

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2010

TIME:

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

DATE:

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

PLACE:

Canal Commission Office

Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Chairman David DelVecchio, Vice Chairman Martin Jessen,

Mr. John Loos, Ms. Alison Mitchell, Ms. Donna Mahon, and Mayor Phyllis

Marchand

STAFF:

Messrs. Hahn and Mazzei, Ms. Holms

GUESTS:

Bill Bogosian, NJ Water Supply

Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Linda Barth, D&R Canal Watch

Bob Barth, D&R Canal Watch, Canal Society of NJ

Patricia Kallesser, D&R Canal State Park

John R. Sullivan, Frey Engineering

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 21, 2010

Ms. Mitchell asked that the minutes of the meeting of July 21, 2010 be revised, regarding the discussion of a proposed Marconi Museum in Franklin Township (pages 2-3). She said the minutes should make clear that the Commissioners did not endorse the project even though they thought it was a worthwhile concept. Mr. Jessen moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of July 21, 2010 with the following amendment:

Although the Commission did not endorse the Marconi Museum proposal, they thought it was a worthwhile concept. Because the proposal was not an application, the Commission did not take any formal action on it.

Mr. Loos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Chris Christie, Governor, Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor Bob Martin, Commissioner

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

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

10-4019 PSE&G Enclosure Replacement, Hopewell Township 09-3894 Textile Research Institute Groundwater Recovery System, Princeton Township 09-2977A Auxiliary Services Addition, Lawrence Township

Mr. Jessen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Loos then moved approval of the following "B" Review Zone project applications:

10-3983 Hindu American Religious Center, Robbinsville Township 10-3453A Princeton University Stream Restoration, Princeton Township

Mr. Jessen seconded the motion. Ms. Mitchell asked about the extent of the re-channelization of the stream on the Princeton University campus. Mr. Mazzei said that the restoration plan was aggressive but necessary. He said the flow of the stream has increased to the point where the existing channel has deepened substantially, and as a result, is causing serious erosion of its banks. He said he and other DEP professionals have scrutinized the plans and have made several site visits, and have determined that the restoration plan is acceptable. He also said that because of the high visibility of the stream's location (on campus and adjacent to Washington Road), any potential problems that may arise in the future will be corrected. Mr. Loos asked the staff to report back in one year on the status of the stream.

Ms. Mitchell asked about the Hindu Center application's condition of approval, and whether the proposed retention basin would be monitored by Canal Commission staff. Mr. Hahn replied that it would.

The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the two "B" Zone project applications.

At 10:28 AM, Chairman DelVecchio left the room. Mayor Marchand joined the meeting via speaker phone. Vice Chairman Jessen presented the following "B" Review Zone project application for review:

09-2638 Colgate Paper Improvements, City of New Brunswick

Mr. Loos moved approval of the application; Ms. Mitchell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Marchand left the meeting and Chairman DelVecchio rejoined it at 10:30 AM.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hahn reported on the staff's monthly workload, and noted that July's income was lower than previous months.

CANAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Kallesser reported that John Trantis has been hired as the Division of Parks and Forestry new Assistant Director. Ms. Mahon added that Lynne Fleming will be the Assistant Director for the State Forestry Service. Ms. Kallesser also mentioned that a 23-year old was recently injured near the Lockatong Spillway as a result of falling from a swing rope attached to a tree. The maintenance staff subsequently removed the tree.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the Authority was currently dredging between Washington Crossing and Scudders Falls, and continuing to install fill from dredge spoils along the new path between Mulberry and Old Rose Streets in Trenton.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman DelVecchio stated that a new "public/private partnership" was underway to build a new crossing at Scudder's Falls over the Delaware River. Mr. Hahn said that staff would be meeting the bridge consultants in early September. Chairman DelVecchio asked that staff find out whether the proposed tolls will create any truck traffic diversions.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Barth said he recently cycled the entire D&R path system, and thought it was wonderful. He said the new "missing link" (between Mulberry and Old Rose Streets in Trenton) was a great asset. He asked whether there were any prospective tenants for the newly-refurbished East Millstone Canal House and the canal house at Zarephath. Ms. Kallesser said there were none for the East Millstone house, but that she was hopeful that the Pillar of Fire maintenance staff may be able to lease the Zarephath house as their office. Mr. Barth also complimented the Division of Parks and Forestry on the new resurfacing between Landing Lane Bridge and Griggstown. He asked whether, as part of canal bridge repair work being undertaken by DOT, portages for boaters could be installed around the bridges. Mr. Hahn said he would talk to DOT representatives. Mr. Barth then said that the conceptual plans for the new WSA dredging project look good, and hoped that installing boat ramps would be part of the project. Finally, he encouraged the Commission to attend the upcoming World Canal Conference in September.

Chairman DelVecchio welcomed Donna Mahon as the Commission's ex-officio representative for Commissioner Martin. Ms. Mahon said she looked forward to being part of the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest P. Hahn Secretary