



Pat Quinn, Governor
LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Director

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TO: Plumbing Code Advisory Council Members
FROM: Frank Shimkus, Plumbing Program Manager
DATE: September 25, 2012
SUBJECT: Minutes- August 20, 2012 Open Plumbing Code Advisory Council Meeting

Attendance and Meeting Location

The meeting began at 10:10 a.m. on July 23, 2012 at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois State Fairgrounds, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, Illinois.

The following were in attendance:

IDPH Staff

Stephen Konya, Chief of Staff (via Telecom)
David Culp, Deputy Director, Office of Health Protection
Ken McCann, Division Chief, Environmental Health
Justin Dewitt, Chief, General Engineering Section
Frank Shimkus, Manager, Plumbing Program
Mark Kuechler, Regional Supervisor, IDPH Champaign Regional Office
Tiago Maia, Graduate Intern
Irma Anaya Villa, Administrative Assistant

Plumbing Code Advisory Council Members

Beverly Potts
David Menzel
Dennis Doolan
Doyle James
Gerald Tienstra
James Majerowicz
Jeremiah Deakin

Guests

Len Fassett
Garry Hinderliter

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Culp introduced himself and welcomed everyone. Mark Kuechler performed the roll call and all signed for attendance. Quorum was established.

Motions

- A motion was made by Majerowicz, seconded by James, to approve the agenda.
- The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote

- A motion was made by Tienstra, seconded by James, to approve the meeting minutes from the July 23, 2012 meeting.
- Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote

Agenda

- Maia began with an update on the Plumbing Code edits from the last meeting. He expected to be finished by the end of the month to submit to the legal section for review and then send a copy out to everyone.
- Culp stated the next rules committee meeting is in November and State Board of Health meeting is scheduled for December.
- McCann thanked the Green subcommittee for their work and explained that the final Green supplement document will be forwarded to MPC (Metropolitan Policy Council).
- Potts asked why it needed to be reviewed by MPC and Ken's response was that the Department has committed to working with MPC and allow them to be involved and have a chance to give the Department feedback through the process
- Culp assured the group that it will only go to MPC as a courtesy but will go through the IDPH chain of command and the PCAC is the direct link to the Department.
- Potts distributed copies of the Plumbing Code edits and mentioned that there were also definitions that would need to be added to the existing definitions section.
- Majerowicz lead the page-by-page review of the edits.
- The group discussed the challenge of making the Green supplement a part of the Code without stating that it is mandatory and how to delineate what is voluntary or recommendation versus mandatory and enforceable.
- Potts could foresee entire subdivisions being required to build following the Green guidelines for the "Green" label.
- Kuechler expressed skepticism and said he'd never seen a voluntary code "fly".
- Majerowicz disagreed and thought that people would want to go for the "certification" and stated it was necessary to "satisfy the powers that be".
- Kuechler asked how it would be determined that a facility is "Green" and provided the example of a facility installing one waterless urinal. The group

agreed that in that case, only the urinal would be labeled “Green” and that label would be valid as of the date of the inspection only.

- James’ opinion was that anyone that decided to build under the Green Code should be subject to regulation.
- Culp stated that the goal is to simply provide an avenue to be Green and have to meet the standards of the Plumbing Code for anyone that chooses to be Green.
- The Council discussed the need for guidelines using as example various issues with waterless urinals and home fixtures experienced by the council members in the past.
- Kuechler pointed out that some edits used ICC verbiage and questioned the legality.
- Dewitt stated that the Department purchases a copy of their Code and is allowed to adopt sections of it
- Deakin excused himself from the meeting as the group dismissed for lunch break.

Break Lunch 11:55 p.m. – 12:55 p.m.

Agenda Cont’d

- Review of amendments continued after the lunch break
- Majerowicz asked Konya if “Blackwater” mentioned in a memo from approximately a month ago that Konya sent to the Chicago Building Trades could be addressed at a later time when there’s more data on it since nobody in the room agrees with it. Konya agreed and stated the information was only intended as a sharing effort, but the Department is not necessarily supporting it.
- Kuechler stated that the sewage code may have to be changed to add exceptions for use of “Graywater” as allowed by the plumbing code.
- Ken expressed concern about the amount of work that is needed before presenting the document to MPC and Dewitt and Culp reminded everyone that it also has to go to the legal section and approved by the Governor’s Office.
- Culp asked the group if we could have 75% of it done by the September 27th meeting and have it completed on the October 15th meeting and be ready for MPC.
- Kuechler asked about adding Graywater for other uses work from 2010
- Dewitt stated that MPC is only expecting Rainwater and Graywater, so our document is probably already more substantial than they expect.
- Dewitt presented the issue of the Irrigation Law scheduled to sunset at the end of this calendar year, if nothing is done with the bill in the veto session. Plumbers have an issue with this bill and the Department feels it would have a negative impact, so Dewitt asked for the Council’s opinion.
- Majerowicz said we should probably adjust the licensed plumber to job ratio requirements to something more realistic to ensure a plumber is actually on every job to inspect.

- Kuechler asked about the purpose of inspecting irrigation systems.
- Majerowicz's response was that the work falls back on the plumber and consumers would not get what they pay for if they're not required to be inspected
- Potts suggested asking for a 1-2 year extension to work on it and come to agreeable compromise for a new bill because letting it expire could be trouble
- Dewitt agreed with Potts and said Governmental Affairs believes an extension is probably all we can realistically do with such short time frame to act.
- Konya thought it might be a good idea to have something to present without expecting much out of it
- Potts suggested preparing two bills and then decide which one is best.
- Deciding on Phase III code changes was left as a standing agenda item to address possibly at the next meeting due to the substantial work still in progress.
- Majerowicz volunteered to spearhead efforts to put something together
- Hinderlitter remembered holding public hearings in the past to listen to the public's opinion. He asked if they are required. Ken replied that JCAR can request them and Konya asked Ken to follow up with Susan for clarity on this.

Motion

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tienstra, seconded by Majerowicz.
- The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote

Meeting adjourned 3:00 p.m.