

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2003

TIME:

10:15 AM - 11:40 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Jessen, Sedor, and Weingart;

Ms. Armstrong and Ms. Penney STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms

Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

PUBLIC:

Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority William Tanner, Van Cleef Engineering

David Pasicznyk, Bureau of Water Resources/NJGS

Steve Ellis, Division of Parks and Forestry

Mr. Weingart 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. He invited the Commissioners and guests to introduce themselves.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2003

Ms. Armstrong moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2003;

Ms. Penney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE APPLICATIONS

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

03-2992 - Waldorf School Additions - Montgomery Township

Mr. Amon said the applicant is proposing to add 1,500 square feet to an existing school building, install 20 additional parking spaces, and build a new 18,720 square-foot asphalt play area. A

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION James E. McGreevey, Governor Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner

soccer field is currently located in the stream corridor, a conditionally-permitted use. Mr. Amon recommended allowing the soccer field to remain in the stream corridor, and approving the project.

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the project conditioned upon 1) the installation of conservation monuments around the perimeter of the soccer field, the location to be approved by Commission staff; 2) receipt of a recorded conservation and maintenance easement for detention facilities, 3) receipt of a recorded conservation easement for the stream corridor, 4) receipt of a plan delineating the stream corridor's metes and bounds, and 5) notice of county approval. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented the following "A" Zone applications for review and approval:

03-2998 - Fischer Swimming Pool - Hopewell Township

This is a proposed installation of an in-ground pool. The pool will not be visible from the Canal Park.

03-2920A - Titusville United Methodist Church Shed - Hopewell Township

This is a proposed installation of a one-story utility shed, located across Route 29 from the Canal Park.

Ms. Armstrong moved waiving the Fischer Swimming Pool from visual impact review, and approving the "A" Zone applications. Ms. Penney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon presented the remaining "B" Zone applications for review and approval:

00-2652 - South Brunswick Upper Elementary School - South Brunswick Township

03-2958 - First Industrial Warehouse - Franklin Township

02-2875 - Franklin Township Library Addition - Franklin Township

03-2916 - The Palace at Somerset Park - Franklin Township

Mr. Amon said the projects complied with the Canal Commission's Regulations and recommended approval. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the "B" Zone applications, Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Holms presented a request to amend a conservation easement for a stream corridor presently held by the Canal Commission:

99-2255A - Dilfanian Swimming Pool - Millstone Township, Monmouth County

Ms. Holms said that a housing development received Canal Commission approval in 1998 and has been built. A conservation easement for a stream corridor on the site is presently held by the Commission. One of the homeowners is now requesting to install a swimming pool, a portion of which would be located in the easement area. As mitigation for the intrusion, the homeowner

has agreed to plant 20 native trees and shrubs around the perimeter of the pool to prevent further encroachment. Because the current easement prohibits structures in the stream corridor, the easement must be amended. Ms. Armstrong moved approval of the easement amendment, Ms. Penney seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ellis filled in for Superintendent Herron, reporting that a "Critical Issues Team" has been formed to address problems with state leases and concessions. He also reported on a recent meeting organized by Mayor Palmer and attended by mayors or their representatives of municipalities that abut the Canal Park. Mr. Amon said that the objective of the meeting was to look for solutions regarding the lack of funding for staffing and capital improvements for the park.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the Authority is still removing many fallen trees as a result of summer storms. He said that the rehabilitation of the Prallsville culverts is ongoing and may be completed by the end of November. He also reported that the trestle for the pedestrian bridge across Route One will be put in place on October 18th.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Amon reported that PSE&G has objected to a condition that the Canal Commission required for a permit to install new utility wires in South Bound Brook, which was to provide a schedule for the removal of a gas pipeline, also in South Bound Brook.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Amon