

BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF November 13, 2007 MEETING

Members in Attendance: William Brizee, Gary Chock, Timothy Hiu, Ralph Nagamine, Lloyd Rogers, Douglas Haigh, Harold Yee, Brian Kajikawa. Staff present: Patricia Ohara, Department of the Attorney General (AG), and Kerry Yoneshige, Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). Members excused; Keith Rudolph.

1. Timothy Hiu called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
2. Minutes from the October 9, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Minutes from the October 23, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved subject to amendments (Patricia Ohara was not present at the meeting).
4. During the public comment period, question was asked by Eric Nishimoto if the Council was considering notification to interested parties such as the GCA, etc. on hearing for proposed administrative rules to be adopted. William Brizee noted that his investigative committee included many of the stakeholders in the review of the IBC, IRC, and IEC. It was also noted that the Council also had a meeting at the AIA Building Expo and that the Building Industry Magazine would be doing an article on and following the activities of the Council.
5. Lloyd Lim of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs did a presentation on the specifications of a residential safe room. Key points of the discussion were:
 - a. Grants of \$2,100 made for the construction of residential safe rooms.
 - b. The grants are funded from approximately \$2 million in appropriation granted by the Legislature on annual basis.
 - c. Gary Chock noted that residential safe room specifications were up to the "Enhanced Hurricane Protection Shelter Standard".
 - d. It was also discussed that a waiver for the wind impact resistant requirements of the IBC 2006 could be a possibility if substituted for the residential safe room specifications.
 - e. Kauai currently provides a real property tax credit for residential safe rooms.
6. Howard Wiig from the Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) did a presentation on where the department is on adopting new building energy efficiency standards. Key points of discussion were:
 - a. Code that will be adopted is the ASHRAE 90.1-04
 - b. Hired a consultant to streamline the ASHRAE code and develop amendments called the tropical energy code.
 - c. Council felt that focus should be to review the ICC energy code because it was integrated into the overall ICC suite of codes. Also the ICC was in

process of building computer models which could certify or validate compliance with the energy codes.

- d. Council approved a motion which moved that DBEDT focus the energy code study on developing a tropical energy code amendment for commercial and residential buildings for adoption of the IECC as an amendment.
- e. Council approved a motion to form an investigative committee to adopt the energy efficiency code to be chaired by Howard Wiig.

7. Report from investigative committees

- a. Hiring of Executive Director and Executive Assistant: The Council approved the position descriptions of the Executive Director and Assistant with amendments noted.
- b. Hurricane Protective Shelters; Gary Chock reported that the City and County of Honolulu was interested in the wind related amendments and was in process of formulating the composition of the investigative committee. The current organizations under consideration for membership in this investigative committee include the counties, DAGS-PWD, and structural engineers association.
- c. International Building Code (IBC); Chair of investigative committee noted that first meeting was held on October 30 and the next meeting is planned for early December. It was noted that the AIA Honolulu Chapter will be identifying the IBC code amendments used by Hawaii and Honolulu as a starting point. This committee will be putting forth amendments for the IBC and IRC.
- d. State Fire Code; Chair reported that the draft administrative rules will be heard possibly in December. Also, the Chair noted that this was his last meeting as he would be retiring at the end of November and a letter from the State Fire Council Chair temporarily appointing Winston Lum was being sent to the Comptroller.
- e. Plumbing Code; Chair reported that his internal staff was reviewing the county amendments to determine what sections are being deleted. The Chair also noted that he would be retiring at the end of November.

- 8. The Council reviewed the letter from the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources which noted that the section which the Council was requesting a briefing on pertained to Dams and Reservoirs. The letter also asked if the Council wanted a briefing on the National Flood Insurance Program. The Council decided to defer further action in this area.

9. Russ reported that approval for the release of funds for non personnel expenses is proceeding and should be released by the next meeting.
10. For the next meeting, Council members were asked to provide names of organizations and individuals that can serve on the investigative committee to adopt the electrical code.
11. The Council agreed to have the draft Annual Report to the Legislature circulated for comments by members. Kerry will circulate the draft report comments.
12. Action item for the next meeting will be to formalize the administrative rule making schedule for the building codes to be adopted.
13. The next meeting date will be December 11 at 9:00 a.m. in the Comptroller's Conference Room.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.