

STATE FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

BUILDING CODE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the October 12, 2012 teleconference meeting of the technical subcommittee reviewing the **2012 International Building Code** for adoption by New York State.

PRESENT: Mark Blanke (Chair)
Laura Cooney
Mark Dedrick
Edward Hafer
Gerard Hathaway
Jody Nolan
Blaise Parascandola
Brian Tollisen

MEETING MINUTES:

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM with a quorum of eight Committee members present. The agenda was reviewed and modified to delete the existing chapter follow-up discussion on the agenda for Section 1008.1.2 (10-04). This item will be added for a future meeting.
2. There were no public comments and no formal code change proposals presented from the public or the committee.
3. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 6 (Types of Construction) of the 2012 IBC as they compare with the current Building Code of New York State (BCNYS). The Committee expressed concerns with the proposed modification to the exception following Section 601.1, Item #1 (6-03), which would allow fire-retardant-treated wood in the roof construction of buildings of type 1B construction. Brian Tollisen may offer a future proposal to address the Committees concerns. The Committee did not express any other concerns with the proposed changes to Chapter 6.
4. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 15 (Roof Assemblies and Rooftop Structures) of the 2012 IBC as they compare with the current BCNYS. The Committee expressed the following concerns and agreed to have follow-up discussions on these topics. The numbers in parentheses refer to Item Numbers identified on the summary chart of proposed significant changes.

- (a) Exceptions to Section 1509.2.5 (15-05); concerning the lack of a required fire-resistance rating of exterior walls and roofs of penthouses with a fire-separation distance of 20 feet or more. The Committee may review this further and consider a future code change.
 - (b) Section 1503.4.1 (15-01); concerning a new requirement for secondary roof drains or scuppers where roof perimeters are such that water drainage can be entrapped. Gerard Hathaway will review this further to see if this coordinates with similar provisions in the Plumbing Code.
 - (c) Section 1509.6 (15-06); concerning mechanical equipment screens on rooftops and the lack of structural wind and snow load provisions. The Committee may review this further and consider a future code change.
5. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 24 (Glass and Glazing) of the IBC 2012 IBC as they compare with the current BCNYS. The Committee did not have any concerns with these changes.
6. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 30 Elevators and Conveying Systems of the 2012 IBC as they compare with the current BCNYS. The Committee was informed of an Elevator Review Task Group that has recommendations for changes which will be forwarded to Committee members by Gerard Hathaway for review and future discussion. The Committee also expressed the following concerns and agreed to have follow-up discussions on these topics.
- (a) Section 3006.4; concerning elevator machine rooms and allows fire barrier enclosures for such rooms to be reduced to a 1-hour fire-resistance rating where the room(s) do not abut or have openings to hoistway enclosures and allows no fire-barriers for such room(s) in buildings four stories or less above grade plane. The Committee specifically expressed concern for separations from such rooms and stairs. Laura Cooney will review this further and may offer a code change proposal to address this concern.
 - (b) Section 3008; concerning Occupant Evacuation Elevators and how this relates to Fire Service Elevators.
7. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 31 (Special Construction) of the 2012 IBC as they compare with the current BCNYS. The Committee expressed the following concerns and agreed to have follow-up discussions on these topics.
- (a) Section 3109.5 (31-1); concerning the proposed deletion of the temporary barrier requirement around swimming pools under construction. The Committee may

consider not excepting this modification.

- (b) Section 3109.7 of the current BCNYS; concerning swimming pool and spa alarms. The committee believes that the alarms have a potential for not operating properly and will consider a modification if appropriate.
8. The Committee discussed the proposed changes made to Chapter 11 (Accessibility) of the 2012 IBC as they compare with the current BCNYS. The Committee was informed of recommendations for changes by Dominick Marinelli of the United Spinal Association. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Committee members. The Committee also expressed the following concerns and agreed to have follow-up discussions on these topics.
- (a) Section 1107.3 (11-03); concerning a new exception that exempts maneuvering clearance requirements on the room side of minimum 44-inch doors in Groups I-2 occupancies. One concern was the potential conflict with Department of Health regulations.
 - (b) Section 1108.4.1(11-04); concerning specific elements of courtrooms that need to be accessible. The committee expressed concerns as to whether these changes comply with NYS Law.
9. The Committee discussed a modification to Section 1028.1 of the 2012 IBC and 1025.1 of the current BCNYS. The Committee accepted a motion from Mark Dedrick to modify Section 1028.1 as follows:
- 1028.1 General.** A room or space used for assembly purposes with an occupant load of 50 or more persons which contains seats, tables, equipment or other materials shall comply with this section.
10. The Committee discussed a modification to Section 1028.3 of the 2012 IBC and 1025.3 of the current BCNYS. The Committee accepted a motion from Laura Cooney to modify Section 1028.3 by adding a new subsection as follows:
- 1028.3 Three or more exits or exit access.** The minimum number of exits or exit access doors provided, consisting of the main exit and other exit access doors, shall be 3 for an occupant load of 350-700 persons and at least 4 for an occupant load of more than 700 persons.
11. The Committee discussed the proposed changes to Sections 1005.3 (10-01) concerning the added requirement for an emergency voice/alarm communication system when increasing the egress capacity of stairs and other egress components. The Committee decided to accept the IBC 2012 language.

12. The Committee discussed the proposed changes to Section 1028.4 (10-26) concerning the separation required between waiting areas from the required means of egress in Group A-1 occupancy and the proposed change in the 2012 IBC to delete this requirement. The Committee agreed to follow-up discussions on this issue.
13. The Committee continued a discussion on the proposed change to Section 1011.2 (10-15) concerning the new requirement for additional exit signs at floor level in Group R-1 occupancy. Blaise Parascandola agreed to review New York City requirements.
14. The Committee continued a discussion on Section 1027.5 concerning the exit discharge requirement to a public way and agreed to further review this section.
15. The Committee continued a discussion on Section 1014.2 concerning exiting through stock rooms and agreed to further review this section.
16. The Committee adjourned at about 12:00 PM.