

Email with notes: Sent July 17, 2009

NEXT MEETING – **tentatively** Mon, August 17<sup>th</sup> or Wed, August 19<sup>th</sup>; 9-11am – EST – Hartford

### **Summary of MRN/deconstruction meeting July 9, 2009 –**

**Diane Duva**, Asst Dir of WEED, DEP attended to talk about MRN's interest in pursuing legislative change.

- a. DEP, implementing State Solid Waste Management Plan, is facilitating MRN because the recovery of C & D materials for reuse and recovery is a priority – and working with the private sectors to help meet those goals are part of the implementation plan.
  - b. Diane gave us all a quick review of civics – reminding us about the executive and legislative branches. And helped everyone understand the challenges and opportunities to change legislation. There was no exam.
  - c. DEP puts together bills each year – includes a wide range of areas (from fishing to water protection to air protection) which are then culled down over the summer to a select few. These are then further streamlined via other Agency needs and the Governor. The Governor needs to approve any Agency led bill. By the beginning of January – only a small pile of official bills make it the next step. Even fewer are passed and can change shape during the session.
  - d. Diane encouraged MRN to develop a Plan B – propose a change outside the agency. For any proposed outside legislative change DEP may support, disapprove or remain silent.
    - i. The legislative change that MRN wants is change in legislative outside the Agency of DEP (its in Department of Public Safety) – this adds a bit of complication – and if it's included within a DEP sponsored bill, it may not make the cut due to the complicated aspect of it being a change with Dept of Public Safety
    - ii. Suggest the group seek support of their legislators/key committees
    - iii. Suggest the group seek support from another Agency or industry group
2. A **discussion** then followed due to the challenges that seeking legislative change would mean – although everyone agreed the change is needed.
- a. Can we avoid having to create change legislatively?
  - b. If a change is sought – the timeline would be now. Agencies developing bill ideas now.
  - c. Reviewed why a license with Consumer Protection isn't a desirable idea...

- i. But having the Home Renovation license not require any qualifications but the Deconstruction license requiring qualifications would mean the need for 2 licenses and the Decon license still wouldn't allow any greater access to conduct deconstruction activities with regs...
- ii. However, Ross seemed to recall the conversation at CP included them feeling they would rather there be a separate license of deconstruction and not using the Home Renovation license...

3. Maybe the **next step** is talking to all partners at the same time?

- a. Public Safety – key partners – Lisa Humble and Elliot Henowitz
  - i. Fire Marshal
- b. Consumer Protection
- c. Labor Dept – if qualifications are required – this links with apprenticeship programs – how might deconstruction fit?
- d. What about industry organizations?
  - i. Construction industry orgs; CBIA, others

4. **What are we proposing?**

- a. Suggest we put our ideas on paper – so that we're providing something in writing to our future potential partners to help them understand why they should partner with us – why challenges are all our challenges and we need to work together to solve
- b. Sherill will start drafting
  - i. IDEAS:
    - 1. ONE IDEA – two parts. First, DPS – institutional statutory change – add deconstruction to exemption list (add a 5<sup>th</sup> exemption) AND Second, Consumer Protection develop deconstruction license with competency criteria
    - 2. ONE IDEA – Class C Demolition License for deconstruction – Ross felt this was less advantageous than idea above (a) – because it also requires statutory change – less understanding of competency criteria and certification by 3<sup>rd</sup> party
    - 3. ONE IDEA – Add 3 years experience of deconstruction as a qualifier
    - 4. ADD: definition of deconstruction
- c. Other folks to reach out to – some on our e-list and others not
  - i. Universities and colleges – esp. Gateway and Naugatuck that might be interested in apprenticeship programs (Three Rivers, CCSU, Yale)
  - ii. State Historic Preservation Office, other historic groups?
  - iii. CT Works – New Britain, Bridgeport
  - iv. DECD – would DECD be interested in this? There's stimulus money for such activities and they are not at the table... David Cooper has contacts and will share with Sherill. Sherill will also talk to Linda Jacobs in NY.

5. **Announcements**

- a. Joe shared that the Long Beach project in Bridgeport/Stratford was not moving forward with deconstruction. Ross said he knows folks in LIS program working at the project and will touch base with them to learn more.
    - i. **UPDATE:** Via Ross' outreach, Kate Brown, OLISP/DEP, said that TPL and USFWS included recovery of building materials and metals in their plan – lots of vandalism happening now – so much of furnishings may not be recoverable – but most likely any reuse/recycling will be done internally (Federal Gov't/USFWS) and not go out for bid (7/14/09).
  - b. New Haven's Green Construction Awareness event on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am to 12noon – Charles P said he's doing outreach calls for Lil – that it's open to anyone who's interested
    - i. **UPDATE:** I estimate there were 40-50 people in attendance at New Haven's event – at one point standing room only. (Sherill)
  - c. Joe said Brad Guy's UnBuilding book is good and would be a good text book for any of the college/training programs being developed
6. **Next meeting** – scheduled around flexibility of DPS and Consumer Protection – tentatively Mon, Augu

FOR FOLKS RECEIVING THIS EMAIL THAT ARE INTERESTED IN DECONSTRUCTION – Our next meeting could be a very important one – if we're able to get folks from DPS and Consumer Protection to join us to discuss the challenges the deconstruction industry faces and the issues it brings up for our local communities and state agencies – please consider joining us in person or by phone.

Thanks,

Sherill

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Think Outside the Roll-Off!