

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2008

TIME:

10:05 AM - 10:55 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Chairman David DelVecchio, Messrs. Martin Jessen,

John Loos, David Knights, Richard Albert, and Al Payne;

Ms. Alison Mitchell

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

Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS:

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority

Stephanie Fox, D&R Canal State Park

Robert H. Barth, Canal Society of New Jersey

Linda J. Barth, D&R Canal Watch

Barbara Ross, D&R Canal Watch

Lillian Morisi, PSE&G

Noreen Merainer, PSE&G

Susan Matulewicz, PSE&G

Vicki Chirco, D&R Canal State Park

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 MEETING OF JULY 16, 2008

Mr. Albert moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2008; Mr. Payne seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Knights joined the meeting at 10:06 AM.

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

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

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

08-3686 Blue Hills Development Subdivision, Borough of South Bound Brook

05-3186 Canal Crossing Plaza Retail, Borough of South Bound Brook

08-3266A PSEG Weston Canal Pole Crossing, Franklin Township

08-3694 Thomas ADA Improvements, Franklin Township

08-349A Lemli Relocation & Expansion, Franklin Township

08-2966C Schulman Deck, Hopewell Township

08-3691 Errickson Renovations, Borough of Stockton

08-3571A Papadopoulis Rear Patio, City of Lambertville

08-3689 Menlha Buddhist Center Sign, City of Lambertville

Mr. Albert seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Jessen then moved approval of the "A" Zone application #08-3247A, Siglag Lindquist Residence Improvements (Lambertville). Mr. Knights seconded the motion; Messrs. Jessen, Knights, Albert, Payne, and Ms. Mitchell voted in favor of the motion. Chairman DelVecchio abstained. The motion passed.

Mr. Loos joined the meeting at 10:07 AM.

Mr. Albert asked Ms. Guru about the detention basin that was proposed for the application known as the FT-201 Warehouse in Franklin Township. She explained that the original basin was meant to be a wet basin, but that the basin could not hold 6 feet of standing water; thus, it was proposed to be converted to a dry basin. Mr. Albert asked why clay was being removed if it was to be a dry basin; Ms. Guru replied that the clay had been installed for the wet basin, and that although the new basin would be dry, there would be some infiltration for groundwater recharge.

Mr. Loos asked for clarification regarding the revised stream corridor proposal for the Rider University West Village Housing. Ms. Holms explained that the application, recently approved by the Commission, included lands set aside for mitigation of "future projects." She said the Commission could not ensure that these lands would be approved as mitigation for proposed encroachment into the stream corridor; thus the applicant removed them from the plans. The plan under consideration now has a 1:1 ratio of land proposed for buffer averaging.

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

06-936D FT-201 Warehouse, Franklin Township

08-3674 Faith Lutheran Church Expansion, Hillsborough

07-3560 Princeton Montessori School Expansion, Montgomery Township

07-3478 BMS Nassau Park Parking Expansion, West Windsor Township

05-2215I Timberlane Middle School, Hopewell Township

08-3690 Lawrence Hopewell Trail, Hopewell Township

08-3582A Rider University Student Parking, Lawrence Township

08-3695 Schon/Benson Deck Modifications, City of Lambertville

Mr. Jessen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Loos moved approval of the "B" Zone application #08-3012A, Princeton Forrestal Center Road Improvements (Plainsboro and South Brunswick Townships). Mr. Albert seconded the motion. Chairman DelVecchio, Messrs. Jessen, Albert, Loos, Payne and Ms. Mitchell voted in favor of the motion; Mr. Knights abstained. The motion passed.

Mr. Loos then moved approval of application #08-3470A, Hopewell Bank & Office Parking, in Hopewell Township. Mr. Knights seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Loos also moved approval of the application #07-3582B, Rider University West Village Housing Revised Stream Corridor, in Lawrence Township; Mr. Jessen seconded the motion, and it passed without dissent.

SYNTHETIC TURF UPDATE

Mr. Hahn commented on the report prepared by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission regarding the safety of synthetic turf athletic fields.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hahn reported on the staff's monthly workload, including field inspections and enforcement of violations.

D&R CANAL STATE PARK REPORT

Ms. Fox reported that Superintendent Kallesser had a healthy baby boy on August 8th. She said the 3-mile trail near Bordentown was nearly complete. She also reported on a successful fishing derby in Trenton, and full campgrounds for the summer at Bull's Island. She said there were several complaints about the towpath surface north of East Millstone. Mr. Payne said that DOT would be assessing it soon and hopefully making repairs. Ms. Fox said that roofs were being replaced on the Kingston Canal House and the Griggstown Bridgetender's House.

Mr. Loos said that the purple loosestrife eradication program at Blackwell's Mills was apparently successful, and asked whether other areas along the canal, such as the wetland behind the Van Wickle house, could take advantage of the program. Mr. Hahn said he would contact the Department of Agriculture and report back.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the Authority located another source for the "I-5" towpath surface material and felt it was superior to that which was used on the towpath north of East Millstone. He said that repair of the Six-Barrel Waste Gate was beginning on the Delaware River side of the canal embankment, and that repair of the Alexauken Creek aqueduct would begin soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Loos asked whether the mitigation funds provided by PSE&G for the installation of their monopole had been slated for use yet; Mr. Hahn said no. A discussion ensued about the location of a future pedestrian bridge in Franklin Township. Mr. Hahn said he would discuss with Mr. Payne the possibility of hiring an engineer to determine the viability of building a bridge near JFK Boulevard.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest P. Hahn

Secretary