

STATE CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2020

The Chair called to order the regular meeting of the State Codes & Standards Committee at 1:30 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:

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

Also Present:

- Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector
- Jenna Padula, DAS/DCS Legal
- William Abbott, OSFM, State Fire Marshal
- Darren Hobbs, Manager-Technical Services
- Timothy Baldwin, CT DDS
- Joseph Kingston, OSFM, Fire & Life Safety Supervisor
- Bill Nash, ICC

1) MINUTES

- a) A motion (T. DiBlasi) was made and seconded (F. Wajcs) to accept the minutes of the *January 8, 2020* meeting. **All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**

2) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) **01/08/20** Correspondence received from Bonnie Becker, Director, ODEM RE: Certificate of Emeritus: Retirement of Joanna Lambert, Fire Marshal Certification effective 12/13/19.
- b) **01/10/20** Correspondence received from Law Office of Lawrence A. Levinson RE: Appellant withdrew appeal RE: 243 Winthrop Avenue, New Haven (3-family apartment building).
- c) **02/03/20** Correspondence received from Attorney John L. Laudati, Murphy, Laudati, Kiel, Rattigan RE: Appellant requested 60-day continuance RE: 860 MAIN Street LLC, East Hartford, CT – Estate of John Gramegna)

- d) **02/03/20** Correspondence received from William Abbott, State Fire Marshal, A-19-19 State Fire Marshal Report RE: Thimble Island Condominiums – 45 Jefferson Road, Branford, CT.

3) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Codes Amendment Subcommittee (CAS) (Free)** – CAS Committee met prior to this meeting and took action to formerly adopt the draft amendments for the CT State Building Code and CT Fire Safety Code. State Fire Marshal and State Building Inspector will present technical clarifications and changes that need to be made for both draft documents to full committee prior to their accepting and moving forward.
- b) **Ethics/Procedural Regulations Subcommittee (Harwood)** – Will have a committee meeting after the finalization of the 2020 SBC and CFSC. We will just follow up on where we left off.

4) OLD BUSINESS

- a) There was no old business

5) NEW BUSINESS

a) **Staff Report**

- i) **Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector** – Mr. Daniel Tierney, Deputy State Building Inspector will retire at the end of this month after 31 ½ years of state service. Dan thanked the committee for their professional working relationship with him over the years.
- ii) **William Abbott, State Fire Marshal** –SFM is still working on the draft – it’s not a final draft but we wanted to make sure the committee was up to par. We are planning on maintaining the same schedule so that the codes can be heard all at one time to avoid multiple public hearings. I will submit the draft to the Chair and ask that he forward it to the entire committee for review.

iii) **Jenna Padula, Staff Counsel** – No report

- b) **Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee (Harwood & Sinsigalli)** – No report

c) **Training Councils**

- i) **Building Code Training Council (Musco)** – No report
- ii) **Fire Marshal Training Council (Harwood)** – No report

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

e) **Vote on the Connecticut Building Code package (CSBC)**

A motion (L. Free) was made and seconded (T. DiBlasi) to adopt the 2020 drafted 2020 (CSBC). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

- f) **Vote on the Connecticut State Fire Safety Code package (CSFSC)-**

A motion (H. Miga) was made and seconded (C. Smith) to adopt the 2020 drafted 2020 (CSFSC). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

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. Hearing held and continued to Wednesday, 2/5/20 @ 10:00 a.m., 2N Conference Room B. **Remove from 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, 3/11/20 @ 10:00 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. **State Fire Marshal is still work with the State’s Attorney. Hold on agenda.**
- d) **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. **Hearing held. Decision will be mailed out in 90 days (3/11/20) Hold on agenda.**
- e) **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. 11/29/19 received site visit report from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Panel assigned: Mike Sinsigalli (Chair), Keith

Flood (Panel), Don Harwood (Panel) and William Zoeller, (Alternate). Hearing Scheduled: Wednesday, 12/18/19 @ 9:00 a.m., 13 North Building, Room A. 12/11/19 Appellant requested a continuance. Panel granted. Hearing date continued to Thursday, 2/6/20 @ 10:00 a.m., 13 NB, Room A. **Appellant requested a 60-day continuance. Granted. Hold on agenda.**

- f) **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. State Fire Marshal is working on a report for the Committee. Panel assigned: Keith Flood, Chair; Mike Sinsigalli, Panel; Fred Wajcs, Jr., Panel; Henry Miga, Alternate. **Hearing scheduled, Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m., 13 NB Room A. Decision will be mailed out in 90 days (5/6/20) Hold on agenda.**
- g) **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. Hearing held and continued for 30 days. **Appellant withdrew. Remove from agenda.**
- h) **A-14-19 Request for Appeal received 9/20/19** from Anthony P. Strazza, III 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); George Iskra (alternate). Hearing scheduled Wednesday, 01/08/20 @ 11:00 a.m., 2N Room B. Hearing held and continued for 30 days. **Chair ordered status letter to Appellant. Hold on agenda.**
- i) **A-15-19 Request for Appeal received 9/27/19** from Bruce J. Spiewak RE: [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); Paul Costello (alternate). Hearing scheduled Wednesday, 01/08/20 @ 10:00 a.m., 2N Room B. **Hearing held and continued for 30 days. Hold on agenda.**
- j) **A-16-19 Request for Appeal received 10/23/19 from Rachita Shan RE:** [338 South Quaker Lane, West Hartford, CT] Section R311.7.2, of the 2015 IRC *denial* that proposed a headroom of 6 feet, at the top of a stairway that serves a newly created habitable attic within a single family dwelling. Panel assigned: Glen Neilson (Chair); Tom DiBlasi (panel); Lou Free (panel); Johnny Carrier (alternate). Hearing Scheduled Wednesday, 2/5/20 @ 11:00am PLAZA LEVEL, ROOM B. **Hearing held. Decision will be mailed out in 90 days (5/5/20) Hold on Agenda.**
- k) **A-18-19 Request for Appeal received 11/15/19** from Jane Davila, Managing Director, NEST Arts Factory. **RE: [NEST Arts Factory - 345 Railroad Avenue, Bridgeport, CT]** RE: Accessibility Exemption from Section 1012.8(2) – Complete Change of Occupancy, of 2015 IEBC. *denial* of an accessibility exemption that proposed to utilize an existing freight elevator to provide accessibility within an existing three-story 34,185 square foot building undergoing a change in occupancy. Panel assigned: John Butkus, Chair; Lout Free (panel); Johnny Carrier (panel); Carlton Smith (alternate). Hearing scheduled, Wednesday, 1/15/20 @ 11:00am, 2 NB Room B. Decision will be mailed out in 90 days. **Hold on Agenda.**

- l) **A-19-19** Request for Appeal received 11/15/19 from Attorney Pat Labbadia. RE: Abatement order of Fire/Life Safety Hazards – Section 31.3.4.1.1 [45 Jefferson Road / West Main, Branford, CT]. Referred to Office of the State Fire Marshal. **OSFM, assigned case to Mike Kellett, State Fire Marshal Inspector. Hold on Agenda.**
- m) **A-21-19** Request for Appeal received 12/6/19 from Mr. Carlos Pla, Greenwich, CT. RE: [107 East Elm Street, Greenwich, CT] Section R305.1(4), 2015 IRC – denial of 6 feet, under a beam within an existing basement being converted to habitable space. **Panel assigned: Glenn Neilson, Chair; Lou Free (panel); Tom DiBlasio (panel); Carlton Smith (alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, 4/8/20 @ 11:00 a.m., 2 NB Room B. Hold on agenda.**
- n) **A-01-20** Request for Appeal received 1/06/20 from Brian Miller, Brookfield, CT. RE: [90 Ironworks Hill Road, Brookfield, CT] RE: Storm Damage: Re-roof and replace 2 skylights RE: William Babyak, Assistant Brookfield Building Official’s Certificate of Approval. Referred to the Office of the State Building Inspector for mediation. **Referred to the Office of the State Building Inspector for mediation. Hold on agenda.**

1) **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The Chair called for a “moment of silence” for Firefighter Tim Smith, Orange, CT who was killed in the line of duty.

The next Codes and Standards Committee meeting is scheduled for, **March 11, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.** and will be held in **2 NB, Room B**, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut.

2) **ADJOURNMENT**

- Don Harwood compliments working with Mr. Daniel Tierney has been a pleasure.
- Mr. Tierney’s retirement party is Wednesday, March 25, 2020 – 5pm-9pm, Italian Society of Middletown, 72 court Street, Middletown, CT @ \$45.00 per person (includes gift)



Keith Flood, Chair
Connecticut State Codes & Standard Committee