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Minutes

**Board of Building Regulations and Standards
Fire Prevention Fire Protection (FPFP) Advisory Committee
Department of Fire Services – 1st Floor Conference Room
April 23, 2015, 9:00 p.m.**

1. Roll Call - Call to Order 1:34 pm

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------|---------------------------------|
| a. Robert Carasitti Chair (RC) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent | g. Chief Gary McCarraher (GM) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| b. Dave LeBlanc V-Chair (DL) | <input type="checkbox"/> present | √ absent | h. Boston Fire Commissioner | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| c. Walter Adams (WA) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent | Paul Donga for BFD (PD) | | |
| d. Don Contois (DC) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent | i. State Fire Marshal (or designee) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| e. Harold Cutler (HL) | <input type="checkbox"/> present | √ absent | Jen Hoyt for the SFM | | |
| f. Rob Anderson (RA or designee) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent | j. Kurt Ruchala (KR) | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Mike Guigli for RA (MG) | | | From 9:30a to 12:30p | | |
| | | | k. Louise Vera (LV) or Alternate | √ present | <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| | | | Jeff Putnam (JP) for LV from 9:00a to 10:30a | | |
| | | | Louise Vera from 10:30a to 12:30p | | |

The chair noted that 8 members were present to begin the meeting so a quorum was achieved.

General note on format: votes are noted as (Motion by: XX, Second by: XX, Vote: In Favor-Opposed- Abstaining).

2. Review and approval of minutes from November 24, 2014

RC noted the committee had previously reviewed the minutes but the list of exhibits needed to be developed. The list of exhibits was added and no other changes were made.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: GM so moved 2nd: DC Vote: 8-0-0

3. Review and approval of minutes from February 24, 2015

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: MG so moved 2nd: DC Vote: 6-0-2 GM & PD abstained

Subsequent to the vote, a member requested reconsideration. The chair elected to reconsider after another member who called in indicated they would be arriving shortly.

Kurt Ruchala arrived to raise the quorum to 9.

The minutes were reconsidered and voted.

Motion: MG so moved 2nd: DC Vote: 6-0-3 WA, GM & PD abstained

4. Walter Adams presented his review findings on Section 1016 regarding increased travel distance for F-1 and S occupancies provided with roof vents and sprinklers. The provision had changed several times over various editions of IBC, but in the 2015 Edition the provision was reinstated and revised to address S-1 and F-1 only clarifying the confusion. No action is required by the committee since the virgin IBC 2015 is considered acceptable.
5. Review of Draft 9th Edition.

The FPPF began review of the 9th Edition Draft and a letter from the State Fire Marshal (Exhibits A - I).

The chair began and explained the task assignment from the BBRS. The committee then began the review with Chapter 1 of the Commercial Code.

- a. A motion was made and seconded to recommend changing Section 101.2 by replacing "...and fire prevention practices..." to "...and fire protection practices".

Motion: GM so moved 2nd: KR Vote: 6-2-1 MG Abstained

- b. JH noted a general comment that there is an overriding conflict for 780 CMR to address "maintenance" as maintenance is the purview of 527 CMR.
- c. A motion was made and seconded to recommend changing Section 107.1.2 by replacing "may" with "shall".

Motion: JH so moved 2nd: GM Vote: 6-3-0 JP, MG and RC Opposed

MG noted he felt this was an overreach on the authority issue.

- d. JH noted the same issue occurs in Chapter 51 Section 107.3.4.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend changing Chapter 51 Section 107.3.4 by replacing "may" with "shall".

Motion: JH so moved 2nd: GM Vote: 6-3-0 JP, MG and RC Opposed

- e. There was a discussion about the definition of Lodging House and the concern of establishing the number of "guestrooms" as the criteria over the number of "guests" considering Ch. 140 s 22 to 31. MG noted that BBRS counsel's opinion is that guestroom is appropriate. It was noted by committee members that the issue of what constitutes the use classification is covered in 310.2 and there is no need to change the definition here.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the change to the definition in Chapter 2 by rejected and the virgin IBC language should be retained.

Motion: WA so moved 2nd: DC Vote: 6-2-1 JP and ? Opposed, MG Abstained

- f. The committee next discussed the definition of Night Club. PD identified BFD had concerns with the proposed definition and that certain venues that should be classified as night clubs will be missed.

Primary concern is that what comes out of the Building Code should not result in a lower level of protection than MGL Ch. 148 s26G-1/2.

It was noted that a joint conference between BBRs staff and DFS staff was scheduled to review and coordinate definition. As such, action by FPDF should not occur until after that conference.

CHAIR FOLLOW-UP – The conference occurred and an agreement was reached between BBRs and DFS. The results were discussed at the subsequent FPDF Meeting and it was determined that FPDF did not require further action.

- g. At this time Louise Vera replaced Jeff Putnam as the Building Official representative.
- h. The committee next discussed the proposed change to the definition of “Story Above Grade”. The proposed amendment seeks to revise the IBC definition by bringing back a 3rd criteria from 1993 BOCA (780 6th). It was noted that this change is not consistent with the BBRs directive to not amend the IBC without technical justification. It was also noted that this proposed change does not result in a material change in terms of code application or improved safety.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the change to the definition in Chapter 2 be rejected and the virgin IBC language should be retained.

Motion: LV so moved 2nd: DC Vote: 9-0-0

- i. Section 310.5.1 – It was noted that the proposed amendment was unnecessarily wordy. If the reference to 903.3.1.3 were left the remainder could be deleted because users are already being sent to the MA amended IRC which contains the CO and notification criteria elsewhere.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the amendment to Section 310.5.1 be reduced to simply deleting the phrase after 903.3.1.3.

Motion: GM so moved 2nd: WA Vote: 9-0-0

- j. Section 310.5.2 – It was noted that the proposed amendment was unnecessarily wordy. Users are already being sent to the MA amended IRC which contains the criteria noted here. However, a note to Reference MGL 140 22 to 31 should be added.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the amendment to Section 310.5.2 be reduced to virgin language and the note to the aforementioned reference be added.

Motion: DC so moved 2nd: JH Vote: 7-1-1 PD opposed, MG abstained

- k. The committee discussed Section 403.6.1 and noted that the previous MA amendment had been deleted. In the 8th, the section was amended to require the fire service access elevator (FSAE) for buildings 70 feet or greater in height. By deleting the amendment, the virgin IBC criteria of buildings greater than 120 feet to the highest floor would set when FSAE. RC reviewed the historical reasons for the previous amendment was that by requiring the FSAE lobby at 70 feet, the long standing vestibule stairway required by prior editions was no longer necessary. Other members noted that the new FSAE provisions contain significant revisions with additional criteria that goes beyond the 2009 IBC FSAE requirements.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the 8th Edition amendment be retained.

Motion: PD so moved 2nd: GM Vote: 4-5-0 Chair casted tie breaker

- l. The committee discussed Sections 415.5.3 and 415.7 but decide to take no action,

- m. The committee next discussed Section 501. It was noted that the amendment contained old 527 CMR language that should be removed. Also, the note should reference Nursing Homes in addition to Hospitals.

A motion was made and seconded to delete the phrase “as may be deemed necessary by the head of the fire department.” From note. And to add “Nursing Homes” (with appropriate reference) to the note 3.

It was decided to take each note change and vote separately

Note 1

Motion: DC so moved 2nd: KR Vote: 8-0-1 MG abstained

Note 3

Motion: WA so moved 2nd: PD Vote: 8-0-1 MG abstained

- n. The chair paused the meeting to schedule the next meeting for the following Wednesday, Members were instructed to review Chapters, 9, 34 and 51 for the next meeting.

- 6. Matters not reasonably anticipated within two business days of the meeting.

There were no other new matters presented. The Chair reiterated that new matters should be submitted to the BBRS in writing.

- 7. Approval to adjourn the meeting

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: DC so moved 2nd: GM Vote: 9-0-0

Exhibits

- A. 2014_04_Chapter_01_Staff_redline_2015_03_19
- B. 2014_04_Chapter_02_to_35_Staff_redline_2015_04_14
- C. 2014_04_Chapter_51_R01_Staff_redline_2015_04_10
- D. 2014_04_Chapter_51_R02_to_R44_Staff_redline_2015_04_10
- E. 2014_04_Chapter_110_R1_Concrete_Test_Labs_Staff_redline_12_02_2014
- F. 2014_04_Chapter_110_R3_Manuf_Buildings_Staff_redline_12_03_14
- G. 2014_04_Chapter_110_R4_Native_Lumber_Producers_Staff_redline_2015_04_10
- H. 2014_04_Chapter_110_R5_Construction_Supervisor_License_redline_2015_04_10
- I. Marshal_Letter_2015_04_14