

**JANUARY 18, 2012 MINUTES OF THE MEETING
TO BE REVIEWED FEBRUARY 15, 2012**

Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission

TIME: 10:05 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
DATE: January 18, 2012
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Vice Chairman Martin Jessen, Mr. David Knights, Mr. John Loos, and Mayor Phyllis Marchand; Ms. Alison Mitchell by conference call.

STAFF: Ms. Marlene Dooley and Ms. Colleen Christie Maloney.

GUESTS: Mr. Bill Bogosian, NJWSA; Mr. Joseph Shepherd, NJWSA; Ms. Sharmila F. Rahman, NJWSA; Mr. Robert Barth, D & R Canal Watch; and Mr. Craig Stires.

The meeting opened at 10:05 a.m. Vice Chairman Jessen 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 MEETINGS

Minutes of the Meeting of December 21, 2011

Mayor Marchand moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Knights seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Review Zone A Projects

Ms. Dooley noted that the project DRCC #11-4246 Jakacki Duplex was taken off the agenda as it was not complete for review at meeting time.

The following Review Zone A projects were approved unanimously after Mr. Knights motioned for approval and Mr. Loos seconded the motion.

11-3565B Edward Jones Signs
11-3283B Swan Creek Aqueduct Rehab Continuation
11-3020A Somerset Technology Park

Review Zone B Projects

Mr. Loos asked about the pedestrian bridge related to the VEECO project, DRCC # 11-4147A. Mr. Knights noted that he had visited the site with Ms. Dooley. The bridge will be for pedestrian use between the buildings on the new larger site. Ms. Dooley noted that the stream on-site, an unnamed tributary to the Raritan River, was not regulated prior to 2009. Prior to the adoption of the 2009 rules, specific streams were listed and unnamed tributaries were not covered. Therefore, some buildings and the existing bridge on-site were built prior to regulation of the stream corridor by the Commission. She further noted that the applicant was attempting to create a corporate campus and the bridge would connect two lots at the site. Mr. Knights noted the importance of the VEECO project for bringing jobs and industry to the State. Mayor Marchand asked the applicant's engineer if they anticipate any issues with the project when presented to the DEP; Mr. Stires responded that they had just received the necessary verifications from the DEP two days earlier; therefore they have the required approvals from the DEP.

Mr. Loos recused himself from 11-3144A Middlebush Park Entrance and Synthetic Turf. He left the room at 10:25 a.m.

11-3144A Middlebush Park Entrance and Synthetic Turf

Mr. Knights moved for approval of the project and Mayor Marchand seconded the motion. The project was approved unanimously.

Mr. Loos returned to the conference room at 10:30 a.m.

Ms. Mitchell noted that the project New Cingular Wireless Antenna Middlebush, DRCC #11-3922, in Zone B was on a preserved farm and questioned if the applicant had notified the State Agricultural Development Commission (SADC) about the project. Mr. Loos noted that the project was on an "exception" area, that Somerset County holds the easement and is aware of the project. Mr. Loos requested that the staff report be revised to reflect that the project is being constructed on an "exception" area.

The following Review Zone B projects were approved unanimously after Mr. Loos motioned for approval and Mr. Knights seconded the motion.

- 11-3922 New Cingular Wireless Antenna Middlebush
- 11-4166 Matrix Corporate Campus
- 11-4147A VEECO Instruments Site
- 11-3648A Quaker Bridge Mall Phase 1B

Ms. Mitchell left the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Dooley reported on the staff's monthly workload and incoming revenue. She noted that staff processed 7 Deficiency Letters, 6 Jurisdictional Determinations, and 6 OPRA requests. She stated that application fees brought in \$9,500 in revenue last month. Ms. Dooley reported that work was underway at the Bernard Avenue Bridge near the Scudders Falls. She gave an

overview of the review of office preparedness for potential floods and the hiring of personnel.

D & R CANAL PARK REPORT

There was no report from the Canal Park Supervisor.

NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the NJWSA would be meeting with FEMA representatives the following week. Mr. Shepherd noted that the NJWSA would soon begin dredging at Whitehead Road. Mr. Loos inquired about the Franklin Township dredging project. Mr. Shepherd reported that it was scheduled for the first quarter of 2013.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

No old/new business was discussed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Barth shared the 2012 D&R Canal Walks and Other Events flyer, which includes information on Canal Watch hikes, a light-rail tour, bike tours, and a bird walk. Mr. Loos stated that he was impressed by the number and variety of walks offered by Canal Watch. Mr. Barth commented on the need to safely store historical materials in the Commission's possession. Mr. Barth noted that he was glad to see the Commission's work continue to protect the canal as a drinking water source, a recreational resource, and a historical site. He noted that the Commission would soon be celebrating its 40th anniversary and suggested that the anniversary would be an opportunity for the Commission to bring public awareness to the history of the canal. Mr. Loos asked Ms. Dooley to put the "40th Anniversary of the Canal" as a discussion topic on next month's agenda.

Mr. Loos moved to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Marchand seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Marlene Dooley
Secretary

