

STATE CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 9, 2019

The Chair called to order the regular meeting of the State Codes & Standards Committee at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in 2 North Conference Room B, at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was present.

In Attendance:

- Johnny Carrier, **C&S Secretary**, Residential Contractor Member
- Paul Costello, **C&S Vice Chair**, Electric Trades Member
- Thomas DiBlasi, P.E., Structural Engineer Member
- Donald Doeg, Public Member
- Louis Free, Architect, CAS Chair, Member
- Donald Harwood, Public Member
- George Iskra, P.E., (Engineer, Fire Protection)
- David McKinley, Advocacy Member
- Henry Miga, Building Official Member
- Mike Musco, P.E. Electrical Engineer
- Glenn Neilson, Building Contractor Member
- Eric Shutt, Plumbing Trades Contractor
- Carlton Smith, Building Official Member
- Fred Wajcs, Jr., Public Member
- William Zoeller, Energy Efficiency Member

Also Present:

- Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector
- Jenna Padula, DAS/DCS Legal
- Joseph Kingston, OSFM, Fire & Life Safety Supervisor
- Charles Rotherberge
- Bill Nash, ICC

1) MINUTES

- a) A motion (D. Harwood) was made and seconded (L. Free) to accept the minutes of the **September 11, 2019** meeting. **All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**

2) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) 9/20/19 **A-08-19** Mike Kleffner, AIA, Wallace Architects LLC, Withdrew Appeal (*see item #e for details*).
- b) 9/20/19 **A-14-19** Request for Appeal received from Anthony P. Strazza, III, Stamford, CT. RE: [194 South Ave, New Canaan, CT] denial w/o prejudice, of Section 404.2.3.2 (Swinging Doors), of ICC A117.1-2009 portion of the 2018 SBC; that proposed to allow a 4 inch clearance on the push side of the door in lieu of the required 18 inch clearance for a manual swinging door. **Panel assigned: David McKinley (Chair), Don Doeg (Panel), Henry Miga (Panel), and George Iskra (Alternate).**
- c) 9/27/19 **A-15-19** Request for Appeal received from Bruce J. Spiewak, AIA, Consulting Architect, LLC, [Saint Thomas More – 23 Lynwood Place, New Haven, CT] Section 1011.3, of the 2015 IBC portion of the 2018 IBC: Modification approved in part: *approved* a headroom of 6 feet, 5 inches,

but *denied* a headroom of 5 feet, 9 inches at a stairway leading from a new dwelling unit located on the third floor of an existing building undergoing a change of use. **Panel assigned: Glenn Neilson (Chair), Lou Free (Panel), Tom DiBlasi (Panel) and Paul Costello (Alternate).**

- d) 10/03/19 Correspondence received from Office of the State Fire Marshal, William Abbott/Joseph Kingston: **Inspection Report completed by John Dembishack, Fire & Life Safety Specialist dated 8/23/19 RE: A-09-19 [Gaylord Specialty Healthcare located at 50 Gaylord Farm Road, Wallingford, CT] (see item #f for details).**

3) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Codes Amendment Subcommittee (CAS) (Free)** – We will have a meeting directly following this one to continue our review of code change proposals that were submitted. The objective over the next two months is to review a draft of the State Building Code Amendments, review a draft of the Fire Code Amendments. Tentatively, we are looking potentially to take final action on the Codes Amendment Subcommittee side on those amendments on 11/13/19 for the full Committee take action at their 12/11/19 meeting – depending on what happens in this next meeting with the understanding that we don't have a second meeting in November or December because of the Holidays. We will access today where we are. We may change our schedules. However, we are looking for the full Committee to take actions at the December meeting.
- b) **Ethics/Procedural Regulations Subcommittee (Harwood)** – We set a tentative meeting for 11/13/19 at 11:30am to pick up where we left off at our last meeting. Specifically, to review the guide, discuss the member handbook, review the information on UAPA and set some action plans.

4) OLD BUSINESS

- a) There was no old business

5) NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Staff Report**
 - i) **Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector** – No report
 - ii) **William Abbott, State Fire Marshal** – Still working on Fire Code
 - iii) **Jenna Padula, Staff Counsel** – No report
- b) **Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee (Harwood & Sinsigalli)** – We voted as a committee to move forward with the IFC for buildings built after August 31, 2005 and to use NFPA gratitude.
- c) **Training Councils**
 - i) **Building Code Training Council (Musco)** – No mission for this council
 - ii) **Fire Marshal Training Council (Harwood)** – No Report

d) **Report on Bills (Cassidy) – No Report**

6) **APPEAL HEARINGS**

- a) **A-01-19** Request for Appeal received 1/7/19 from Ori D. Spiegel, Esq., Law Office of Lawrence A. Levinson RE: [243 Winthrop Avenue, New Haven, CT] per New Haven Fire Marshal – “Doors not in compliance”. Forward to State Fire Marshal for review. Fire Marshal reports that they had an inspector review it. He is currently working with the Appellant. **State Fire Marshal report in process.** State Fire Marshal completed inspection – Appellant owns many properties, would like to proceed with appeal/hearing. Panel assigned: Keith Flood (Chair), David McKinley (Panel), Mike Sinsigalli (Panel), William Zoeller (Alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m. **Hearing moved to Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., 2N Room B. Hold on agenda.**
- b) **A-04-19** Request for Appeal received 3/14/19 from Bill Disiero, Centennial Real Estate RE: [1201 Boston Post Road, Milford, CT (M-69-19)]. Denial of Section 907, of the 2012 IBC portion of the 2016 SBC, which sets forth requirements for “*Emergency Voice/Alarm Communication Systems in malls*” in which proposed to not have the required alarm system within the mall to trip Dave & Busters Fire Alarm System. Panel assigned: Mike Sinsigalli, Panel Chair, Glenn Nielson, Panel, Lou Free, Panel, and Donald Harwood (alternate). Hearing scheduled, Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 11:00a.m.-2 North Conference Room B. Received Request for Continuance from Sara A. Sharp, Esq., Hurwitz Sagarin Slossberg & Knuff, LLC on 5/31/19. **Panel Granted Continuance. Hearing rescheduled, Wednesday, November 13, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m., 2N Room B. Hold on agenda.**
- c) **A-05-19** Request for Appeal received 5/15/19 from Raymond Pietrorazio, Representative, OXC Airport/Power Plant, Town of Middlebury - RE: [CPV Towantic LLC, 16 Woodruff Hill Road, Oxford, CT]. RE: CT Fire Safety Code Section(s) under appeal: NFPA-54 and NFPA-56. And CT Building Code Section(s) under appeal: Section, 104.1, 105.1, NFPA-54 and NFPA-56. Referred to State Fire Marshal. **Due to the complexity of this case, Fire Marshal still working with this case. Hold on agenda.**
- d) **C-01-19** Formal Complaint and request for a formal investigation from Mr. Joseph M. Cohen, Chester, CT RE: Robert M. Meyers, State Licensed Building Inspector, 76A East Haddam Colchester Turnpike, Moodus, CT. **Refer to Sargent, Wilfred Blanchette, Connecticut State Police, Fire and Explosion Unit.** A certified letter was sent to Mr. Cohen acknowledging receipt of complaint. A certified letter was sent to Mr. Robert Meyers regarding complaint (copy of complaint was attached). The Complaint and a letter asking Sargent Blanchette to assign an investigator to review the case, associated allegations, and making a recommendation to the panel. **A motion (M. Musco) was made for discuss and seconded (C. Smith). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.** Mr. Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E., State Building Inspector summarized Sargent Wilfred Blanchette’s decision: “The statute does not require Building Officials to have high school diplomas – it discusses 5 years of experience only”. **A motion (M. Musco) was made to dismiss the complaint and seconded (T. DiBlasi). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Counsel will draft letter to Complainant. Letter was finalized and mailed out on 10/17/19. Remove from agenda.**

- e) **A-08-19 Request for Appeal** received 7/31/19 from Wallace Architects LLC. RE: Cherry Apartments, 145 Cherry Street, Waterbury, CT RE: Denial of Section 1012.4, of the 2012 IBC portion of the 2016 SBC which proposed to have support brackets such that interrupts the continuity of the handrail gripping surface. Panel assigned: Glenn Neilson, (Chair); Lou Free (panel); Fred Wajcs, Jr. (panel) and Tom DiBlasi (alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, 10/9/19 @ 12 Noon, 2N Room B. **Appellant withdrew appeal on 9/20/19. Remove from agenda.**

- f) **A-09-19 Request for Appeal** received 6/21/19 from Robert W. Hall, Jr., Director of Facility Support Services, Gaylord Specialty Healthcare (Lyman Building): RE: 50 Gaylord Farm, Road, Wallingford CT. RE: Denial of relief from Part IV, Section 7.2.1.4.2(2) of the 2018 Connecticut State Fire Safety Code - to permit the door to the existing Exit Stair Enclosure STR-L101 (said to be used as a convenience stair between the Floor Levels 1, and 2) to swing opposing the direction of egress travel at Floor Level 1, within an existing Two Story Health Care Occupancy. **Panel assigned: Keith Flood, (Chair); David McKinley (Panel); Henry Miga (Panel) and Carlton Smith (Alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, 12/11/19 @ 11:00 a.m., 2N Room B. Hold on agenda.**

- g) **A-10-19 Request for Appeal** received 6/27/19 from 860 Main Street, LLC - Estate of John Gramegna, Managing Member: RE: 860 Main Street, East Hartford, CT RE: Connecticut Fire Safety Code(s). Referred to State Fire Marshal for investigation. **On 10/9/19, Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM), Joseph Kingston, Fire & Life Safety Supervisor reports that they did conducted a field inspection. However, they have not finished completing the report due to multiple units (54) involved. That unfortunately, it appears that they will not be able to reach an agreement with the parties. The OSFM's suggestion is to set a panel only until the report is complete. Panel assigned: Mike Sinsigalli (Chair), Keith Flood (Panel), Don Harwood (Panel) and William Zoeller, (Alternate). Hold on agenda.**

- h) **A-11-19 Request for Appeal** received from Timothy P. Guidera, Pawcatuck Riverview LLC, State Building Code Section 117 - Notice of Imminent Danger, Order to Vacate and Posting of Unsafe Structure (RE: 21 Pawcatuck Ave, Pawcatuck, CT). Appellant seeking determination overruling the Stonington Building Official's July 26, 2019 decision that the subject building is not in violation of SBC Section 117. That it was already partially torn down and presents no imminent danger of collapse. Panel assigned: Henry Miga (Chair), Johnny Carrier (Panel) Donald Doeg (Panel) and Tom DiBlasi (Alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, 10/09/19 @ 10:00 a.m., 2N Room B. **Hearing held. Decision will be mailed in 90 days (01/09/19). Hold on agenda.**

- i) **A-12-19 Request for Appeal** received 9/3/19 from Richard Leighton, R.E. Leighton & Associates, RE: Appeal of the Local Fire Marshal Ivoryton (Essex), Connecticut. RE: Ivory Key, LLC, [158 Main Street, Ivoryton (Essex), CT]. Referred to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. **Ongoing Communications continue. Hold on agenda.**

- j) **A-13-19 Request for Appeal** received 9/6/19 from Alan P. Gravel, RE: [200 Perch Rock Trail, Winsted, CT (OSBI: M-554-19)] RE: denial Section R305.1.1(4) that proposed a ceiling height of 6 feet, 5 inches and a clear height of 5 feet, 10 inches under a beam within an existing basement being converted to habitable space. **Panel assigned: Glenn Neilson (Chair); Lou Free (panel); Tom DiBlasi (panel); Carlton Smith (alternate). Hearing scheduled Wednesday, 12/11/19 @ 10:00 a.m., 2N Room B. Hold on agenda.**

7) GOOD OF THE ORDER

The next Codes and Standards Committee meeting is scheduled for **December 11, 2019, 1:00 p.m.**, and will be held in **2 North Conference Room B**, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

8) ADJOURNMENT

A motion (D. Harwood) was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded (M. Musco). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.



Keith Flood, Chair
Connecticut State Codes & Standard Committee