



Present and representing himself was the Appellant. Also present were: Michael Grover, Daniel Turner, Robert Titus, and Paul Dumphy.

**Decision:** Following testimony, and based upon relevant information provided, Board members voted as indicated below.

..... Granted                      ..... Denied                      ..... Rendered Interpretation

**XXX.....Granted with conditions** (see below)                      ..... Dismissed

The vote was:

**XXX.....Unanimous**                      .....Majority

**Reasons for Variance:**

Testimony was presented relating to an existing building that was undergoing renovation for use as an athletic center.

Michael Grover, Building Inspector City of Cambridge, indicated concerns relating to visual alarm notification in exit stairways of the building. 780 CMR and 521 CMR require visual notification in all common or public areas. It was therefore Inspector Grover's opinion that notification is needed in the exit stairways as well.

Appellee, William Winkler cited references in the International Building Code (IBC) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards indicating why strobes are not required in stairways; two main reasons being that they may cause disorientation and tripping hazards.

Following testimony, a motion was made by Jake Nunnemacher and seconded by Stanley Shuman to grant the variance to 780 CMR 917.8 allowing the omission of strobes at stairways #3 and #4 and stairways #1 and #2 with the exception that they shall be installed in the vestibules of these two stairways.

It was noted for the record that the board's vote does not supersede or nullify authority on how the AAB may rule on this issue relative to 521 CMR.

The following members voted in the above manner

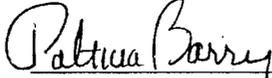
Harry Smith (S)  
Chairman - Harry Smith

Stanley Shuman (S)  
Stanley Shuman

Jacob Nunnemacher (S)  
Jake Nunnemacher

A complete administrative record is on file at the office of the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

A true copy attest, dated: September 5, 2007

  
Patricia Barry, Clerk

Any person aggrieved by a decision of the State Building Code Appeals Board may appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with Chapter 30A, Section 14 of the Massachusetts General Laws.