MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Plumbing Code Advisory Council

DATE: November 16, 2009

PREPARED BY: Frank Shimkus, Plumbing Program Manager

On November 16, 2009, a meeting of the Plumbing Code Advisory Council was held at 1101 E. Lincoln Street, Bloomington, IL. Meeting was called for the discussion of code related amendments.

In attendance:

Mark Kuechler, Champaign Regional Office, Registered Engineer
Frank Shimkus, Plumbing Consultant
Robert Schafer, Illinois Plumbing Inspector, Edwardsville Region
Kevin Morris, Illinois Plumbing Inspector, Champaign Region

Plumbing Code Advisory Council Members:
Beverly Potts, Licensed Plumber
Gerald Tienstra, Licensed Plumber
Garry Hinderliter, Licensed Plumber

• A discussion took place regarding filling vacant Council positions.

• Mark Kuechler, interim Plumbing Program Manager announced that Frank Shimkus, Plumbing Code Consultant, had accepted the Program Manager position and would soon assume the position with assistance from Mark.

• Potts asked Hinderliter to discuss the Code amendment formatting concerns. Amendments included the addition of new ASSE standards for temperature limiting valves and updated standard number changes for chemical waste piping. Bob Schafer and Kevin Morris discussed dual standard on present temperature limiting valves, Hinderliter suggested changes to installed shower valves.

• Tienstra discussed an IPIA meeting where a State Inspector made an interpretation for a line stop valve being required, according to Code, in addition to fixture stop valves, which would perform the same function.
• Tienstra questioned the need to vent a trap connected to a grease interceptor where an open site drain connection is used. Morris stated it is not necessary to provide a vent on an open-site fixture connection.

• Kuechler and Tienstra mentioned a complaint involving a continuing education sponsor presenting product-specific information as well as not being present for the minimum time required for continuing education courses. Program will address.

• Hinderliter asked if an irrigation code will be adopted in the plumbing code involving materials standards for irrigation installations. Kuechler stated approved standards for materials already exist in the plumbing code, so this is not necessary.

• Hinderliter discussed forming a committee for considerations on LEED standards and green building construction. Potts suggested using a national green code supplement in addition to proposed amendments to the Code.

• Hinderliter discussed the need to consider regulation for alternate water uses. Kevin Morris discussed adopting definition of alternate water sources involving materials used and where and how the connection to a plumbing distribution system is made. The program develops a policy using existing Code regulations for clear water waste and rain water catchment.

• Potts discussed the approved use of high efficiency toilet acceptance and flow concerns. Potts and Hinderliter mentioned a product on the market not approved for use in the State that recycles hand-wash/gray water for toilet refilling.

• Schafer discussed water-powered sump pumps and performance compromises made with various backflow protection devices connected.

• Hinderliter and Potts discuss who would be responsible for various residential fire protection systems. They suggested meeting with program personnel and Fire Marshall’s office for clarification of types of systems.

• Potts suggested the plumbing industry could develop informational pamphlets on licensure requirements to educate the public that licensure is required for plumbing work and for general awareness of plumbing regulation by the Department. She presented an example of a poster used in another state.

• Tienstra asked if fellow advisory council members have contacted the program regarding Code amendments or scheduled meetings as they have been absent from meetings.