

DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2009

TIME:

10:00 AM -- 10:45 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Chairman David DelVecchio, Messrs. Richard

Albert, David Knights, John Loos, Al Payne, and Martin Jessen;

Mayor Phyllis Marchand

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

Mr. Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General

GUESTS:

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority

Patricia Kallesser, D&R Canal State Park

Bill Bogosian, NJ Water Supply Authority

Robert Barth, Canal Society of New Jersey

Mike and Anne Kruimer, East Coast Greenway

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 FEBRUARY 18, 2009

Mr. Albert moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 18, 2009; Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

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

09-3772 Sutton Porch Restoration, City of Lambertville

09-3774 Reilly Gallery Sign, City of Lambertville

09-3778 Pet Shop Girls Sign, City of Lambertville

09-3253B East Coast Greenway Sign Continuation, City of Trenton

09-3709A Monitoring Well Installation, City of Trenton

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Jon Corzine, Governor Mark N. Mauriello, Acting Commissioner

Mr. Albert seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. After some questions by the Commissioners and discussion, Mr. Albert moved approval of the following "A" Zone application:

08-3753 Trenton Drainage Ditch Improvements, City of Trenton

Mr. Knights seconded the motion. Mr. Payne recused himself from this action. The motion passed without dissent. Mayor Marchand then moved approval of the following "A" Zone application:

09-2145A Lambertville Sewerage Authority Improvements, City of Lambertville

Ms. Kallesser noted that the Authority leases the land the building is on from the State, and wondered whether the proposed project affected the lease. Mayor Marchand amended the motion, to add a condition that the Commission must verify that the State lease will not be affected by the improvements. Mr. Payne seconded the amended motion. Chairman DelVecchio recused himself from this action. The motion passed without dissent. Mr. Albert noted for the record that he praised the Authority for its efforts at improving the Delaware River's water quality.

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

08-3752 Rider University Synthetic Field, Lawrence Township 09-3494A Sassman Holiday Parking Modifications, South Brunswick Township 08-3748 Infragistics Warehouse, South Brunswick Township 08-2051A Wyeth Research Generator, South Brunswick Township

Mr. Albert seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hahn reported on the staff's monthly workload. He said that public comments regarding the proposed new regulations were submitted to the Commission, and the Commission had drafted responses, which are presently under review by DEP. He summarized the comments. The Commissioners asked for copies of the comments and responses.

Mr. Hahn also reported that the last permitting hurdle had been met for the rehabilitation of the East Millstone Canal House, and that the developer for Canal Walk could now proceed with its rehabilitation.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Kallesser reported that a new bridge connecting Colonial Park in Franklin Township to the Canal Park was slated for a construction start of early April, and that the

towpath in that area would be temporarily closed as a result. She said a groundbreaking ceremony would be held on March 20th for new handicapped access ramps at the canal in Washington Crossing State Park. She said cleanups along the old Bel-Del path in Trenton would be held today and Saturday, from Prospect Street to Jarvis Place. The cleanups are being conducted by students from the College of New Jersey. She said a new concrete floor would soon be poured at the Griggstown Muletender's Barracks. Ms. Kallesser also reported that camping would begin on April 1st at Bull's Island.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the Authority had completed maintenance dredging between Mulberry Street and Whitehead Avenue, and that they would soon be removing the bulkhead that was part of a building located next to the canal and recently demolished in Hopewell Township.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Loos asked about the status of a proposed pedestrian bridge across the canal near Easton Avenue. Mr. Hahn said that location surveys were the next step in the process. Mr. Hahn reported that the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Authority recently submitted a draft Memorandum of Agreement which provided \$2 million in mitigation funds for the proposed Scudders Falls bridge expansion project.

Mr. Albert noted that the Delaware Canal in Pennsylvania is rehabilitating the canal and its towpath, and wondered if representatives from both canals were sharing information. Mr. Hahn said that they were.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Kruimer asked whether there would be a crossing for cyclists and pedestrians as part of the Scudders Falls bridge project. Mr. Hahn said it would be determined later, based on whether there was adequate funding. Mr. Kruimer noted that the spillway at Landing Lane had deteriorated again, making it dangerous for cyclists to use. Mr. Bogosian said the Authority would repair the gaps again by filling them with stone.

Mr. Barth reminded the Commissioners about the various events taking place to commemorate the D&R's 175th anniversary. He asked about the status of a new pathway on the east side of Mapleton Road in Plainsboro Township. Mr. Knights said he was discussing the issue with Plainsboro's Mayor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Emest P Hahn

Ernest P. Hahn Secretary