

Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and review

Minutes: April 05, 2016

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, April 05, 2016, at 1:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Chairman Newbrook called the meeting to order at 1:09 P.M.

Roll Call:

Present were Chairman Newbrook, Vice-chairman Blackburn and Commissioners Thornton and Jackson.

Also present were Executive Director W. Keith Burlingame Esq. and Assistant Administrative Officer Kathy Hague and Administrative Assistant Desiree Campanini.

Absent from today's hearing were Commissioners Filippi, Pearson, Booth, Richard, Walker and Sylvester

New Business:

As a required quorum of members was not present, Chairman Newbrook delegated a subcommittee of the members present to take testimony on the hearings scheduled. All recommendations of the

subcommittee will be presented to the full committee at the next scheduled hearing for ratification.

APPEAL #150142: William J. Gately appeared for the property located at 32 Meeting Street, Cumberland. Chief Kenneth Finlay and Assistant Deputy State Fire Marshal (ADSFM) Nicholas Anderson appeared for Cumberland Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to table this case until June 07, 2016 to allow the Applicant and the fire marshal to work out a plan of action to bring this facility into compliance with the RI Fire Code. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #160041: Attorney Norman Landroche Jr. and Richard Mignanelli appeared for the property located at 3347 South County Trail, East Greenwich. Deputy State Fire Marshal (DSFM) Thomas Dettore appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. ADSFM Steven Hughes appeared for the East Greenwich Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Blackburn, to grant the Applicant a variance to be allowed to use twenty-four (24) inches per person to calculate the bench seating occupancy load in this facility. The Board also granted the Applicant relief to limit the occupancy of this facility two hundred ninety eight (298) persons that must include staff. The Applicant must maintain total, complete coverage of a municipally connected fire alarm system throughout this facility with adequate egress, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the East Greenwich Fire Marshal's Office. In

granting the above relief, the Board advised the Applicant and the fire marshal that this relief is granted only for the current owner of this facility. The motion passed on a 3 to 0 vote with Commissioner Jackson recusing from participation in the case.

APPEAL #160027: Arthur Prescott and George Weavill appeared for the property located at 915 Newport Avenue, Pawtucket. ADSFM Thomas Lang appeared for the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to grant the Applicant a time variance of thirty (30) days to remove curtains, furnishings and any other items that the fire marshal deems non-compliant from this facility. The Board also granted the Applicant a time variance of thirty (30) days for the installation of a remote shut off switch for the furnace, a remote sprinkler head above the furnace and to rectify the housekeeping issue of the thrift shop in the basement, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office. The Board granted the Applicant relief to limit the occupancy to two hundred ninety (299) persons in the entire facility, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office. The Board granted the Applicant one (1) year for the installation of a local fire alarm system in this facility. The motion passed on a three (3) to one (1) vote with Vice-chairman Blackburn opposing the vote.

APPEAL #160031: Ronald Larivere appeared for the property located at 867 Social Street, Woonsocket. ADSFM Michael Morin appeared

for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Jackson made a motion, seconded by Vice-chairman Blackburn, to grant the Applicant a time variance of thirty (30) days to submit a plan of action to the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office for the installation of a cooking suppression system in this facility, and an additional one hundred fifty (150) days to implement that plan. Finally, the Board authorized the Woonsocket Fire Marshal's Office to extend the above timelines for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated with the provisions of the Board Rules and Regulations, section 6-2-22.1. The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #160032: Henry Eberle appeared for the property located at 667 Washington Street, Coventry. DSFM Robert Letourneau appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. Vice-chairman Blackburn 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 State Fire Marshal's Office for the installation of a fully complaint fire alarm system and self-closers on the doors of this facility. The Board grant the Applicant one hundred fifty (150) days to implement this plan at the direction and to the satisfaction of the State Fire Marshal's Office. Finally, the Board authorized the State Fire Marshal's Office to extend the above timelines for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated with the provisions of the Board Rules and Regulations, section 6-2-22.1. The motion passed unanimously.

FI# 16-02 Apartment Buildings-Elderly & Disable Housing: After a discussion, Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Vice-chairman Blackburn to reserve RILSC sections 30.6 and 31.6 of the of the fire code. The motion passed.

Old Business: None

Open Forum / Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: Commissioner Jackson made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Blackburn, to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

Desiree Campanini