



DELAWARE AND RARITAN  
CANAL COMMISSION

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2005**

TIME: 10:05 AM – 11:10 AM  
DATE: Wednesday, January 19, 2005  
PLACE: Canal Commission Office  
Stockton, New Jersey

**ATTENDING:**

COMMISSIONERS: Messrs. Albert, Jessen, Knights, Loos,  
Sedor, Weingart; Ms. Armstrong and Mayor Marchand

STAFF: Mr. Amon and Ms. Holms

Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

**GUESTS:**

William Bogosian, NJ Water Supply Authority

Ron Bond, D&R Canal Watch

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority

Ernest Hahn, Assistant Commissioner, DEP Land Use Mgmt.

J. Michael Chaykowsky, Hun School

Doug Adams, Hun School

Joe Winnicki, Division of Parks and Forestry

Mike and Anne Kruimer, East Coast Greenway Association

Howie Glick, Central Jersey Bicycle Club

Robert von Zumbusch

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.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2004**

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the minutes of December 15, 2004; Mr. Albert seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

**LEASES AND PERMITS**

Mr. Amon presented a permit application from the Division of Parks and Forestry to install five canoe docks in the canal. Mr. Amon said that both the Historic Preservation Office and the Canal Commission staff felt that the original design proposal, similar to the existing dock at

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Richard J. Codey, Acting Governor      Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner

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Fireman's Eddy, was too intrusive. A revised design was subsequently proposed, shortening the gangplank to 5 feet, and reducing the platform to 5' x 10'. The posts would be cut back to the level of the dock at high water, and colored black. The docks are proposed to be installed at Blackwell's Mills, Lower Ferry Road, Port Mercer, Titusville, and near the Griggstown lock. Mr. Winnicki confirmed that the surface of the deck is rough, and slip-proof.

Mr. Albert said that the Fireman's Eddy dock is too high from the water, but that a ladder would help. After further discussion, the Commission agreed to postpone action, requesting the Division to provide more information regarding the height of the dock.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Commission agreed to postpone the election of officers to February's meeting. Mr. Weingart suggested that the Commission amend the bylaws in order to eliminate the position of Treasurer, which is no longer relevant.

#### REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Ms. Holms presented a request by the Hun School to amend a conservation easement for a stream corridor on their property presently held by the Commission. The school's athletic director has requested a reduction in the easement area to provide for a right-field fence distance of 310 feet. The reduction would amount to .02 acre; in exchange, the school is proposing to add .05 acre to the corridor. Ms. Holms recommended granting the request to amend the easement in order to modify the stream corridor's boundary. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the request to amend the Hun School conservation easement; Mr. Knights seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent.

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

04-3121 – Buchanan Residence Addition – Lambertville

Mr. Amon said the addition is not visible from the Canal Park and recommended waiver from visual impact review, and approval.

05-3127 – Route 1 over Mulberry Street Bridge Deck Replacement – Trenton

The Department of Transportation is proposing to replace the deck and superstructure on the Route 1 bridge over Mulberry Street. The new deck will be five feet wider than the existing deck. Mr. Amon said the project would not create a harmful visual impact on the Canal Park.

04-3059 – Rutgers Plaza Shopping Center Redevelopment – Franklin Township

Mr. Amon said the applicant is proposing to redevelop an existing shopping center on Easton Avenue. Upon demolition of existing buildings, a new food market and bank, both 25 feet high, will be constructed. Impervious surface will be reduced. Extensive landscaping will be installed at Easton Road.

04-3078 – PSE&G Pole Barn at Trenton Gas District Headquarters – Lawrence Township

Mr. Amon said that PSE&G is proposing to construct a 4,800 square foot storage barn on Whitehead Road at the existing Trenton Gas District Headquarters. He said the structure would be approximately 560 feet from the Canal Park, and that it would not create a harmful visual impact on the Canal Park.

Ms. Armstrong moved approval of the “A” Zone applications; Mayor Marchand seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Amon then presented the following “B” Zone applications for review and approval:

03-2946 – Laurel Estates – Monroe Township

04-3109 – Cranbury Police Station – Cranbury Township

04-2436S – Bristol-Myers Squibb Building 27 – Hopewell Township

Mr. Amon said the applications complied with the Commission’s standards for stormwater management and water quality, and recommended approval. Ms. Armstrong moved approval of the “B” Zone applications; Mayor Marchand seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

00-2641 – Pennington Maintenance Building – Borough of Pennington

Ms. Holms said the Pennington Public Works Department is proposing to build a public works facility on 8 acres including a garage, offices, and a material storage area. A portion of a detention basin is proposed to encroach into the stream corridor. The reduction area amounts to 6,381 square feet; as mitigation, the applicant has proposed adding 6,771 square feet of land adjacent to the corridor. Ms. Holms recommended that the waiver be granted. Mr. Jessen moved to waive the project from strict compliance of the Stream Corridor Impact Regulation; Mr. Knights seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Weingart announced that Assistant Commissioner Ernest Hahn has been hired as the Commission’s new Executive Director, effective January 24, and welcomed Mr. Hahn to the Canal Commission.

Mr. Amon discussed the Draft Plan for the Trenton portion of the Canal Park, saying that he was not looking for formal adoption at this time. He iterated what he had written in the plan about the need for a stronger presence of Canal Park staff in Trenton as the first priority for improving the park there.

Mr. Loos suggested that the Commissioners visit the Trenton section of the Canal Park in the near future. It was proposed that a future Commission meeting be held in Trenton, followed by a tour of the Canal Park. Mr. Weingart summed up the discussion by asserting that the consensus

of the Commission was that development of the Trenton section of the Canal Park be made a high priority.

#### WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the "lower road" at Bull's Island, damaged as a result of the Hurricane Ivan flood, was being restored. He said that the Authority will begin dredging the Wickecheoke.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Robert von Zumbusch, on behalf of the D&R Canal Coalition and the Kingston Greenways Association, wished to thank Mr. Amon for the magnificent job he had done as Executive Director of the Canal Commission. He said that Canal Park users owe a debt of gratitude to him.

Mike Kruimer, representing the East Coast Greenway, and Ron Bond, representing D&R Canal Watch both thanked Jim for his years of service, and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Mr. Amon said that he wished to acknowledge all the other people that helped him, and that his was not a "solo act". He also said that from the first day on his job, he has had a terrific Commission to work for, saying that they truly cared about the Canal Park and contributed important and diverse knowledge.

Mr. Jessen said that the luckiest day for the D&R Canal Commission was the day it hired Jim.

Mayor Marchand moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Sedor seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice Holms