

STATE CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2020

The Chair called to order the regular meeting of the State Codes & Standards Committee at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held online using a Teams format.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was present.

In Attendance:

- Anthony Bruno, Health
- John Butkus, AIA, Architect
- Johnny Carrier, **C&S Secretary**, Residential Contractor Member
- Paul Costello, **C&S Vice Chair**, Electrical Contractor
- Thomas DiBlasi, P.E., Structural Engineer Member
- Donald Doeg, Esq, Public Member
- Keith Flood, **C&S Chair**, Fire Marshal
- Louis Free, Architect, CAS Chair, Architect
- Donald Harwood, Public Member
- Henry Miga, Building Official
- Mike Musco, P.E. Electrical Engineer
- Glenn Neilson, Building Contractor
- Iona Prosol, P.E., Fire Protection Engineer
- Mike Sinsigalli, Fire Marshal
- Carlton Smith, Building Official
- Fred Wajcs, Jr., Public Member
- William Zoeller, Energy Efficiency

Also Present:

- Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector
- Jenna Padula, DAS/DCS Legal
- William Abbott, State Fire Marshal
- Joseph Kingston, OSFM, Fire & Life Safety Supervisor
- Darren Hobbs, Deputy State Building Inspector

PUBLIC:

- Dave LaFond
- David DeLeew
- Bill Nash

1) MINUTES

- a) A motion (L. Free) was made and seconded (D. Harwood) to accept the minutes of the *December 9, 2020* meeting. **All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**

2) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) 12/8/20 Correspondence received from Philip R. Sherman, P.E. | RE: **A-08-20** Fire Safety Code Modification [FM-1046-20] 500 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT] A letter from the State Historic Preservation Office supporting their request.

3) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Codes Amendment Subcommittee (CAS) (Free)** There is a delay in getting copies of the 2021 IRC and IECC. Website states between January-February 2021.
- b) **Ethics/Procedural Regulations Subcommittee (Harwood)** – No report

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

- b) **Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee (Harwood & Sinsigalli)** – No report - waiting on code changes.

c) Training Councils

- i) **Building Code Training Council (Musco)** – Waiting to set up a meeting with Bonnie Becker, Director Education and Data Management
- ii) **Fire Marshal Training Council (Harwood)** – Had a meeting. Reviewed proposal submitted by Bill Abbott and Bonnie Becker. We are successful with virtual training – doing a great job. It fills the need. Duration of time (1 ½ hour). Board of Control terms are expiring. Follow up meeting first quarter of 2021.

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

- e) Committee vote on minimum qualifications for fire official certification for fire code inspections and fire investigators: Committee would like to meet with Bonnie Becker, Director, ODEM and William Abbott, State Fire Marshal for more details. Committee agreed to move the vote to the December 2020 meeting. **Motion (Don Harwood) that we have pre-requisites – change is to get approval to show credentials prior to class Seconded (Jack Butkus). All in favor. None Opposed.**

- f) **Nominations and Election of Officers Codes & Standards effective January 1, 2021.**

- i) **Chair**
- ii) **Vice Chair**
- iii) **Secretary**

Motion (Jack Butkus) to re-elect all three positions Seconded (Lou Free). All in favor. None Opposed.

6) APPEAL HEARINGS

- a) **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. Awaiting response from Judy Dicine. State Fire Marshal will have a meeting with Judy Dicine. **Fire Marshal still waiting to set up meeting with Judy Dicine. Hold on agenda.**
- b) **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). Hearing continued and referred to the Office of the State Building Inspector. Due to Covid-19 epidemic, hearing continued until further notice. Will reschedule at next C&S Meeting. State Building Inspector reports, this structure is a large old industrial building being used for storage. However, people are in and out of the building – there are safety issues/unsafe conditions. We are working together for a resolution. We worked jointly. Waiting to hear from local fire official. Waiting on new info. Per Darren Hobbs, Assistant State Building Inspector, no new information received – Appellant has not provided an update. Chair ordered status letter be sent to Appellant. Counsel prepared status letter for Admin to send out - letter emailed out on 12/3/20. **Per Mr. Hobbs, “We received additional information, not of much value.”. Decision to reconvene the hearing – set a date for some time in January 2021”. Hold on agenda.**
- c) **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 DiBlasi (panel); Carlton Smith (alternate). Hearing scheduled: Wednesday, 4/8/20 @ 11:00 a.m., 2 NB Room B. Hold on agenda. Due to Covid-19 epidemic, hearing continued until further notice. Will reschedule at next C&S Meeting. Hearing scheduled, Wednesday, 9/30/20 @ 11:00 a.m. **Hearing held. Decision will go out in 90 days (12/30/20). Hold on agenda.**
- d) **A-03-20** Request for Appeal received 6/3/20 from Brad DeMotte, R.A. | RE: [Universal Church, 261 Main Street, Danbury, CT] - denial of Section 1004.1 of the 2015 IEBC, to not allow a change of occupancy as described, is based on the fact that the change of occupancy is to a higher hazard and the travel distance to the single exit is too great, causing a hazard for the occupants. **Panel assigned: Henry Miga, Chair; Mike Sinsigalli (panel); Don Harwood (panel); Johnny Carrier (alternate).** Panel assigned but do not schedule hearing until discussion of virtual hearings. Hearing scheduled, Monday, 9/14/20 @ 11:00 a.m. via online Teams. **Hearing held. Decision will go out in 90 days (12/14/20). Hold on agenda.**
- e) **A-04-20** Request for Appeal received 7/16/20 from Michael Grunberg | RE: [82 Buckfield Lane, Greenwich, CT] – denied the alternate compliance to allow the use of a body of water is based on the requirements of the 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa code, Section 305.6 (Natural

Barriers). Panel assigned: John Butkus, Chair; Lou Free, (panel); Johnny Carrier (panel); Henry Miga (alternate). Hearing scheduled, Monday, 9/14/20 @ 1:00pm via online Teams. **Appellant requested a 30-day Extension of the Hearing. Extension Granted. Hold for 30 days.**

- f) **A-05-20** Request for Appeal received 9/17/20 from Bradley & Marylyn Korth | Local Building Official issue RE: [12 Lewis Road, Marlborough, CT]. Per Applicant, the town of Marlborough refuse to conduct inspections. Specific reason not cited in writing. **Referred to Office of the State Building Inspector follow-up. OSBI is working with the town – waiting to hear if they had the inspection needed. Hold on agenda.**
- g) **A-06-20** Request for Appeal received 9/17/20 from Nicholas F. Kepple, Esq, Suisman Shapiro | Local Building Official issue RE: [316 Elm Street, Stonington, CT]. Applicant is seeking Waiver of 10-foot distance requirement for residential propane tank from side of house. Referred to Office of the State Building Inspector follow-up. Local building official is working on a modification. **Hold on agenda.**
- h) **A-07-20** Request for Appeal received 10/5/20 from John Yacovino, State Fire Marshal-Meriden RE: [424 West Main Street, Meriden, CT] – denied relief request, existing historic building with a guard height at 31 inches above the floor. Panel assigned: Keith Flood, Chair; Johnny Carrier, Panel Member, Don Harwood, Panel Member; Glenn Neilson, Alternate. Hearing scheduled, Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 11:00a.m. **Hearing held 10/27/20. Schedule Deliberation Meeting. Hold on agenda.**
- i) **A-08-20** RE: Request for Appeal received 10/14/20 from Philip R. Sherman, P.E., RE: Fire Safety Code Modification [FM-1046-20] 500 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT] - denied relief from the CSFSC 7.2.2.4.5.6 & 7.2.2.4.6.2 (handrails). Panel assigned: Keith Flood, Chair; Glenn Neilson, Panel Member; Fred Wajcs, Panel Member; Johnny Carrier, Alternate. Hearing scheduled: Monday, November 23, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. **Hearing will be reconvened with all parties notified. The panel will pick up where it left off and after acceptance of any exhibits, additional questions, and any remaining closing statements, the panel will close the hearing and deliberate. Hearing scheduled, Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Hold on agenda.**

7). GOOD OF THE ORDER

- We would like to send our sincere condolences to Committee Member Mr. Glenn Neilson for the passing of his father.
- Carlton Smith will retire on February 1, 2021. We wish him well on his retirement.

The next Codes and Standards Committee meeting is scheduled for, **Wednesday, January 13, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m.** and will be held virtual on Teams.

8). ADJOURNMENT

Keith Flood (sig)