

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2000

TIME: 12:15 P.M. – 1:50 P.M.
DATE: Wednesday, November 20, 2000
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey



DELAWARE AND RARITAN
CANAL COMMISSION

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Jessen, Marshall, and Torpey; Ms. Armstrong and Mrs. Nash
STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms
Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General
GUESTS: Rebecca Williams, Asst. Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park
Sue Herron, Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park
Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority
Linda Barth, Canal Society of New Jersey
Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch
Charlie Dieterich, Friends of Princeton Nursery Lands
Jeffrey Gerber, Bressler, Amery and Ross
Marilyn Kulick, Griggstown Historical Society
Marc Brooks, NJ Water Supply Authority
P.H. Holt III, Holt, Morgan, Russell Architects
Eric Holtermann, Holt, Morgan, Russell Architects
Al Payne, Division of Parks and Forestry
Peggy Carlsen, Rockingham

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.

LEASES AND PERMITS

Mr. Amon presented a lease application for the locktender house across the street from the Griggstown lock. He said it would be used as residence. Mrs. Nash moved approval of the lease application, Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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James C. Amon

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

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

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

99-0696A – John Wiley & Sons Addition – Franklin Township, Somerset County
00-0005A – 750 College Road East – Plainsboro Township

Mr. Amon said that the Commission previously approved a waiver from strict compliance with the Commission's Stream Corridor Impact Regulation for the project known as 750 College Road East. He said that this project would require a permit from DEP's Stream Encroachment Division, and therefore recommended waiving it from review of stormwater management. He said that the staff's engineers reviewed the John Wiley addition application and found it to be in compliance with the Commission's regulations for stormwater runoff. Ms. Armstrong moved approval of the two "B" Zone applications; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Holms presented an application for waiver from strict compliance of the Stream Corridor Impact regulation:

00-2690 – Rock-Cranbury Warehouses – Cranbury Township

She said that the township has requested the applicant move a proposed entrance roadway so that it is opposite another driveway across the road. Approximately 150 linear feet of roadway would encroach into the stream corridor as a result. Ms. Holms said that the present land use is mostly farmfield, and that allowing the remaining corridor to revert to a natural vegetative community would improve its ability to function as a buffer for the stream's ecological health. She recommended that an allee of native-species trees be planted along the western edge of the stream corridor as a condition of the waiver request. Mr. Jessen moved approving the waiver from strict compliance of the Stream Corridor Impact regulation conditioned upon planting an allee of trees along the western edge of the corridor; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

00-2686 – Verbeyst Residence Renovation – Hopewell Township
00-2337A – Canal Walk Development Sewerage Pump Station #2 – Franklin Township

Mr. Amon said that the first application is a proposal for a 2-story addition to an existing 2-story residence in Titusville. The house is contemporary and the proposed addition is similar in design. Route 29 separates the Canal Park from the house, and plantings in the front yard screen it.

Mr. Amon described the proposed 1-story pump station, to be located approximately 180 feet from the Canal Park. He said that over 200 trees and shrubs, as well as berms, are proposed to be installed to screen the building from the park. He recommended approval conditioned upon a guarantee by the applicant that all landscape work be completed prior to construction of the structure and that all landscape material be replaced within 3 years of the date of planting if the he determines that the plant is dead or dying. Along with that condition, Mr. Jessen added a second condition that a backup generator system deemed satisfactory by DRCC staff be installed. With those two conditions, he moved approval of both "A" Zone applications. Mrs. Nash seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon introduced Messrs. Holt and Holtermann, architects for the proposed Rockingham house re-location and renovation. Mr. Holtermann said that the historic house has been located on three previous sites, and that its orientation would be corrected at this move. He said that the parking lot would be behind a thick row of trees behind the house. The current "stone kitchen" (an early 20th century structure) would also be moved and become a visitors' center. The cost for the move and renovation is estimated to be \$2.5 million. Mr. Amon said that Mr. Husain reviewed the stormwater management design and found it to be in compliance with the Commission's regulations. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the Rockingham re-location and renovation; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

WSA 5-MILE SPILLWAY PROJECTS

Mr. Amon described five projects that the Water Supply Authority is proposing to undertake near the 5-Mile Spillway. He said that they are proposing to renovate a waste gate that is currently inoperative. The spillway would also be reconstructed, by installing a concrete cap and stone facing on the top of the spillway and river side. Seven culverts that are currently leaking would have grout pumped into holes to seal them. He said that runoff from the Route 287 overpass piers had caused the canal banks to erode—the Authority is proposing to cap the banks with concrete and stone facing. Finally, the Authority is planning to install a concrete cap and grouted stone facing on the inflow/outflow spillway. Mr. Amon recommended conceptual approval for all five projects. Ms. Armstrong moved conceptual approval of the Water Supply Authority projects; Mrs. Nash seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon announced that the Department of Transportation has agreed to install crosswalks at locations where the towpath crosses roads. Mr. Weyl reported that the Meadows Foundation has signed a stipulation of dismissal regarding their lawsuit.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Herron reported that an endurance horse race took place between Rocky Hill and East Millstone. The Criminal Justice Department held a 5K race at Titusville, and the Meadows

Foundation sponsored a canoe race in Franklin Township. She also said that a second naturalist for the Canal Park would be hired soon.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that work has begun on the repair of the Prallsville spillway wall and the Lockatong spillway.

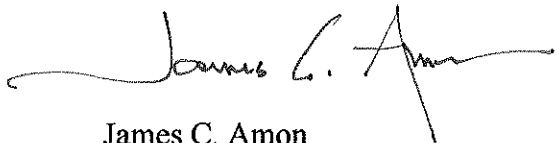
PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Kulick asked about the status of the proposed cell tower regulations. Mr. Weyl said he is waiting for supporting documents regarding proposed height limitations.

Mr. Dieterich commented on the significant increase in traffic that will result on Mapleton Road if the Villas at Tuscany are built.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 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 extending to the right.

James C. Amon