

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 11, 2018

9:00 – 10:15

Location: Concord Fire Department HQ

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:

Max Schultz, Assistant Director NH State Fire Marshal's Office
Abigail Fopiano, Water Well Board (DES Staff)
Sean Brown, Deputy Fire Chief Concord Fire Department

Meeting notes:

Meeting called to order at 9:00am by Daniel Andrus, Chair. Andrus welcomed all to the meeting. Andrus spoke to the importance of bringing this group back together to address code enforcement issues.

Introductions around the room.

Committee hasn't met in nearly five years. Current need to meet to discuss upcoming work relative to HB 1254.

Lightweight floor protection, energy code and fiscal impact were some of the outstanding items from the recent attempts at adopting the 2015 I-Codes.

We need education at many levels. This includes the overall value of the codes. Can we determine the potential cost savings from the implementation of new codes?

We need to work on the education of code officials and the impacts of poor code enforcement.

We need to develop industry, consumer and insurance company support for codes.

This committee may be looked upon to vet decisions from the Building Code Review Board and Board of Fire Control. Consideration needs to be given to how Senators and Representatives may be able to get involved earlier in the process to help establish trust and knowledge of code process. We may be looking at changes to the make-ups of the boards.

Discussion about the concerns about how the overall process should be happening with the Board. BCRB has 2 years for ratification and BFC has 1 year for ratification. There are concerns from State House about how amendments are made to the respective codes. We just dealt with electronically monitored fire extinguishers and Height & Area tables as big examples of amendments. Given the current moratorium established in HB 1254 we can't address a PVC venting amendment that has sunset.

We should consider AIA and ICC resources to help with education and adoption process. Increased education is important for building credibility.

There was discussion about certifications for inspectors and builders. Many of the trades require licensure/certification but it is not required for builders and inspectors. Additional education for contractors would be a great advantage.

Plan of action is for each representative to go back to their groups and bring back ideas and concerns on how to improve the code adoption process.

The Chair thanked all for coming to today's meeting.

Next Meeting: July 25, 2018 at 9:30 am

Meeting Adjourned: 10:15am

spt