

***New Hampshire Board of Fire Control
Joint Committee on Code Enforcement***

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 8, 2018

11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Location: IPOC Media Room

Invited members included (*absentees noted in italics*):

Board of Fire Control: Daniel Andrus

Electrician's Board: Peter Cicolini

Mechanical Board: Bill Trombly

Water Well Board: Kelly Dobrowolski

Board of Architects: David Udelsman

Board of Engineers: Chris Mulleavey

Architectural Barrier Free Design Committee: Paul Garant

Building Code Review Board: Shawn Bergeron

NHAFC: Bradley Ober

NHBOA: William McKinney

State Fire Marshal: Deputy Fire Marshal Sean Toomey

Other Attendees:

None

Meeting notes:

Meeting called to order at 11:08 am by Daniel Andrus, Chair. Andrus welcomed all to the meeting.

Introductions around the room.

Review of minutes.

On a Motion: Trombly motioned to accept the minutes as amended from the September 26, 2018 meeting. McKinney 2nd the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.

HB 1254

Toomey gave a summary of the work of the sub-committee and the recommendations. Overall good progress towards adoption of 2015 codes. Local control may be a problem as direction was to create a min/max code. Need to have a single location for everyone to see the local amendments. Need to closely monitor the bills in this legislative session.

Andrus spoke of his satisfaction of the work to get to this point.

Ober spoke of work at BCRB trying to get to 2018 codes. McKinney spoke of having a baseline as 2015. Aggregate area and change of use/tenancy amendment likely coming forward. Floor

protection opt out option being considered for an amendment. Need to work with Homebuilders and AGC for any Energy Code concerns. Big change in Energy Code from 2009 to 2012 and small change from 2012 to 2015, minor change going to 2018.

Discussion on challenges of codes adopted by reference with two different editions of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101. Example of NFPA 54 used as two different editions are adopted by reference. Direction has been to follow the applicable edition based on whether you are in NFPA 1 or NFPA 101.

Discussion about potential for local changes being less of an issue with the adoption of an updated State Building & Fire Code.

Recovery Housing

Toomey provided an overview of the recovery housing/sober living work this summer. SFMO is working through an appeal of a variance in Manchester. Definition of family has changed over the years and this has impacts the operation of the sober homes. Recent Federal case from Louisiana says accommodations need to be made. SFMO to be meeting with NH Building Officials and NHAFC to discuss how to approach these moving forward.

McKinney spoke of what Nashua has done with the IBC and how they have been working through the sober living issues in Nashua. Concern about driving these underground if the approach isn't careful.

Ober spoke of potential impacts to Bed & Breakfasts. Toomey also spoke of fraternities and sororities.

Toomey spoke of understanding of federal law around accommodations for ADA and FHA. Discussed many times accommodations involve adding items not taking away safety features. Garant spoke of challenges they have had in the Barrier Free Design area.

Discussed potential for permits with associated inspection. Trombly spoke of Manchester's program of inspecting rentals every 3 years. Toomey spoke of bringing this to the group as Building Codes and Fire Codes can offer different guidance.

McKinney to share the Nashua model with the group.

Other Business:

Permitting with Towns

Trombly spoke of Towns not allowing them to pull permits. Trombly spoke of Business Entity License in Mechanical laws but Towns are requiring permits from individual mechanical contractor that will actually do the work and not allowing the Business Entity License.

McKinney spoke of examples of Nashua and how they handle. The way it should be is permit can be pulled under the Business Entity License and installer has to be licensed. Toomey suggested an Informational Bulletin from the Mechanical Board and circulated via SFMO and NH Building Officials Association. There is a need for education. Trombly spoke of communities being strict on permitting but not on the inspections and the focus should be on making sure the inspection is correct.

Next Meeting: January 10, 2019 in the IPOC Media Room

On a Motion: McKinney motioned to adjourn the meeting, Trombly 2nd the motion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:15 pm
spt