

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review met in Conference Room C in the William Powers Administration Building at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI on Tuesday October 19, 2004. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairman George Farrell.

Commissioners present were George Farrell, Gordon Preiss, Rene Coutu, Keith Burlingame, Richard O'Connell, Dana Newbrook and Stuart Pearson. Also present were Executive Director Thomas B. Coffey, Esq. and Administrative Aide Desiree Campanini.

The following appeals were heard:

Appeal # 030102: Mr. Armando Medeiros for the property located at 26 Teofilo Braga Way, East Providence. Marshal George Wyrostek appeared for the East Providence Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner O'Connell and seconded by Commissioner Burlingame to grant relief from the provisions of RILSC 13.2.5 for structural hardship, 15 days to comply with RILSC 13.2.2.3 by installing fire extinguishers and 60 days to bring facility into compliance. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #030217: Mr. John Rodrigues for the property located at 281 Massasoit Avenue, East Providence. Marshal George Wyrostek appeared for the East Providence Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner Coutu to grant variances from the provisions of RILSC

13.2.2.2 to install self closing devices and one handrail, RILSC 13.2.4 to install sprinkler head over the boiler and remote shut off switch and RILSC 13.2.2.3 structural hardship (used for storage purposes only). The Applicant was also granted (15) days to comply with RILSC 13.3.2.2 with a (k) type fire extinguisher and 90 days to bring the facility into compliance. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #030332: Mr. Kenneth and Mrs. Kathleen Chianca for the property located at 380 Blackstone Street, Woonsocket. Marshal David Beaubien for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Burlingame and seconded by Commissioner Pearson to grant relief from the provisions of NFPA 7.2.1.4.3 to leave the door swing. The Applicant is required to install a sprinkler in the egress passageway of this facility, unless the 4th floor of this facility stays unoccupied. This motion was unanimous. The Board advised the Applicant and the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office that the file will remain open.

Appeal #040026: Ms. Christine Curtis for the property located at 126 Estes Street, Woonsocket. Marshal Frank Dunton for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to require the Applicant to comply with RILSC 13.3.2.2 with the installation of fire extinguishers within (15) days, and (120) days to bring the rest of the facility into compliance with the 15 point plan of the RILSC 31.1.1.3. The Board directed the Applicant to include pulling out the carpet in

their plan of action. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #040140: Lauderdale Associates (Mr. Henry Couin) for the property located at 144 Westminster Street, Providence. Marshal George Calise for the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Burlingame and seconded by Commissioner Pearson to grant the Applicant relief from RILSC 38.3.6.1 which would allow the Applicant to change out code compliant doors to glass door if entire building is sprinkled by July 1, 2005. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #030043: Mr. Steven Gitez for the property located at 332 Hawkins Street, Providence. Marshal Joseph Michalczyk for the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Coutu and seconded by Commissioner Newbrook to give the new building owner time to bring this building into compliance with a previous decision made by the Board. The Board reinstated the previous variances, which gives the Applicant (120) days from the date of this decision to bring this building into compliance. The Providence Fire Marshal's Office requested to leave the file open. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #040014: Mr. Cornelis J. de Boer AIA and Megan Wesbitt for

the property located at 80 Brown Street, Providence. Marshal George Calise for the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbook and seconded by Commissioner Coutu to grant the applicant the requested relief. The Board advised the Providence Marshal's Office and the Applicant that the file would remain open. The motion was unanimous.

Under old business, Commissioner Keith Burlingame appeared on the behalf of the subcommittee for (Fire Protection System). Commissioner Burlingame advised the Board that the subcommittee has solicited input from the Fire Communication Officers' Association, State Fire Marshal's Office, RI Association of Fire Marshals and RI Association of Fire Chiefs. A fifty (50) page document was created with the current changes. The subcommittee is recommending that the Board adopt this document as a blanket variance for immediate use, until such time that the rule making cycle goes into effect. A motion was made by Commissioner Coutu and seconded by Commissioner Preiss to adopt the recommendation made by the subcommittee for fire protection system. The motion was unanimous.

Old business, Executive Director Thomas Coffey, Esq. introduced questions and responses for the following formal interpretations (04-12, 04-13, 04-14, 04-15, 04-16, 04-17, 04-18, 04-19, 04-21) to be voted on. A motion was made by Commissioner Burlingame and seconded by Commissioner Coutu to put these interpretations into

effect as blanket variances until the next rule making cycle. The motion was unanimous.

Old Business; Executive director Thomas Coffey, Esq. addressed the board members in regards to the Rehabilitation and Fire Board task of reviewing the conflicts between the two codes. While several of the Board's recommendations are currently under review, it was determined that one recommendation should be acted upon immediately. This recommendation involves eliminating references to NFPA 5000 (the NFPA building code) from the Rhode Island Fire Code and eliminating reference to the IFC (the International Fire Code) from the Rhode Island Code. This recommendation was made to assure that there would be no possibility of maintaining or referencing two (2) Fire Codes and two (2) Building Codes. A motion was made by Commissioner Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to create a blanket variance (04-23) to have only two (2) codes by eliminating any reference to Boca Code to the International Fire Code and any reference to the NFPA to the NFPA 5000 Building Code. The motion was unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 15:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Desiree Campanini
Administrative Aide