

**March 19, 2014 Minutes of the Meeting
Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission**

TIME: 10:10 a.m.

DATE: March 19, 2014

PLACE: D&R Canal Commission Office
Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONERS: Chairman Robert Bostock, Vice Chairman John Loos, and Commissioners Julie Cobb Allen, Mary Alessio Leck, Bruce Stout, and Mark Texel

STAFF: Mr. Joseph Ruggeri, Ms. Colleen Christie Maloney,
Deputy Attorney General Lewin Weyl, Deputy Attorney General Alison Reynolds

GUESTS: Superintendent Patricia Kalleser, D&R Canal State Park; Mr. Joe Shepherd, NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA); Mr. Robert von Zumbusch, D&R Canal Commission Advisory Council; Mr. Robert Barth, D&R Canal Watch and D&R Canal Commission Advisory Council; Mr. Charles Waaben, VAST Center; Ms. Amy Pinelli, Bristol-Myers Squibb; Mr. Steven Gardner, Van Note-Harvey; Mr. Greg Oman, Menlo Engineering; Mr. Joseph Fishinger, Somerset County Engineering; Ms. Beth Kenderdine, Edwards Engineering; Mr. Michael DeAngelo, NJDOT; Mr. Ronald Sebring, RASA, LLC.

Chairman Bostock announced that this was a regularly scheduled meeting of the D&R Canal Commission and that all provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been met in the scheduling of the meeting.

Administrative Items

Chairman Bostock confirmed the next month's Commission meeting date is April 16, 2014.

Minutes of the Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of February 19, 2014

Chairman Bostock asked for comments on the minutes. Vice Chairman Loos and Mr. von Zumbusch made corrections. Chairman Bostock asked for further comment, and, hearing none, asked for a motion on the minutes. Commissioner Stout motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Commissioner Texel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Minutes of Executive Session of January and February 2014 Meetings

Chairman Bostock asked for comments on the January 15, 2014 and February 19, 2014 executive session minutes. Commissioner Texel made a correction. Chairman Bostock

asked for further comment, and, hearing none, he asked for a motion on the minutes. Vice Chairman Loos motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The executive session minutes of January 15 and February 19, 2014 were approved unanimously.

Review Zone A Projects

Chairman Bostock asked Mr. Ruggeri to give a brief overview of the Review Zone A projects.

14-4403 Traffic Signal Weston Canal Road (Franklin)

Mr. Ruggeri noted that the project makes safety improvements to an intersection, which is needed because of the significant number of accidents. Mr. Fishinger, Somerset County Engineering, agreed with Mr. Ruggeri's description of the project and noted that the project was designed to minimize impact on the canal. Commissioner Texel asked if alternative options had been considered. Mr. Fishinger explained that other options had been considered during design and this was the least disruptive option. Mr. Barth, D&R Canal Watch, asked for further details, and Mr. Fishinger responded that the project would be of similar color and style to the traffic signal nearby at Weston Canal and Schoolhouse Roads, and would have no impact on a nearby cemetery. Chairman Bostock asked for a motion on the project. Vice Chairman Loos motioned for approval with a waiver for compelling public need due to the need to reduce accidents; Commissioner Leck seconded the motion, and the project was approved unanimously.

14-4518 NJDOT Lawrence Maintenance Yard (Lawrence)

Mr. Ruggeri described the project, which is situated between US Route 1 and US Business Route 1. The new building would be constructed over existing impervious and not visible from the park. Mr. Sebring, RASA, LLC, a consultant for the applicant, agreed with Mr. Ruggeri's description of the project and introduced Mr. DeAngelo, NJDOT. Chairman Bostock asked for comments from the public; hearing none, he asked for a motion on the project. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the project and Commissioner Texel seconded the motion; the project was approved unanimously.

14-4317A Intersection Improvements Easton Avenue and Willow Street and Unclaimed Freight Jughandle (Franklin)

Mr. Ruggeri described the project that will replace existing traffic signals and install safety improvements. Work will be over existing impervious surface and will not have visible impact on the park. Mr. Fishinger noted that the project would replace two existing signals, install safety upgrades, and move an existing signal out of the sidewalk and the bike path. Vice Chairman Loos asked for details related to the bike path; Mr. Fishinger noted the bike path would not be changed, but there would be improvements to crosswalks and accessibility ramps. Commissioner Leck asked if there was an anticipated change in traffic volume in area; Mr. Fishinger noted that there were no known plans to further develop the area. Chairman Bostock asked for further comment from the commission and the public; hearing none, he asked for a motion on the project. Commissioner Texel moved to approve the project and Commissioner Stout seconded the motion. The project was approved unanimously.

Review Zone B Projects

Chairman Bostock asked Mr. Ruggeri to give a brief overview of the Review Zone B projects.

13-3635A Veronica Avenue (Franklin)

Mr. Ruggeri noted that the applicant proposes to develop a vacant lot with a two-story office building and associated improvements.

14-2436EE Bristol-Myers Squibb Lawrence-Hopewell Trail Project (Hopewell)

Mr. Ruggeri described the project, which will extend a pedestrian/bicycle trail using pervious pavement.

14-2835B Montgomery High School Turf Field Reconstruction (Montgomery)

Mr. Ruggeri described the turf field reconstruction project that will result in no new impervious surface.

Chairman Bostock called for comment from the commission on the three Review Zone B projects.

Commissioner Texel asked who would be responsible for trail maintenance of the Lawrence-Hopewell Trail (LHT). Ms. Pinelli, Bristol-Myers Squibb, noted the trail would be deeded to LHT. Mr. Gardner, Van Note-Harvey, noted the proposed section of trail would complete a master plan project, and meets up with a completed portion of LHT in Hopewell Township.

Chairman Bostock called for any more comment, and, hearing none, for a motion on the Review Zone B projects. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the projects and Vice Chairman Loos seconded the motion. The projects were approved unanimously.

Other

Lambertville MUA Water Quality Management Plans

There was discussion regarding the request for written consent to the plans related to a Hunterdon Medical Center facility and Lambertville Water Lofts development. DAG Weyl noted there was a need to review the materials. Chairman Bostock asked for a motion to table the matter to the next commission meeting. Vice Chairman Loos motioned to approve tabling the matter until the next meeting; Commissioner Leck seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

In Ms. Dooley's absence, Ms. Christie Maloney distributed a work tally to the commission.

D&R Canal State Park Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Kalleser noted that the Weston Causeway Bridge, which is a DOT replacement project, will be closed until mid-July, but the path would remain open. The Demott Lane Bridge installation was delayed and it would be installed in July. The home of the scenic byway at the Griggstown Bridgetenders house would open in mid-April. Potholes in the vicinity of Kingston Lock and the Millstone Aqueduct were being addressed.

New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA)

Mr. Shepherd, NJWSA, reported that the authority was addressing the many trees which had fallen over the winter.

Old/New Business

Commissioner Leck reported on activities related to the Abbott Marshlands, including a successful trash pickup involving Watershed Ambassadors, and a history weekend on April 12 and 13, including a light rail trip along the canal. The Friends of the Abbott Marshlands will be receiving the Ruth Patrick Excellence in Education Award from the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin.

Public Forum

Mr. Barth invited the public to participate in Canal Watch activities including a walk from South Bound Brook to East Millstone. He also expressed his concern about odor from the Lambertville sewage treatment plant along the path and asked about mitigation related to previous LMUA projects.

Mr. von Zumbusch announced that the annual NJ History Fair will be held on May 10, 2014 at Washington Crossing State Park.

Executive Session

Chairman Bostock asked that the resolution allowing the commission to enter into executive session be entered into the record:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission to conduct a meeting from which the public is excluded in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission has determined that such certain circumstances exist; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the executive discussion shall be made available to the public when the matters under discussion are no longer confidential in nature; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of the Commission will reconvene at the conclusion of executive session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission that it shall enter into executive session for the following reasons, as outlined by N.J.S.A. 10-4-12: To discuss legal and personnel matters.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

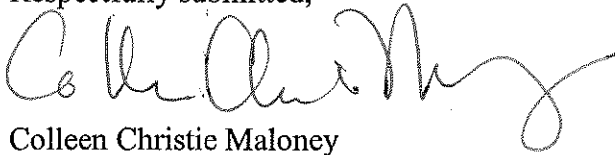
Commissioner Stout motioned to approve the resolution and enter into executive session and Commissioner Texel seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously. The commission entered into executive session at 10:35 a.m.

Public Session

Chairman Bostock called the public session back to order at 11:10 a.m.

Chairman Bostock noted he would entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Texel motioned to adjourn and Vice Chairman Loos seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Christie Maloney