

Fire Safety Code

Board of Appeal & Review

Minutes of 3-8-05 meeting

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review met in the Conference Room located at 55 Cedar Street, Providence, RI on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at 1:00 PM. Present were Chairman George Farrell and Commissioners Preiss, Newbrook, Coutu, Burlingame, O'Connell, Pearson and Filippi. Also present were Executive Director Thomas Coffey, Esq. and Assistant Administrative Officer Carol Marsella. The following appeals were considered.

Appeal #020053B: Ms. Robin Allister for the property located at 1 Shove Street, Tiverton. Chief Robert Lloyd and Marshal Daniel Murphy appeared for the Tiverton Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Burlingame, seconded by Commissioner Pearson, made a motion for the following. The Applicant has thirty days from the date of this hearing to secure the occupied building at the direction and to the satisfaction of the Tiverton Fire Marshal's office. Beginning on March 8, 2005, the Applicant must retain the services of a private security firm which will patrol the property during all hours that the buildings are unoccupied. A subcommittee of the Fire Safety Code Board will conduct an on-site inspection of the property on Thursday, March 24, 2005. The Applicant is to return to the Board on Tuesday, April 5, 2005, at which time the subcommittee will make its

recommendation to the full Board. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #040405: Chief Thomas Blakey, for the property located at 20 Industrial Way, Tiverton. (Tiverton Police Department) Chief Robert Lloyd and Marshal Dan Murphy appeared for the Tiverton Fire Marshal's office. After discussion between the Board and the Applicant, a motion was made by Commissioner Burlingame, seconded by Commissioner Pearson, to have a sub-committee of the Board perform an on-site inspection of the facility on March 24, 2005. The Applicant will return to the Board on April 5, 2005, at which time the sub-committee will make its recommendation to the full Board. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #040443: Mr. Robert Ragosta for the property located at 481 Atwood Avenue in Cranston. Lt. Timothy Hawthorne of the Cranston Fire Marshal's office was reached by telephone. He had no objection to the Applicant's request for relief. On a motion by Commissioner Coutu, seconded by Commissioner Newbrook, the Applicant was granted relief from the provisions of 8.14.7.1 of NFPA 13. Chairman Farrell abstained from voting on this matter. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #050052: Mr. Robert Taylor and Mr. Steve Kumins for the property located at 172 Exchange Street in Pawtucket. Marshal Jeffrey Johnson appeared for the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's office and Lt. Timothy Hawthorne appeared on behalf of Hawthorne Consulting.

The Pawtucket Fire Marshal's office requested, and was granted, additional time to evaluate the final plans that had been submitted by the project architect five calendar days previous to the hearing. This matter will return before the Board on Tuesday, March 15, 2005.

Appeal #030043B: Mr. Steven J. Gietz, for the property located at 332 Hawkins Street, Providence. Inspector Joseph Michalczyk appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal's office. This matter had previously appeared before the Board when the facility was under different ownership. At that time, the former owner/Applicant had offered to provide a full sprinkler system, including full coverage in the basement. Subsequently, the property was sold, but the basement sprinkler coverage was not installed. The new owner requests that he be allowed to sprinkle the basement egress only. He is also requesting a variance to allow a nine (9) foot lead to ground from the existing fire escape ladder. Commissioner Pearson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Newbrook, to grant a variance to allow the 9 foot lead to ground from the existing fire escape. As to the sprinkler issue, the Applicant is allowed to sprinkle the basement egress only, as long as there is no tenant access to the basement and there is no laundry facility in the basement. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #050033: Mr. Steven Barreto, for the property located at 5 Bell Street in Providence. Inspector Daniel Isles appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Newbrook made a

motion, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell, to approve the Applicant's plan of action. This plan included the installation of a municipally connected compliant fire alarm system. The mahogany and wainscoting within the egress system will not need to be treated since that egress system will be protected by sprinklers. A fire fighter detail will be provided for all events within this facility until the fire alarm and sprinkler systems are in place. The Providence Fire Marshal's office had no objection to this plan of action. The motion was unanimous.

Appeal #040373: Mr. Kurt Stenberg, for the property located at 500 Angell Street in Providence. Inspector Daniel Isles appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal's office. The Applicant was seeking a variance to not include the two story penthouse in determining the number of stories, so that this facility would not be classified as a high rise. Commissioner Preiss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Newbrook, to grant the Applicant's request. The motion passed over the objection of Commissioner Burlingame. This file will remain open so that the Applicant can return with his plan of action.

Under old business, a request was heard for a temporary, one-time, change of use at the Rising Sun Mill for a fund-raising event for a non-profit group. There will be no alcohol served at this event and a firefighter detail will be present if determined to be necessary by the Providence Fire Marshal's office. The Providence Fire Marshal's

office had no objection, and a motion for this change, made by Commissioner Burlingame, seconded by Commissioner Newbrook, was unanimous.

**Respectfully submitted,
Carol Marsella**