

Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review

Minutes: September 29, 2015

The Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review met at its headquarters located at 2 Regan Court, Mathias Building #56, in Cranston, RI on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, at 1:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Chairman Newbrook called the meeting to order 1:04 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present were Chairman Newbrook, Commissioners Pearson, Thornton, Jackson and Booth.

Absent were Vice-Chairman Blackburn, Commissioners Filippi, Walker, Sylvester and Richard.

Minutes: A motion was made by Commissioner Thornton and seconded by Commissioner Jackson to accept the September 22, 2015, minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

APPEAL #150089: Diana Sylvaria and Marilyn LaRose appeared for the property located at 54 Kay Street, Newport. ADSFM Christopher

Mahoney appeared for the Newport Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Jackson made motion, seconded by Commissioner Thornton, to grant the Applicant a time variance of thirty (30) days to submit a plan of action to the Newport Fire Marshal's Office to install domestic sprinkler heads in the laundry room, a fully compliant fire alarm system, and automatic door closers, with an additional one hundred fifty (150) days to implement that plan. The Board also granted the Applicant a time variance of 14 days from the date of the hearing to provide approved portable fire extinguishers. In addition, the Board granted the Applicant a variance to allow the main staircase to remain in use, and to allow a single approved handrail for the main stair and the porch. The Board granted the Newport Fire Marshal's Office the authority to extend the above deadline three (3) times, in accordance with the provisions of the Board Rules and Regulations, amended section 6-2-22, if the Applicant shows a good faith effort. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #150096: Beth Cameron and Ray Gomes appeared for the property located at 45 Hammond Street, Newport. ADSFM Christopher Mahoney appeared for the Newport Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Booth, to approve a time variance of thirty (30) days to design a plan of action to install automatic door closers, install 110-volt smoke alarms in each unit and to put a rating on the basement ceiling to achieve separation, with an additional one hundred fifty (150) days to implement that plan. The Board also granted the Applicant a time

variance of 14 days from the date of the hearing to provide approved portable fire extinguishers in each unit. The Board granted the Newport Fire Marshal's Office the authority to extend the above deadline three (3) times, in accordance with the provisions of the Board Rules and Regulations, amended section 6-2-22, if the Applicant shows a good faith effort. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #150092: Leonard Estrella appeared for the property located at 301 Butler Avenue, Providence (Lincoln School). ADSFM Keith Main appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Pearson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thornton, to grant the Applicant a time variance of thirty (30) days to submit a plan of action to the Providence Fire Marshal's Office in order to bring the fire alarm system into full compliance with the fire code and an additional one hundred fifty (150) days to implement that plan. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #150091: Jerry Del Signore, Gary Esposito, and Tim Wensus appeared for the property located at 216 Hope Street, Providence (Wheeler School – Hope Building). Representatives of the Providence Fire Marshal's Office were not in attendance but submitted a letter stating they had no objections to the plan of action submitted by Jensen Hughes. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve the plan of action as

presented by Jensen Hughes. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #150094: Commissioner Jackson recused himself from this case and Commissioner Thornton left early due to a prior commitment. The Board went into Subcommittee for lack of a full quorum. The Applicant for this property, 650 East Greenwich Avenue, West Warwick, decided to return to the Board when a full quorum was present. The Applicant is scheduled to return on October 6, 2015.

Uniform Test Reports: Chief Deputy James Gumbley appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. The fees from Uniform Test Reports (UTR) support the RI Fire Academy for training programs and equipment. The State Fire Marshal's Office requested approval to amend their policy to increase the fee for UTRs from \$3 to \$6 per report. Commissioner Booth made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thornton, to approve General Order 2015-1. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: None

Correspondences / Announcements: Executive Director Burlingame reminded everyone that Sunday, October 4th is the start of National Fire Prevention Week. This year's motto is "Hear the beep where you sleep."

Open Forum / Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Pearson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Booth to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.