

**BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
March 1, 2018**

The Board of Fire Prevention Regulations held a Board meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Department of Fire Services, Boards and Commissions Room, Stow, Massachusetts.

The following Board members were present at this meeting:

Richard K. Arruda	Chief, Dartmouth Fire District 3
Anthony Caputo	Registered Professional Fire Protection Engineer
John J. Clancy	Inspector of Buildings in a City/Town
Jeffrey Cox	Registered Professional Electrical Engineer
John D. Cox	Registered Professional Chemical Engineer
John Dempsey	Designee of the Boston Fire Commissioner
Larry S. Fisher	Electrical Contractor
Michael Hazel	Chief, Tewksbury Fire Department
Alfonso F. Ibarreta	Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer
Gary S. Keith	Representative of the Public
William Laidler	Hanover Wiring Inspector
Robert MacKendrick	FPAM Representative
Paul C. Scheiner	Chemist
Kenneth A. Smith	Blasting Association Member

The following Board members were absent from this meeting:

Peter Ostroskey	State Fire Marshal
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DFS/BFPR staffing present at this meeting:

Peter Senopoulos	Legal Counsel, Department of Fire Services
Paul Vigneau	Director, Division of Fire Safety
Christina Rodriguez	Department of Fire Services

Also present were the following interested individuals (and their affiliations):

Mark Poirier	Bellingham Fire Department
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**Monthly Board Meeting**

*1. Open meeting*

Chairman Caputo opened the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

*2. Member introductions*

Chairman Caputo asked the members of the Board and the Division of Fire Safety staff to introduce themselves for the record.

1. *Minutes of the December 7, 2017 meeting submitted for approval.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Mr. Laidler, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2017 meeting as submitted.

### **Monthly Board Meeting – New Business**

1. *Communication (email) from Fire Chief Kevin D. Roy, Fitchburg Fire Department, requesting BFPR guidance in regards to M.G.L. c. 148 § 26C, as it relates to a 6-family and above, residential units.*
  - a. *Discussion and potential vote on proposed technical changes to 527 CMR 1.00, 2015 edition*
2. *Appeals Board 2007-04, 91-93 Harvard Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts.*
3. *Communication, received January 22, 2018, from Inspector of wire, Richard Connors, City of Everett, Massachusetts, regarding the supporting of a light fixture and if such activity requires a license under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 141 §1A.*
4. *Communication, received February 20, 2018, from Russell LeBlanc requesting interpretation of 334.10(3).*

### **Monthly Board Meeting - Old Business**

#### *1. Committee/ Reports*

- a. *Administrative Code Committee*
- b. *General Requirements Code Committee*
- c. *Occupancy Code Committee*
- d. *Processing Code Committee*
- e. *Equipment Code Committee*
- f. *Hazardous Code Committee*
- g. *Electrical Code Committee*

*i. The advisory code committee met on February 15, 2018, at 2:00pm, at MECA, Denham Massachusetts, to discuss the following Tentative Interim Amendment's to the 2017 edition of the NEC.*

*220.12 Exception, TIA #17-5; 336.10(9); TIA #17-13; 406.4(D)(4); TIA #17-6; 450.23(A), (not a TIA, at least as of now) formatting error with huge economic effects; 505.9(E)(2), TIA #17-14(not a TIA but soon will be, log #1348, Part 1); 555.3 (not a TIA but soon will be, log #1348, Part 2); 590.4(G), TIA #17-4; 625.17(B), TIA #17-9; 625.44(A), TIA 17-2 (Part 1); 625.54, TIA #17-2 (Part 2); 625.56, TIA #17-2, Part 3); 680.74(A), (not a TIA), issue with huge impacts in terms of expense and convenience; 682.2 (not a TIA but soon will be, log #1349, Part 1); 682.15 (not a TIA but soon will be, log #1348, Part 2); 700.10, TIA #17-7; 725.2, TIA #17-10 (Part 1); 725.121(C), TIA #17-10 (Part 2); 725.144(A), TIA #17-10 (Part 3); 725.144(B), TIA #17-11; 770.110(A)(2), TIA #17-3; 840.2, TIA #17-12 (Part 1); 840.160, TIA #17-12 (Part 2)*

#### *2. Update by Staff regarding the review of the 2018 edition of NFPA 1*

Mr. Vigneau relayed that staff has been reviewing the changes between the current 2015 NFPA 1 and the 2018 NFPA 1 language. The staff analysis is about 80% complete and includes instances where Massachusetts-specific language may not be necessary due to changes in the NFPA language. Additionally, there has been some internal discussion between staff on additional chapters from NFPA which may be appropriate for incorporation into the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code. If there are any questions on staff's progress or any specific

chapters that may be proposed for incorporation, staff would be happy to expand on those topics. Staff is reviewing the appendix of NFPA and to potentially expand the material to better relay the Board's intention behind some Massachusetts-specific amendments and how they are incorporated into the NFPA base code.

During this process, we should coordinate with NFPA and try to incorporate our amendments with the NFPA code development cycles to work towards a less-amended version of the Comprehensive Fire Safety Code. There may be an avenue for establishing an internal process in conjunction with NFPA to help streamline moving these amendments forward.

**Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

A motion was made by Chairman Caputo and seconded by Mr. Scheiner to adjourn the regular meeting at 1:47 p.m. The board voted unanimously on this motion.

Submitted by: Executive Director, \_\_\_\_\_



Date: August 2, 2018