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**Minutes**

**Board of Elevator Regulations**  
**1000 Washington Street**  
**Boston, MA 02118**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Room 1C**  
**May 7, 2019**

**Board Members Present:**

Stephen Sampson, Chairman  
Eric Morse  
John O'Donoghue  
Cheryl Davis  
Brian Ronan  
David Morgan  
David Gaudet

**Guests Present:**

Paul Farnsworth (Elevator Service Co. Inc.)  
Joel Shulman (Gruskin Group)  
Mat Montgomery (Elevator Service Co. Inc.)  
Lonny Fidalgo (MBTA)  
George Katsoufis (AECOM)

**Division of Professional Licensure Staff:**

Charles Kilb  
Ruthy Barros

**The Board discussed the following:**

- 1. 34 Bridge Street – Great Barrington MA [Exhibit 1, 1A, 1B]**  
**State ID(s): TBD – New Installation**  
**ASME A17.1-2013 Section 3.4.1.4, 3.4.1.3(a) and 2.2.2.2**  
**Petitioner: Paul Farnsworth**

The petitioner was in front of the Board seeking a variance from ASME A17.1-2013 Section 3.4.1.4 and 2.2.2.2. The petitioner stated that he is requesting permission to allow the LULA elevator pit to remain as constructed with two levels, the upper level containing a horizontal area of 74 1/8 in. X 87 1/2 in. with a depth of 20 in., and a lower



level extending down an additional 20 in. with a horizontal area of 26 1/2 in X 48 in, in lieu of an elevator pit which is “approximately level” as required by Section 2.2.2.2. The petitioner stated that the elevator pit could not be easily modified to be deeper due to the large steel reinforced concrete column footing constructed underneath a portion of the pit. A motion was placed by John O’Donoghue to grant the petitioner’s variance request from Section 2.2.2.2, with the stipulation that the pit floor is substantially leveled, allowing a shallow pit of 20 in. with the installation of a pressured mat with automatic deploying arms. The petitioner is required to mount signage in the machine room, rear wall in the pit, and next to the hoistway access key switch, so that the mechanic is aware that there is a shallow pit. Lastly, the petitioner must keep a copy of the variance decision posted in the machine room. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Davis.

**Motion:** John O’Donoghue

**Seconded:** Cheryl Davis

**Vote: 6-0; Granted. David Morgan abstained from voting.**

2. **267 Lakeview Avenue – Cambridge, MA [Exhibit 2, 2A and 2B]**

**Product Variance**

**524 CMR**

**Petitioner: Paul Farnsworth**

The petitioner was in front of the Board seeking a product variance for a Pneumatic Vacuum Elevator Model PVE 30, manufactured by Pneumatic Vacuum Elevator, LLC. The petitioner stated that the PVE 30 is a smaller version of the previously approve model PVE 37. The PVE 30 is 7 inches smaller in diameter than the PVE 37, with a rise 15 meters (approximately 50 feet), and will only be installed in single family owner occupied dwellings. A motion was placed by David Gaudet to place the petitioner’s request on hold tentatively until a meeting on May 21, 2019. The petitioner is requested to update their product variance application. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Davis.

**Motion:** David Gaudet

**Seconded:** Cheryl Davis

**Vote: 7-0; Placed on hold until May 21, 2019.**

3. **57 Union Street – Newton Centre, MA [Exhibit 3]**

**State ID(s): TBD – New Installation**

**A18.1-2016 Section 3.1.2.2**

**Petitioner: Paul Farnsworth**

The petitioner was in front of the Board seeking a variance from A18.1-2016 Section 3.1.2.2, which requires a minimum of 81-1/4”. of overhead clearance. The petitioner

stated that the current overhead clearance is 65” and the manufacturer requirement for the proposed installation of a Savaria Delta Inclined Platform Lift is 66 -1/16”. A motion was placed by David Gaudet to place the petitioner’s request on hold for 30 days provided that the petitioner provide the Board with revised engineered drawings illustrating the vertical dimensions per the 18.1-2016 code and identifying any discrepancies from the elevator code. If the Board does not receive a response within 30 days, the petitioner’s request will be considered withdrawn. The motion was seconded by Eric Morse.

**Motion:** David Gaudet

**Seconded:** Eric Morse

**Vote: 7-0; Placed on hold for 30 days.**

The Board recessed at 2:47 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 2:56 p.m.

4. **Andrew Station Square – Boston, MA [Exhibit 4 and 4A]**

**State ID(s): 1-P-1610 and 1-P-1611**

**A17.1-2013 Section 2.11.7.1.1 or 2.11.7.2.2**

**Petitioner: George Katsoufis**

The petitioner was in front of the Board seeking a variance A17.1-2013 Sections 2.11.7.11 – maximum area of vision panel or 2.11.7.2.2 – minimum area of glass doors. The petitioner stated that he is trying to meet one of the objectives of the MBTA’s elevator modernization project, which is to maximize transparency. The elevator code prescribes the maximum size of vision panels or the minimum percentage of glazing required to be classified as a glass door. Due to the existing configuration of the hoistway relative to the existing structure, and the new elevator’s door operator, the petitioner stated that he is unable to meet the requirements of a glass door but would like to be larger than what is allowed for a vision panel. The design provides 9 square feet of glass at an area of 20 square feet at each elevator door. A motion was placed by Cheryl Davis to grant the petitioner’s variance request from Section 2.11.7.2.2 to allow a glass area of 48%, with the justification being the door operator clearances required by the MBTA spec. The motion was seconded by Eric Morse.

**Motion:** Cheryl Davis

**Seconded:** Eric Morse

**Vote: 6-0; Granted. Brian Ronan abstained from voting.**

5. **Approval of meeting minutes from April 16, 2019 [Exhibit 5]**

A motion was put forth by John O'Donoghue to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Eric Morse. **Vote: 4-0; Granted.** David Morgan, David Gaudet and Stephen Sampson abstained.

6. **Approval of meeting minutes from May 1, 2019 [Exhibit 6]**

A motion was put forth by David Gaudet to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Eric Morse. **Vote: 6-0; Granted.** David Morgan abstained.

7. **Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting:**

The Chairman discussed a recent site visit to 401 Beacon Street, Boston and the Board member's list of concerns they would like to present to the petitioner, Peter Wallack.

**Exhibit List:**

Exhibit 1: Variance packet for 34 Bridge Street – Great Barrington MA

Exhibit 1A: Pictures of 34 Bridge Street exterior

Exhibit 1B: Design document

Exhibit 2: Variance packet for 267 Lakeview Avenue – Cambridge, MA

Exhibit 2A: Certificate of Conformance

Exhibit 2B: Elevator Maintenance Control Program and Record Logs

Exhibit 3: Variance packet for 57 Union Street – Newton Centre, MA

Exhibit 4: Variance packet for Andrew Station Square – Boston, MA

Exhibit 4A: Elevator Contractor's Drawing

Exhibit 5: Meeting minutes from April 16, 2019

Exhibit 6: Meeting minutes from May 1, 2019

**Motion to Adjourn:** Cheryl Davis

**Seconded:** John O'Donoghue

**Vote: 7-0; Adjourned.**

Hearing concluded at 3:37 p.m.

Prepared by: Ruthy Barros