



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 16, 2000

TIME: 12:15 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.
DATE: Wednesday, February 16, 2000
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Jessen, Herzog, Marshall, Torpey;
Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Goodspeed and Mrs. Nash
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General
GUESTS: Susan Herron, Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park
Rebecca Williams, Assistant Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park
Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch
Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority
Abe Shaikh, NJ Water Supply Authority
Carl Loutzenheiser, NJ Water Supply Authority
Bill McKelvey, Canal Society of New Jersey
Peggy Killmer
Jeff Hall, attorney, R.C. Maxwell Company

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 the January 19, 2000 meeting; Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent, Ms. Goodspeed abstaining.

REVIEW ZONE PROJECTS

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

00-2607 - Earling Residence Renovation - Hopewell Township

PRALLSVILLE MILLS RO. 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 said the applicant proposes to turn an existing garage into a studio. The applicant's house is between the garage and the Canal Park; Mr. Amon said that the proposed renovation would not create an adverse visual impact on the Canal Park.

99-0389A - Rutgers Prep Middle School Addition and New Music Building - Franklin Township, Somerset County

Mr. Amon said that existing buildings on the campus are located between the new building and addition and the Canal Park. He said the proposed construction would not harmfully impact the Canal Park.

Mrs. Nash moved approval of the two "A" Zone applications, Ms. Goodspeed seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented two "B" Zone projects for approval:

99-2546 - Veronica Avenue Medical Arts Building - Franklin Township, Somerset County
99-2584 - Kerzner Associates Commercial Site - Cranbury Township, Middlesex County

Mr. Amon said that the projects were reviewed by staff and found to be in compliance with the Commission's regulations for stormwater management and stream corridor impact. Mr. Herzog moved approval of the "B" Zone projects, Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Herron reported that the Canal Park hired two additional rangers. She said that discussion is continuing about a design for a monument and interpretive sign for Irish immigrants who helped build the canal. She also said that renovation is being planned for the maintenance buildings at the Blackwell's Mills park office.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Torpey said that the Commissioners' retreat would probably take place in April. Mr. Amon reported on redevelopment plans for South Bound Brook that were recently presented at a public meeting there. He said that all in attendance agreed that the most important feature of the town was the Canal Park. Mr. Amon also commented on a new deck that was recently installed on the Lockatong pedestrian bridge, saying that it was a big improvement over the former deck. He said that he met with the Canal Commission's Technical Advisory Group about wireless communication towers. They recommended that the Commission adopt a regulation addressing this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Amon presented two Water Supply Authority repair projects. He said that Hurricane Floyd severely damaged an embankment wall next to the Wickecheoke Creek spillway, and that the Authority is proposing to rebuild the wall by embedding stones into mortar so that the front would appear to look like a dry wall. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the repair with the proviso that consideration be given to installing weep holes. Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then described a repair project that would involve resetting an embankment wall and a stone surface on the towpath at a spillway near Griggstown. Repairs would also be made to a stone arch culvert. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the conceptual design of the spillway and culvert repairs; Mr. Herzog seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon reported that the Division of Parks and Forestry was awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$565,000 to design and construct a pedestrian bridge across the canal where the Princeton "dinky" train track crosses the canal in West Windsor.

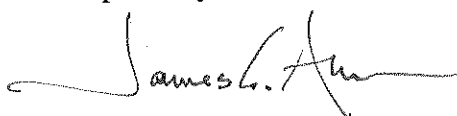
The Commissioners opened a discussion regarding regulations for billboards. Mr. Amon said that an applicant is proposing to install a billboard in Trenton within 200 feet of the Canal Park, which would not be in conformance with the regulations. The attorney for the applicant proposed that the Commission revise the regulations for signage in urban areas, to avoid possible litigation. It was suggested that the regulations be revised to accommodate billboards in Trenton, but the Commissioners agreed that all urban areas within the Canal Park should be regarded equally.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. McKelvey said that the Canal Society of New Jersey recently heard a presentation by Alan Sachs of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, and thought it would be a good idea to include the D&R Canal as part of the National Heritage Corridor.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Amon