

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2007

TIME:

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Chairman David DelVecchio, Messrs. Martin Jessen

John Loos, Al Payne, David Knights, Richard Albert; Ms. Alison

Mitchell

STAFF: Mr. Hahn, Ms. Guru and Ms. Holms

Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS:

Bill Bogosian, NJ Water Supply Authority

Vicki Chirco, D&R Canal State Park

Stephanie Fox, D&R Canal State Park

Susan Herron, D&R Canal State Park

Peter Lanfrit, attorney for Canal Walk

Michael Sommer, Canal Walk

Ron Bond, D&R Canal Watch

Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch

Bob Barth, Canal Society of New Jersey

Chairman DelVecchio 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 MEETINGS OF MARCH 21 AND 28, 2007

Mr. Albert requested that the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2007 be amended to correct an error in the Executive Director's Report. He said the statement "Mr. Albert said that the Scudders Falls bridge area could use more interpretive signage" was inaccurate, and should instead read: "Mr. Albert suggested that if mitigation for the Scudders Bridge got on the table that some effort should be made to interpret the Scudders Falls wing dam site. The wing dam was built to serve the former Trenton Water Power Canal that delivered water to various industries in

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Jon Corzine, Governor Lisa P. Jackson, Commissioner

Trenton." With that amendment, Mr. Jessen moved approval of the minutes of March 21, 2007, and Mr. Loos seconded the motion. Messers. DelVecchio, Jessen, Loos, Payne, and Albert voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Knights abstained. The motion passed. Mr. Knights then moved approval of the minutes of the March 28, 2007 meeting; Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Mitchell joined the meeting at 10:05 AM.

REVIEW ZONE APPLICATIONS

Mr. Knights moved approval of the following "A" Zone applications:

07-3489 Birkner Sign, City of Lambertville

07-3472 Alexauken Creek Embankment Rehab, City of Lambertville

07-3483 Peters Garage, City of Lambertville

07-2776A Dallas-Petrescu Porch Enclosure, Stockton Borough

07-3488 Suozzo Porch Replacement, Stockton Borough

07-3482 Gribbins Garage, Hopewell Township

07-3486 Maidenhead Meadow Observation Platform, Lawrence Township

07-3485 Mercer County Community College Cafeteria Expansion, City of Trenton

05-3141B Enclave @ Canal Walk, Franklin Township

07-3480 Gillfeather/Love Addition, Franklin Township

Mr. Loos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Knights then moved approval of the following "A" Zone application:

07-3491 Giambalvo Porch, City of Lambertville

Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. Messrs. Jessen, Loos, Payne, Knights, Albert and Ms. Mitchell voted in favor of the motion; Chairman DelVecchio abstained. The motion passed.

The following "A" Zone application was not acted on by the Commission because it was determined to be incomplete:

07-3479 Locandro Subdivision, Delaware Township

Mr. Jessen moved approval of the following "B" Zone applications:

06-3449 Cedar Hill Prep School, Franklin Township

06-3444 Schaefer's Sports Center, Ewing Township

06-3404 The Jefferson, Ewing Township

07-3457 Roller Bearer Parking Lot, Ewing Township

06-3407 Stitching Horse, South Brunswick Township

06-3022A Renaissance Crossing, Monroe Township

Mr. Knights seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The following "B" Zone applications were presented for review and decision:

06-2441G Princeton University Soccer Stadium, Princeton Township
 06-2261B North Brunswick Towne Center & Governors Point, North Brunswick
 Township
 04-3031 Point of Woods @ South Brunswick, South Brunswick Township

Ms. Mitchell questioned why a stream corridor adjacent to the Princeton University Soccer Stadium was not part of the application. Mr. Hahn replied that the University has another pending application involving the same stream corridor and had requested that the corridor be part of that application instead. Ms. Mitchell asked for clarification regarding the North Brunswick Towne Center in North Brunswick. Ms. Guru explained that the overall development had been previously approved and partially built, but that some commercial buildings and a residential development had not yet been built and therefore had to be re-reviewed and approved by the Commission.

Ms. Mitchell then asked whether the 1:1 buffer averaging for Point of Woods @ South Brunswick was adequate protection for the stream corridor. Mr. Hahn replied that the Commission's standards required "ecological equivalence" when considering buffer averaging plans, and was convinced that this plan met that standard.

Ms. Mitchell moved approval of the Princeton University Soccer Stadium and Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. Messers. DelVecchio, Jessen, Loos, Payne, Albert and Ms. Mtichell voted in favor of the motion, Mr. Knights abstained. The motion carried.

Mr. Knights then moved approval of the North Brunswick Towne Center & Governors Point, and Point of Woods @ South Brunswick; Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DELAWARE RIVER SCENIC BYWAY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Loos moved approval of a resolution supporting the updated Delaware River Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. Mr. Albert seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hahn reported the staff's monthly work tally. He summarized the meeting that was held on April 9 to discuss the draft of the proposed new regulations. Mr. Hahn said he would check on the status of the proposed Congressional bill that would allow the Commission to collect fees and authorize "General Permits".

D&R CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Chairman DelVecchio announced that Superintendent Herron would soon be retiring. The Commission acknowledged her work with the Canal Park. Ms. Herron reported on the recent flooding, saying that most of the buildings along the main stem of the canal were inundated. She said that the towpath from Landing Lane Bridge to Port Mercer will require complete resurfacing.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Chairman DelVecchio thanked Mr. Bogosian and his colleagues at the Authority for their help and cooperation with the recent flooding. Mr. Bogosian said they would be undertaking a survey of the entire canal and expected to see scouring along the main stem, and that they would be clearing debris.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Barth told the Commissioners that he had recently given Mr. Hahn a video of a presentation regarding wooden swing bridges conducted at the National Canal Museum's Annual Canal Symposium in March. He said the written report of the session would be forthcoming.

He asked about the status of a path on the towpath side of the canal from Prallsville Mills to Stockton. Mr. Hahn replied that at this time, public access was not being encouraged because of the proximity of the path's location to a private residence.

At 10:45, Mr. Loos moved entering into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Mr. Albert seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The public meeting resumed and adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest P. Hahn

Secretary