

State Codes and Standards Committee
Codes Amendment Subcommittee
Minutes

January 14, 2015

1. Call to Order: The Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the Codes Amendment Subcommittee of the State Codes and Standards Committee. The meeting was held in Room 532 at 165 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

2. In Attendance: Louis Free, Chair
John Butkus
Keith Flood
Robert Hanbury
Donald Harwood
Henry Miga
Michael Musco
Michael Sinsigalli
Carlton Smith
Fredrick Wajcs, Jr.

Also present: William Abbott, State Fire Marshal
Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector

Dianne Harp Jones, Coalition for the Adoption of a Unified Code
William Nash, International Code Council
Joanne Rees, AIA Connecticut
Bruce Spiewak, Self & AIA Connecticut
Donald J. Vigneau, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

3. Minutes:

No action was taken on previous meeting minutes.

4. Communications:

The following correspondence has been acknowledged by the CAS as being received since the last CAS meeting.

- a. Correspondence received on January 8, 2015 from Michael Sinsigalli regarding the Connecticut Fire Marshal's Association, 541 Committee Executive Summary dated April 8, 2014 related to the January 7, 2015 presentation of Code Change Proposal 001-FSC. This correspondence was forwarded to CAS members on January 8, 2015.
- b. Correspondence received on January 9, 2015 from William Nash, Government Relations Regional Manager New England, International Code Council, Inc. regarding a single unified family of codes.

- c. Correspondence received on January 12, 2015 from Robert Duval, New England Regional Director, National Fire Protection Association, regarding testimony provided during the January 7, 2015 CAS meeting in support of the Code Change Proposal 001-FSC.

5. Old Business

- a. Proposed Code Change **001-FSC** – 2012 NFPA Standard 101 (Life Safety Code). The CAS discussed the CMFA proposal to delete the current structure of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code and replace it with the 2012 NFPA Standard 101 for both new and existing construction with Connecticut Amendments as adopted prior to 2005.

The general feeling of the CAS is that the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis conducted by the CMFA 541 Committee was looked at from the NFPA perspective only and a similar analysis was not performed from an ICC perspective.

CMFA issues related to not being able to cite specific fire code section violations after issuance of Certificate of Occupancy because they are located in the IBC and the effectiveness in enforcement related to general administrative issues is a principal concern of the CAS. The CAS was not aware that this issue existed until the January 7, 2015 presentation, but this should not be used as a reason to abandon the current code structure and that this issue must be addressed and clarified in the proposed code amendments.

Michael Sinsigalli noted that the current Connecticut Fire Safety Code Part III based on the IFC and Part IV based on NFPA 101 is a hybrid and the two do not relate well to each other.

The CAS is concerned with the timing of this code change proposal in relationship to the goal to have draft Connecticut Amendment documents ready for CAS and Codes and Standards Committee review and final approval within the next two months in order to start the regulation approval process.

A motion was made and second to reject Proposed Code Change **001-FSC**. The proposal to use 2012 NFPA Standard 101 for both new and existing construction with Connecticut Amendments as adopted prior to 2005 is rejected.

The CAS Chair requested Mike Sinsigalli to submit all Code Change Proposals that are required to address CMFA's concerns related to the administrative issues of enforcement as soon as possible.

- b. The following is a status update of the OSBI and CAS reviews for the 2012 Family of Codes:
 1. 2012 International Building Code: No change in status from the January 7, 2015 CAS meeting related to OSBI and the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (OPA) coordination of 2012 IBC Chapter 11, Chapter 34 and ICC/ANSI A117.1-2009; and the progress of the second DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT incorporating previous actions.
 2. 2012 International Fire Code and Connecticut State Fire Safety Code: State Fire Marshal Abbott distributed a copy of the draft Connecticut Fire Safety Code containing Part I – Administration, Part II – General and Part III – New Construction, Renovation, or Change of Use. Part III is still a work in progress and many sections require coordination between OSFM and OSBI. Additional information and updates to Part III and Part IV will be provided at the next CAS meeting.
 3. ICC/ANSI A117.1-2009 Standard on Accessible & Usable Buildings and Facilities: See item 5.b.1. above.

6. New Business

No New Business.

7. Adjournment

The next meeting of the CAS will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 165 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut starting at 1:00 PM.

Louis Free, Chair
Codes Amendment Subcommittee

KEY: ICC International Code Council
IBC International Building Code
IEBC International Existing Building Code
IECC International Energy Conservation Code
IRC International Residential Code
NEC National Electrical Code
NFPA National Fire Protection Association