

**The Building Code Standards Committee meeting will be
on
February 3, 2005 in Conference Room B
At the
Powers Administration Building
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI**

562nd Meeting 1:00 p.m.. February 3, 2005

- 1. Call to order.**
- 2. Appeals**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting.**
- 4. Correspondence.**
- 5. Committee Reports**
- 6. Legislation**
- 7. Old Business.**
- 8. New Business.**

9. Adjourn

New Appeals:

05-02 Nowicki Street (Scheduled for February 17, 2005)

West Warwick, RI

05-03 8 Fraternity Circle

Kingston, RI

561st Meeting January 20, 2005

- 1. Mr. DeBlois, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.**
- 2. There were no appeals heard at this meeting.**
- 3. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted upon a motion by Mr. Newbrook and seconded by Mr. Gagnon. The Minutes were unanimously approved.**

4. Correspondence:

a. Application for Variance

Mr. DeDentro said he received a proposed application based on a zoning issue in West Warwick. The applicant is apparently contesting the denial of a building permit. We do not handle zoning issues, therefore his application was returned with an explanation.

b. Driftwood Apartments

Mr. DeDentro said he received a letter from the Narragansett Building Official regarding the status on the Driftwood Apartments. The developments are as follows: Structural repairs have not progressed in accordance with approved engineering plans or established completion dates; Government funding for the repairs to proceed has been revoked by HUD; and the present owner is trying to sell the complex to a non-profit entity. Ms. Albanese, the complainant, no longer resides at the complex. Mr. Brown motioned that this letter be placed in our files. Mr. Gagnon seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. DeDentro will send the Building Official a letter saying that if he feels there is severe structural problems that he take action to either vacate or, as an alternative, do an escrow account. All agreed with a letter being written, Mr. Howe abstained.

5. Committee Reports:

a. Energy Subcommittee

Mr. Preiss said the Energy Subcommittee met to discuss a communication received from Earth Friendly Homes requesting relief from energy codes as part of the One & Two Family Code for an isolated solar sunspace (addition onto a home). Mr. Preiss was not in favor of an addition being constructed without conforming to code.

Earth Friendly also requests relief to allow for having up to 16” of uninsulated foundation from 2” below grade to the starter course and also to delete the requirement for shear walls for the south wall of isolated solar sunspaces in Zone 1 and Zone 2. The Subcommittee does not support any of Mr. Chew’s suggestions. Mr. DeDentro said that Earth Friendly is welcome to come before our full Committee in the future to support any code change proposals.

Mr. Preiss said the Energy blue pages of the One & Two Family Code do not correspond with the blue pages for the Energy Conservation Code. Mr. DeDentro said the subcommittees will meet this spring to discuss this.

b. Certification Subcommittee

Mr. Maloney said the Certification Subcommittee interviewed and approved the following four people: Mr. Stanley Pikul, Building

Official in the Town of Cumberland; Mr. John Runge, Certified Eligible Building Official; Mr. Russell Hervieux, Building Inspector in the Town of Lincoln; Mr. Michael Campagnone, Building Inspector in the City of Providence. Mr. Maloney motioned that they be approved, Mr. Gagnon seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Roger Pierce, former Building Official, will be acting Building Official in the Town of Lincoln for the next several months due to the illness of current official Henry Thibeau.

c. Electrical Subcommittee

Mr. DeDentro said the Electrical Subcommittee has met three times and has scheduled two additional work sessions.

d. Safe Harbor Status

Mr. DeDentro said that a staff member, Mr. Cocce, will be attending a seminar in Revere, Massachusetts, which is being offered by the International Code Council, on behalf of Safe Harbor Status for accessibility codes. We will establish a subcommittee on this in the near future.

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6. Legislation:

Mr. DeDentro said that Article 1 needs a complete revamping. He said that the two legislator positions are vacant and the Legislative

Oversight Committee may have to become our sponsor.

There was also discussion on the Rehab Code and some members questioned the applicability of the Rehab Code since the adoption of the provisions for existing buildings in NFPA 101 2003.

7. Old Business:

a. Mr. DeDentro said the Committee contributed \$610.00 in memory of Robert J. Wahlberg and this will be forwarded to Home and Hospice Care of RI.

b. Mr. DeDentro said our office has reviewed all past minutes and noted that since 2001 the Chairman has been appointed on an annual basis compared to a two-year or more term in the past. (A list is enclosed). It was noted that Committee had decided a few years ago to elect a Chairman for only one year and the Vice Chairman would automatically be appointed after the Chair has finished his term. This procedure would be forwarded to the By-Laws Committee for their inclusion into the regulations.

c. Mr. DeDentro indicated that as a requirement of the Open Meetings Law, subcommittee-meeting notices may have to be posted. This is still under review and we are waiting for final agreement between the three legal counsels reviewing the statutes.

d. Mr. DeDentro said he hopes to discuss the Tech Note on A/E requirements with the Committee at the next meeting.

e. Mr. DeDentro said he has approved amendments to the permit forms based on the 2004 code amendments and the new forms are available from the Rhode Island Building Officials Association.

8. New Business:

Mr. Preiss said that New England Tech has been commissioned to provide energy seminars. Mr. Preiss suggested creating a form which would be completed by developers, builders or permit holders. This form would be completed with simple information regarding square footage, u value of windows, etc. which would help building officials make sure prescriptive method is applied correctly. Mr. Brown suggested that after we prepare the form, we should notify RI Builders and all others that this form is available and acceptable to demonstrate Energy Code Compliance.

9. Adjourn:

Upon a motion by Mr. Maloney, seconded by Mr. Gagnon the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel R. DeDentro
Executive Secretary
Building Code Standards Committee

Members Present: R. Brown, A. Durand, B. DeBlois, D. Gagnon, W. Howe, D. Newbrook, G. Preiss, J. Maloney, J. Pagliaro.

Members Absent: B. Davey, J. Carlson, R. Collins, G. T. Chabot, S. Turner, R. Stillings, J. Gaskell, P. DePace, L. Gemma, M. Lowenstein, D. Palmisciano, M. Stoeckel.

Staff Members Present: D. DeDentro, E. Gordon

Staff Members Absent: T. Coffey

The next Committee meeting will be held on Thursday February 3, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room B, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.