy not be issued until the cleanup of the Canal Park property is completed. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Torpey, Pauley, and Ms. Armstrong voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Nash voted against. The motion passed.

Mr. Amon then described a potential problem involving a failing bulkhead in the canal in Titusville. He said that the bulkhead was installed without permission twenty years ago to prevent erosion near the foundation of a house next to the canal. The bulkhead is now in danger of falling into the canal, and so the current owners have proposed replacing it. Mr. Amon said that the Water Supply Authority, Division of Parks and Forestry, and Historic Preservation Office have not yet seen the proposal, and therefore it is not a complete application. The proposal was premised, however, on the canal water being lowered. Mr. Shepherd stated that lowering the water in this section of the canal could not be done. The Commissioners discussed alternative repair methods, and eventually agreed that the owners should continue working with all agencies involved to arrive at a solution.

### DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Amon stated three principles for putting acquisition recommendations into priority: 1) widening the Canal Park for enhancement as a recreation area and for wildlife conservation purposes, 2) creating large blocks of open space at intervals along the Canal Park, and 3) facilitating links with other natural and historic sites in the region. He then described examples of

past acquisition recommendations that satisfy those criteria. He suggested that the Commissioners discuss specific future acquisition recommendations at June's meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Jessen said with regard to the Water Supply Authority's proposal to survey water quality in the canal, that they consider evaluating oxygen demand to determine whether aeration devices should be installed.

Mrs. Nash asked who was responsible for maintaining the "island" median on Quakerbridge Road approaching the Canal Park, as it was very overgrown. Mr. Amon said that the road is a county road, and that therefore the county is responsible for maintenance of the island.

Ms. Armstrong reported that Norm Weinstein, a strong advocate for the Canal Park and member of the D&R Canal Transportation Safety Study Commission, passed away.

Mr. Shepherd reported that an oil spill took place in New Brunswick; approximately 700 gallons spilled into the canal. The oil was directed toward the Raritan River, where it was removed.

#### CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

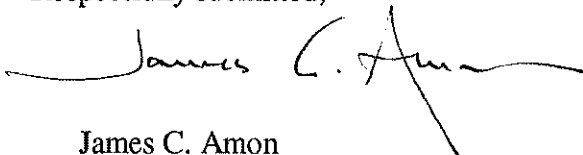
Ms. Herron introduced Ms. Rebecca Williams, the Canal Park's new Assistant Superintendent. Ms. Williams will be based at Bull's Island. Ms. Herron also reported that the Canal Park recently hired Ms. Elizabeth Dowd as historic preservation specialist. She reported on several volunteer cleanup activities in the park.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Killmer encouraged the Commissioners to support the proposal for the Millstone Bypass as a frontage road paralleling Route One. She also advocated a lower speed for the road.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Amon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James C. Amon