

Minutes
IDPH Informal Dispute Resolution Committee
Meeting of January 24, 2008
Illinois Hospital Association, Naperville

Committee Members Present:

Harry Wolin, Acting Chairperson
Ann Guild
Patrick Grzybek
Douglas King
David Mikos
David Volz

Committee Members Absent:

Vern Wegerer
Chairperson – vacant
Mechanical representative - vacant

Guests:

Henry Kowalenko, IDPH
David Cha, Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Chris Holmes, Intern, VOA Associates
Rich Mahnke, Sako
Victoria Navarro, Northwestern Memorial Hospital

Harry Wolin, Acting Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Illinois Hospital Association in Naperville, Illinois. A quorum was declared. It was noted that Enrique Unanue had retired from IDPH and thus would no longer serve on the Committee. The meeting minutes from the last meeting were approved as written. The Committee's forms and bylaws were reviewed and it was noted that changes requested at previous meetings had been incorporated. No additional changes were discussed or made to the forms and bylaws.

Future meeting dates were discussed and set as follows:

March 20, 2008: OSF Healthcare System, Peoria
April 17, 2008: Anderson Mikos Architects, Oakbrook Terrace
May 15, 2008: VOA Associates, Chicago
July 17, 2008: Cancelled
September 18, 2008: Illinois Hospital Association, Naperville (location tentative)
November 20, 2008: Mason District Hospital, Havana

The committee reviewed resumes submitted by Laurence Wilson, John Mason, and Joseph Brueck for the purpose of filling the vacant position on the Committee previously held by David Mauck. The candidates' qualifications were discussed. The Committee

selected Joe Brueck. Mr. Brueck will be approached to confirm his interest in serving on the committee and Mr. Kowalenko will then deal with the procedural aspects of submitting the proposed appointment to the Hospital Licensing Board for approval.

The issue of re-writing the Illinois Hospital Licensing Requirements was discussed. Mr. Kowalenko will discuss this with Bill Bell at IDPH and provide a status report at the next committee meeting.

It was noted that the committee had received a request to hear a dispute from Provena United Samaritans Medical Center in Danville in relation to the locking arrangements of their emergency department doors. The Committee agreed to hear this dispute at their meeting in March.

The committee heard a presentation from Doug King, David Cha, Victoria Navarro and Rich Mahnke on behalf of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Prentice Women's Hospital. The Presenters requested an exception to IDPH's finding of noncompliance with NFPA 101 2000 7.2.1.6.2(a) related to the manual override devices on the egress sides of the doors on certain floors. IDPH found that the doors are not in compliance because they are not equipped with sensors. Additionally, the Presenters requested an exception to IDPH's finding that the locking mechanisms on the doors are not in compliance with Illinois Administrative Code 250.2450(c)(2)(O) because they constitute more than one special locking device in some paths of egress. The Presenters specifically discussed these variances in relation to safety and security concerns. After the speakers concluded their presentation, the Committee asked questions and the Presenters answered them. When there were no further questions or comments, the Presenters were dismissed, Mr. Kowalenko and Mr. King were excused while the Committee discussed the presenters' request. After some discussion, the Committee determined that they had heard no compelling arguments as to why the code should be modified to permit additional electronic locking devices along an exit path to discharge as installed. Mr. Kowalenko and Mr. King were asked to return to the room and Committee's decision was shared with the Presenters.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 20th at the OSF Corporate Offices in Peoria.