

UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of Meeting, October 15, 2021
Meeting held Electronically via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Board Members

Beth Pochtar (Chair)
John Scialla (Vice Chair)
Doug Boydston
Mark Caputo
Kathy Herity
Henry Kelly
Art Londensky
Bob Mellohusky
Greg Moten
Tony Neibert
Steve Rodzinak
Michael Seeve
Valerie Waricka

Members absent: John Del Colle

DCA staff

Edward Smith, Director, Division of Codes and Standards
Robert Austin
Marie Daniels
John Delesandro
Justin Henry
John Lago
Paul Lamberti
Terrence Luckie
Keith Makai
Adam Matthews
Anthony Menafro
Neil Nagy
John Paluchowski
Thomas Pitcherello
Dan Tober
Chrystene Wyluda

Public Attendees

Please note that, due to the virtual meeting, public attendees joined using a conference call telephone number, and only those in attendance who announced themselves will be listed herein.

Ms. Beth Pochtar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

A. Approval of Minutes of the Code Advisory Board Meeting August 13, 2021

Mr. Tony Neibert made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Art Londensky, to approve the minutes without change. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Subcode Committee Reports

Barrier Free Subcode Committee – Ms. Marie Daniels reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

Building Subcode Committee – Mr. John Scialla reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

Elevator Subcode Committee – Mr. Doug Boydston reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

Electrical Subcode Committee – Mr. Tony Neibert reported that, because no items were referred to the Committee, no meeting was held.

Fire Protection Subcode Committee – Mr. Art Londensky reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

Mechanical/Energy – Mr. Bob Mellohusky reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

Plumbing Subcode Committee – Mr. Steve Rodzinak reported that the Committee met virtually and discussed agenda items.

C. Old Business

1. Plumbing Subcode – NSPC and IPC Comparison

Mr. Robert Austin explained that, because the Board was wholly in favor of the Department undertaking a comparison, the Department would like to refer the comparison to each Committee for review purposes to ensure fairness in review. He noted that there is an introductory document which explains the distinctions between the two codes and any major differences, including that the NSPC is more design-based, and the IPC is performance-based.

2. Building Subcode, N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.14 – IBC, with Elevator, ICC A117.1-2017, and ISPSC.

Mr. Robert Austin introduced this item and opened to the Board for discussion. Overall, the Board agreed with the draft rule except for the following items:

1. Section 903.2.7.2, related to automatic sprinkler systems in Group M buildings containing more than 2,000 square feet of upholstered furniture, was amended to require sprinklers only in the area with the furniture. This was done to protect the area without adding sprinklers throughout a building that otherwise would not require sprinklers. The Board felt that the old (2018) requirement ensured a greater level of safety by requiring sprinklers throughout the structure. It was recommended that the 2018 requirement be retained.

2. In Section 907.5.2.2.5, the 2021 IBC is amended to change the required power source for voice activation for fire alarm systems from emergency to standby power. Emergency power, which was required in 2018, requires the power to come on in ten seconds; standby power is 60 seconds. It was recommended that the 2018 requirement be retained. *Mr. Art Londensky made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. John Scialla, to maintain the requirements from the 2018 IBC for these two Sections. The motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Robert Austin asked whether there were further comments or questions on the draft rule. A few clarifying questions were asked; there were no comments on the ISPSC or the Elevator Sections. Ms. Marie Daniels noted that there were minor inconsistencies between the ICC A117.1 and the IBC regarding nosing measurements. Both the Barrier Free Subcode Committee and Building Committee recommended utilizing the IBC, which has a greater maximum allowance by 1/8-inch. *Mr. Doug Boydston made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Steve Rodzinak, to utilize the IBC. The motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Art Londensky made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Valerie Waricka, to approve the draft building subcode, as amended by discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Fire Protection Subcode, N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.17 – Cross Reference Update

Ms. Marie Daniels introduced this item and noted that all changes reflected renumbering within the model codes and changes for stylistic consistency.

Mr. Art Londensky made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. John Scialla, to approve the draft rule without change. The motion carried unanimously.

4. One- and Two-Family Dwelling Subcode – IRC and ISPSC

Mr. Robert Austin introduced this item and reminded the Board that the same changes contained within the residential portion of the IECC, as discussed at the August 13 meeting, are incorporated in Chapter 11 of the IRC.

Mr. Tony Neibert made a motion, which was second by Mr. Steve Rodzinak, to approve the draft rule with the amendments noted for the IECC incorporated in Chapter 11. The motion carried unanimously.

D. New Business

1. Responsibilities, N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4 – Draft Rule

Mr. Robert Austin explained that the changes address renumbering and new sections within the model codes without any changes to assignments. The Draft Rule was referred to all Subcode Committees.

2. Rehabilitation Subcode, N.J.A.C. 5:23-6 – Draft Rule

Mr. Robert Austin explained that the changes incorporate new or revised numbers without substantive changes. The Draft Rule was referred to all Subcode Committees.

3. UCC Changes to Incorporate 2021 Editions, N.J.A.C. 5:23 – Draft Rule

Mr. Rob Austin explained that these changes align with the updated model codes. In addition, the licensing provisions are amended to reflect certification requirements for a number of special inspections that were not previously listed. This reflects what has been done with special inspection certifications in the past. The Draft Rule was referred to all Committees.

E. Information

1. The final Code Advisory Board meeting for 2021 is scheduled for December 10, 2021
2. The Code Advisory Board Log was provided electronically.
3. The List of Pending Legislation was provided electronically.
4. Ms. Marie Daniels noted that two information packets relative to Old Business Item 1 were provided electronically for review and consideration in deliberations on the comparison.

F. Public Comments

One person from the Department of Environmental Protection asked when the changes to the IECC would be proposed. Mr. Robert Austin explained that the earliest the 2021 editions can be adopted is September 22, and the Department is on track for an adoption at that time.

G. Adjourn

Mr. Art Londensky made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Tony Neibert, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously; the public portion of this meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.