

Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council
May 18th, 2022
10:00 A.M.
8181 Independence Blvd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 10:07 am**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Interim Chair Mr. Roy Young introduces the new State Fire Marshal Chief Dan Wallis. Chief Wallis spoke to the council and those present introducing himself and his history in the fire service and the Fire Marshal's Office. Chief Wallis spoke of his interest to work with the council to help provide the best possible protection with the building codes for the citizens of the State of Louisiana.

The Interim Chair, Mr. Roy Young, requested a roll call of the members which reflected the following:

Members Present: Mr. Glover; Mr. B. Byrd; Ms. T. Byrd; Mr. Cabirac; Mr. Campbell; Ms. Cherry; Ms. Dadakis; Mr. Heier; Mr. Laughlin; Mr. Masterson; Mr. Parnell; Ms. Peers; Mr. McShan; Mr. Rinchuso; Mr. Young

Members Absent: Mr. Causey; Mr. Gootee; Mr. Miller; Ms. Meneandez; Mr. Wallis

Excused absence: Mr. Causey; Mr. Gootee; Mr. Miller; Ms. Meneandez; Mr. Wallis

15 members present and 5 members absent constitute a Quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Announcement of chairman resignation and accept nominations for new LSUCCC Chair.

Mr. Roy Young announced the resignation of the previous chair and opened the floor for nominations for The LSUCCC Chair position. A nomination was made by Mr. Heier and seconded by Jackie Dadakis for Mr. Roy Young who has been serving as the Interim Chair for the LSUCCC. There were no other nominations. It was moved to close the nominations. There were no objections to closing the nominations.

2. Voting for open LSUCCC Chair position and tabulation of votes with announcement of new Chair.

As noted in #1 The nomination was made by Mr. Heier and second by Ms. Dadakis. There were no objections to the nomination and vote for Mr. Roy Young as The Chair of the LSUCCC.

The Chair, Mr. Young, then opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the LSUCCC.

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Mr. Chester Cabirac nominated Mr. Jake Causey for the position of Vice Chair of the LSUCCC. The Nomination was seconded by Ms. Cherry. There were no other nominations. Ms. Dadakis moved to close the nominations. There were no objections to Mr. Causey being appointed Vice Chair of the LSUCCC.

3. Review and Adoption of the Minutes from the July 20th, 2021, Meeting:

A motion was made by Mr. Cabirac to adopt the minutes from the July 20th, 2021, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson. There were no objections or discussion to the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Next LSUCCC Meeting TBD.

The next regular LSUCCC meeting is set for June 14th, 2022. The meeting will be held at the State Fire Marshal's Office 8181 Independence Blvd Baton Rouge, LA and begin at 10:00 am.

5. Technical Codes Study and Advisory Committee Reports. (Jackie Dadakis)

The Chair, Mr. Young, opened the floor for the Technical Codes Study and Advisory committee report. Committee Chair Ms. Jackie Dadakis. Ms. Dadakis thanked everyone for all their work on the review committees and that she appreciated everyone time and effort to get the code review accomplished.

Mr. Mark Joiner asked to speak as well. Mr. Joiner thanked each Review Committee Chair for all their hard work and dedication to get each of their assigned task completed during the review.

Mr. Chester also thanked everyone for their help as well.

6. Legislation Advisory Committee report. (Jackie Dadakis/Mark Joiner)

The Chair, Mr. Young, opened the floor for the Legislation Advisory Committee report. Mr. Joiner asked for Ms. Dadakis to speak to the council concerning the Energy Code and HB 813. Ms. Dadakis spoke of the new energy code that is making its way through Legislation. The bill would give the ability to review the Energy Code and the council is not allowed to adopt Chapter 11 in the IRC and IBC. This bill will give the committees the ability to review Chapter 11.

Mr. Joiner spoke of HB 571. This bill would give the ability to the council to postpone the adoption of the codes for one year in the event of a catastrophic issue such as was present during the Covid emergency.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chair, Mr. Young asked Mr. Joiner about a few corrections would be addressed during each discussion and presentations on the individual code amendments as they are presented. Mr. Joiner addressed the council that there were a few clarifications that needed to be made on the Red Copy concerning the IFGC/IMC.

The Chair, Mr. Young, noted that press connect fittings were left out under 403.9.1 Pipe Joints. Section 403.2.4 should have been 403.3. Also, 404.4 omitted the writing during the printing of the document.

Mr. Joiner also noted research on an LDH requirement to include bathtubs in daycares being Adult and/or Child. Mr. Glover, LSUCCC representative from LDH, noted that this had been discussed at length and that Title 51 did not directly require Child Daycares to have this bathtub requirement. Mr. Glover stated that it was decided that removing the Child Daycares and only leaving it required in Adult Daycares would be acceptable.

A motion was made by Mr. Henry Heier to amend Section 403.1.1 Item (4) to remove the Child Daycares from the amendment. **The motion was seconded** by Mr. Chester Cabirac. The Chair, Mr. Young asked for any opposition, there was no opposition. **The motion passed** to amend the amendment.

A motion was made by Ms. Jackie Dadakis to adopt the IFGC as corrected. **The motion was seconded** by Mr. Chester Cabirac. The Chair, Mr. Young asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed.**

Mr. Robert Glass spoke to the council concerning a correction needed on Page 9 concerning Section M1413.1 General and the needed removal of /ANCI. Mr. Joiner noted the correction had been made and reflected on the newest red copy provided to the council members. Mr. Heier requested clarification of what ANCI stood for and if effected any other part of the code, which Mr. Glass addressed and clarified to the council. Mr. Joiner also stated that ANCI was only noted in two parts of the code, M1412.1 and M1413.1. It is region and item specific and would not affect Louisiana.

The Chair, Mr. Young then turned the floor over to Ms. Jackie Dadakis to take up the amendment recommendations from the Technical Committee to the LSUCCC.

1. Discussion and presentations of proposed 2020 National Electrical Code (NEC) amendments.

Ms. Dadakis open the floor for discussion concerning the amendments proposed and passed by the Technical Committee and moved to the Code Council for consideration and vote. There was no discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Bobby Byrd to accept the amendments as presented. **The motion was seconded** by Mr. Henry Heier. There were no objections and **the motion passed.**

2. Discussion and presentation of proposed 2021 International Residential Code (IRC) amendments.

Ms. Dadakis opened the floor for any discussion from the public on the proposed amendments for the 2021 IRC. There was no discussion by the public.

The 2021 IRC Amendments does not include ASCE 24 Freeboard and Elevation. This issue will be addressed by a special task force and the recommendation will be brought back to the LSUCCC.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Billy McShan to accept the amendments as currently presented. The **motion was seconded** by Ms. Julie Cherry. Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any opposition. There were no opposition. The **motion was approved**.

To provide for public discussion from an individual who had to leave the room momentarily Item #3 2021 IBC, IEBC was skipped, and the council moved to #4 on the agenda. Item #3 will be readdressed once the individual wishing to speak returns.

4. Discussion and presentation of proposed 2021 International Plumbing/Mechanical/Fuel Gas Codes amendments.

Ms. Dadakis opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Bob Carpenter, Vega LLC makers of Megapress asked to speak to the council concerning the Megapress fittings and the council's reconsideration of the recommendation to 402.7 Item #2. If not possible then to provide the technical data on how the LSUCCC is basing its recommendation to repeal Item #2 as it current exist in the 2021 IFGC Code.

Ms. Dadakis asked Mr. Young if he would explain the discussion during the review committee and why the committee made the amendment recommendation. Mr. Young stated that the committee noted the concern with the melting point of the O-rings in these fittings. It was based on the general publics safety if these fittings were used on high pressure gas connections.

Mr. D J Berger spoke to the council representing the review committee and explained the reasoning for the repeal.

Mr. Joiner also noted that there was independent testing, it had been well vetted during the review committee.

Mr. Jay Peters, Code and Standards International, spoke to the council concerning the refrigeration fittings that is under the IMC discussion. He spoke to the committee on the press fittings and the testing questions. He spoke that the fittings had been used across a national market with no issues and no problems. Original scope of the pull test was from 2014 testing which did not include the pull test. Mr. Joiner then noted that if the 2020 testing did include the pull test then the committee could address the concern and issue however the committee made the amendments for the safety of the public and the industry based on the 2014 testing of fittings and therefore the amendment was not based on the latest

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testing of the pull fittings. The 2020 version of UL testing includes all three of the testing methods and it was advised that the council look into adopting the most recent testing version.

The Technical Committee Chair, Ms. Dadakis, noted that the amendment would remain as is at this time for the 2021 IPC, IMC, IFGC which has the UL 1414. At a later date both parties could bring their information to the Technical Committee concerning the UL 2020 and they would take it under advisement for a revision at a later date.

After a very lengthy discussion between the council members and members of the attending public concerning the fittings issue, Ms. Dadakis requested a motion to adopt the 2021 IPC, IMC, and IFGC.

A motion was made by Chester Cabirac to adopt the proposed amendments for the 2021 IPC, IMC, IFGC as amended and recommended by the Technical Committee. **The motion was seconded** by Bobby Byrd. **There were no objections and the motion passed.**

The Chair, Mr. Young, called the meeting back to order after a short break. Mr. Young turned the floor over to The Technical Chair, Ms. Dadakis. Ms. Dadakis then directed the council members back to agenda item #3.

3. Discussion and presentations of proposed 2021 International Building/International Existing Building Codes amendments.

Ms. Dadakis spoke of the wide difference between the Life Safety Code and the IBC.

Mr. Joe Delaune spoke to the council concerning the wide difference between the Life Safety Code and the IBC.

Mr. Michael Wich spoke to the council noting that he participated in many of the review committee meetings and that they handled the review in a very responsible and detailed manner. He noted that if the Fire Marshal's Office adopted the Life Safety Code, then plans would have to be developed and jurisdictions would have to enforce the most stringent of the codes. The two codes are always going to vary at some point.

Mr. Henry Heier asked Mr. Joe Delaune, representative for the Fire Marshal's Office, if it was the policy of the Fire Marshal's Office to have public facilities meet both codes. Mr. Delaune responded to Mr. Heier's question.

Ms. Dadakis asked for a motion to create a task force to discuss and address the differences between the NFPA and IBC. Mr. Scott Matterson asked to speak.

UCCC member, Mr. Scott Matterson, spoke on behalf of the IBC review committee as well as being a building official member. He noted there are more than 8-10 full time building officials statewide that are not third party. He also noted that there was representation during the review committee from the Fire Marshal's Office during these review committee meetings. And noted that this was a 6 months process with many zoom meetings.

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Mr. Joiner asked to be able to clarify Mr. Delaune's statement that the Fire Service stated they did not have a representation during the review committee members and that he was under the understanding that the Fire Marshal's Office did not represent all of the Fire Service industry. Mr. Matterson stated that these meetings were over a 6-month period of time and notices were sent out as required so it was out for the public to attend during each and every meeting.

Mr. Parnell, council member, stated that if the Fire Marshal's Office adopts the most current NFPA then architects would have to design, and buildings would have to be built to the most restrictive code. There was no benefit to a task force except to try to bring the IBC back to match the NFPA.

Ms. Dadakis requested again for a motion to create a task force to discuss and address the differences between the NFPA and IBC. There was no motion.

Mr. Byrd asked if the three charges had been followed by the IBC Review Committee as well as the Technical Committee. Ms. Dadakis stated, "Yes those three charges had been met by the committees"

Mr. Rodney Richard, Building Official, spoke to the council concerning his jurisdictions and their leadership concerning leaving the amendments the way they were reviewed.

Mr. Chris Johnson, Chair for the Advocacy Committee for AIA New Orleans, spoke to the council. He noted that the amendments were proposed and adopted any issues that may arise concerning the building of structures may require the architect to seek equivalences from the Fire Marshal's Office due to technical inability to meet the codes (water service, fire service ability, etc.) or other factors that may arise. The AIA supports the amendments as they were recommended. .

A **motion was made** by Mr. Henry Heier to adopt the proposed IBC/IEBC amendments as amended. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Chester Cabirac. Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any discussion or objection, there were none. The **motion was approved**.

5. Announcement of the 2021 IBC/IRC ASCE 24 Freeboard Task Force Application process and deadline to submit.

Reminder about the application deadline for the task force was June 6th, 2022 and that there was northern representation needed on the task force.

Ms. Dadakis turned the floor over to The Chair, Mr. Young. Mr. Young asked if there was any other business to discuss. With no other items on the agenda or discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Julie Cherry to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jamie Peers. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

END OF MINUTES