MINUTES OF THE RETREAT OF APRIL 18, 2001

TIME:

9:40 AM - 11:50 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, April 18, 2001

PLACE:

Montgomery Township 1860 House

Skillman, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Herzog, Jessen, Marshall, Pauley and Torpey;

Ms. Armstrong and Mrs. Nash

STAFF:

Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms

GUESTS:

Rebecca Williams, Asst. Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park

DELAWARE AND RARITAN

CANAL COMMISSION

Sue Herron, Superintendent, D&R Canal State Park

Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch

Robert von Zumbüsch

Clem Fiori, Montgomery Twp. Open Space

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.

Mr. Pauley welcomed the Commissioners and guests to Montgomery Township and gave a brief history of the 1860 House.

Mr. Amon then reviewed the work duties of the Canal Commission staff. He said that he was requesting a budget increase in order to increase staff from two part-time engineers to a full-time engineer, and from a part-time to full-time administrative assistant. Mr. Jessen felt that the staff was spreading itself too thin, and that the Commission should not be regulating streams that go under the canal. It was agreed to continue the discussion about removing those areas where water runs under the canal, from the Review Zone. Mr. Amon agreed to make a map showing the watersheds of streams that run under the canal, and research the ordinances of the municipalities within those watersheds.

The Commissioners then discussed the status of particular projects in the Development Plan, including safety issues about crosswalks, the canal boat ride, the feasibility of restoring the Lambertville Outlet Lock, and the installation of more canoe docks. Mr. Marshall suggested creating a Master Plan for location and design of canoe docks. Ms. Herron said that there may be funds available for docks from the Green Acres '95 bond. Mr. von Zumbusch said that portage sites should be improved as well.

PRALLSVILLE MILLS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR James C. Amon

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The Commissioners discussed several Linkage Projects. Ms. Armstrong noted that the Hunterdon County Planning Board is working on linking the Canal Park path in Milford to the Musconetcong Gorge, and linking the Canal Park path in Frenchtown to the Capoolong Creek. Mr. Fiori expressed his support of the Montgomery Greenway linkage, and suggested that another parking lot be built between Griggstown and Rocky Hill. Mr. von Zumbusch asked about the completion of the path from Old Rose to Mulberry Streets in Trenton. Mr. Amon replied that there was presently a legal issue regarding the right-of-way in that section of the Canal Park. Mr. von Zumbusch also commented on the need for a path from Kingston to the Canal Park. He suggested working with the National Park project, "Crossroads of the Revolution," to identify the Revolutionary route within the Canal Park and its surrounds. Mr. Torpey said he would like to see the relocation of Rockingham be made a high priority. Mr. Jessen asked about the status of the Six-Mile Run Reservoir—Mr. Amon replied that Mr. Baxter of the Water Supply Authority thought that the issue of water supply in that area should be reexamined. Mrs. Nash said she would like to see a connection from the Canal Park to Mercer County Park via Bakers Basin Road.

It was agreed that a discussion regarding long range visions of the Canal Park should be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Canal Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Amon