

**FEBRUARY 15, 2012 MINUTES OF THE MEETING
TO BE REVIEWED MARCH 21, 2012**

Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission

TIME: 10:10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
DATE: February 15, 2012
PLACE: Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Vice Chairman Martin Jessen, Mr. David Knights, Mr. John Loos,
Ms. Donna Mahon, Mayor Phyllis Marchand, Ms. Alison Mitchell.

STAFF: Ms. Marlene Dooley, Ms. Colleen Christie Maloney, Mr. Lewin Weyl,
Deputy Attorney General.

GUESTS: Mr. Bill Bogosian, NJWSA; Mr. Joseph Shepherd, NJWSA;
Mr. Robert Barth, D & R Canal Watch.

The meeting opened at 10:10 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 January 18, 2012

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

REVIEW ZONE ACTIONS

Review Zone A Projects

Mayor Marchand moved approval of the following projects; Mr. Loos seconded the motion. The Zone A projects were approved unanimously.

11-1106D Eco Clean Carwash

12-4261 Giller Shed

12-2996D Schulman Generator

12-3755D Laceworks-Zanya Spa Salon Ramp and Windows

Review Zone B Projects

Mr. Knights noted that he would recuse himself from the following projects: 12-2441J Bedford Field Improvements, 11-3422B Princeton Forrestal RECAP Modification, and 11-3939B Princeton Forrestal B Site Connector Road.

Ms. Mitchell inquired if DRCC Project 11-4248 East Windsor Solar Array involved the placement of the array in the stream corridor; Ms. Dooley stated that the stream corridor was previously preserved and that the array was outside that area. Ms. Mitchell asked if any part of the array was to be constructed in wetlands. Ms. Dooley stated that it was not within a wetlands area.

The following Zone B projects were moved for approval by Ms. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Knights; they were approved unanimously.

11-4248 East Windsor Township Array
12-2436AA BMS-Steam Line Replacement
10-4065 Tall Timbers Development

Mr. Knights recused himself from discussion and voting on the next three projects; he left the meeting at 10:20.

Mayor Marchand moved approval of the following projects; Ms. Mahon seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

12-2441J Bedford Field Improvements
11-3422B Princeton Forrestal RECAP Modification
11-3939B Princeton Forrestal B Site Connector Road

Mr. Knights returned to meeting at 10:25.

Mr. Weyl left the meeting at 10:25.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Dooley reported on the staff's monthly workload and incoming revenue. She noted that staff processed 10 Deficiency Letters, 16 Jurisdictional Determinations, and two General Permits 1; staff issued 7 Certificates of Approval and responded to 2 OPRA requests. She stated that application fees brought in \$14,950 in revenue last month. She gave an overview of office operations and personnel.

Ms. Dooley noted that she attended a night time public forum by the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission regarding maintenance work to the Bulls Island Pedestrian Bridge over the Delaware River. The work will necessitate closing of the bridge. The extent and timing is still to be determined. The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission is seeking public comment on the matter. Aspects of the repair will require permitting by the DRCC.

D & R CANAL PARK REPORT

Superintendent Kalleser was unable to attend the meeting. She provided a report to Ms. Dooley which Ms. Dooley read. The DeMott Lane Bridge, which was overturned by the Hurricane Irene flooding events last fall, has been removed and the Park staff will be meeting shortly with contractors for a pre-bid meeting to discuss bridge replacement. Ms. Kalleser will be meeting with the Millstone Valley Preservation Coalition and associated groups to discuss several issues in Griggstown, which include but were not limited to demolition requests currently in process at the Sherman House and the former Fertonardo residence, and a Scenic Byway Grant for the

Griggstown Bridgetenders House. This included locating the septic fields and future use/interpretation of the Griggstown Muletenders Barracks. Also, the Bulls Island Campground will be closed for the 2012 camping season.

NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Shepherd reported that the NJWSA had finished dredging at Whitehead Road and would be moving to the inlet. The NJWSA will be repairing the flood guard bank in the areas between Bulls Island and the Prallsville Mills. The annual work on Island Farm Weir is ongoing.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed Mr. Barth's request at the previous Commission meeting regarding recognizing the 40th year since the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission was established. Mr. Barth suggested that an event include recognizing the 180th year of the Canal. He also suggested that the Commission consider marking the occasion with such events as a symposium on the history of the canal; a photo exhibition which could be installed in various venues over the course of the year; walks, lectures, and boat rides; and a project of cataloging documents related to the D & R Canal history. The Commission discussed several ideas which would focus on the importance of the Canal historically. Concerns were raised regarding resources.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Barth stated that he protested the closing of Bulls Island Campground for the 2012 camping season; he noted that it is one of the most popular campgrounds in the state and suggested that the state move quickly and deliberately to reopen the campground.

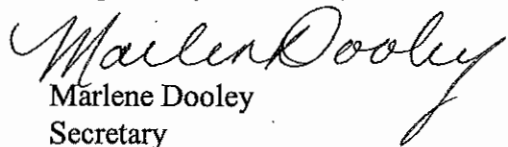
Mr. Barth asked about path access where the breaks are along the path such as at the Workhouse in Hopewell Township. He asked if the Workhouse part of the path would be open on weekends. Mr. Shepherd noted that the NJWSA had hoped to be able to open the path on weekends but that the repairs were continuing on weekends, so they were not able to open the path.

Mr. Barth inquired about the status of resurfacing of the path from Landing Lane to Kingston and noted that, as a member of the public, he would like it finished as quickly as possible.

Mr. Barth asked about the D & R Canal Bridge at the Somerset Diner. Ms. Dooley noted that Parks was in the initial stages of design of the bridge but it had been stalled due to access issues. The discussions had recently begun again due to the review of a request for a subdivision of the property. Mr. Barth noted his continued interest in this bridge design to allow boating and noted that he would suggest that the bridge be 9-feet high or a swing bridge so that boating traffic could pass. Ms. Mahon noted that the cost of such a bridge, when previously explored, was found to be cost prohibitive. There was discussion regarding alternative bridge designs and cost. Mr. Barth requested that he be included in pre-bid and pre-design meetings to discuss the possibility of making the bridges canal boat accessible. Ms. Mahon noted she would discuss this request with Mr. Mulvan and would contact Mr. Barth. Also, there was discussion regarding boat use of the Canal. Ms. Dooley was asked to research the files to determine whether the Commission had taken a formal position on the matter.

Mr. Knights moved to adjourn the meeting and Mayor Marchand seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Marlene Dooley
Secretary

