

MINUTES
BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD
January 19, 2011

I. The Chairman, Howarth Lewis, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. in the Vista Center 1st Floor Conference Room 1E-60, Palm Beach County Planning, Zoning & Building Department, 2300 North Jog Road, West Palm Beach, Florida.

A. MEMBERS PRESENT:

Howarth Lewis, Chair
Rebecca Caldwell
Michael Fichera
Drew Duncan
Greg Miller
William Higgins
Scott Worley
Doug Wise
Joseph Byrne
Steven Kennedy
Bette Lowe – 2:05
George Diaz – 2:15

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Maury Jacobson
Jacek Tomasik
Gary Kozan

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ashley Salvati, Recording Secretary
Sherita White, Administrative Assistant
Bob Boyer, PBC, CPT
William Pederson, Green Cert. Roofing
Steve Gorman, RSD Building Solutions

Gentry Benjamin, Asst. County Attorney
Richard Gathright, PBC Deputy B.O.
Michael Fox, PBC, CPT Supervisor
Kurt Eismann, PBC Code Enforcement
Sam Dresdorian, Green Cert. Roofing
Walt Smith, Amrock

B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

II. ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Code Interpretation – NONE

B. Code Amendments – NONE

C. Product Evaluation – NONE

D. Regulatory Climate Oversight Committee – Doug Wise

- Mr. Wise stated that Gold Coast Builders requested a countywide standardized application.
- Mr. Wise stated that he, along with Ms. Caldwell and Mr. Kozan, have been working on other ideas, and will look to Mr. Higgins and Mr. Worley for assistance, as well.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Roofing Code Concerns – Letters to Be Read – Howarth Lewis

- Mr. Lewis read the letter on the uplift value of self-adhered underlayments, suggesting further approvals and limitations of use.
- Mr. Wise motioned to send the letter. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Mr. Lewis then read the letter on standardization of wind speed measurements.
- Mr. Byrne provided some background from the roofing industry, and expressed his concern with some of the wording of the letter.
- Mr. Wise said his intention was to change from wind speed measurements to pressure measurements, and is willing to take suggestions in order to best illustrate this.
- Mr. Worley motioned to table the second letter. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

2. Renovation, Repair and Painting Letter to the Governor – Howarth Lewis

- Mr. Lewis read the letter showing support for EPA regulations regarding lead contamination, including that local construction professionals receive the proper education and certificates.
- Mr. Worley motioned to approve the letter. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of New Board Members – Ashley Salvati

- Ms. Salvati introduced newly elected members, Joseph Byrne, George Diaz, Steven Kennedy, and Bette Lowe, to the Board.

2. Resignation of Greg Marion – Ashley Salvati

- Ms. Salvati read Greg Marion's letter of resignation.

3. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair

- Ms. Caldwell motioned to elect Jacek Tomasik as Chair. Mr. Byrne seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Mr. Wise motioned to elect William Higgins as Vice Chair. Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Education Presentation on Appendix X

- Mr. Dresdorian introduced himself, Mr. William Pedersen, Mr. Steve Gorman, and Mr. Walt Smith, as the presenters representing Green Certification Roofing & Insulation
- Mr. Dresdorian stated that they have worked as contractors in Palm Beach County for over thirty years, and have been using SPF polyurethane foam extensively for over seven years. He wanted to address the recent changes that Appendix X has made and concerns regarding their materials and fire safety.
- Mr. Pedersen said they specialize in spray foam and rockwool insulation; therefore, the new code is greatly affecting their business. He noted the three handouts they have: one regarding fire from FEMA, the Appendix X, and the EPA safety precautions on spray foam.
- **Video on spray foam safety was shown.**
- Mr. Pedersen, in conclusion, said that the new code change, when properly used, is a positive thing for the industry. The code represents ways to protect foam.
- Mr. Smith stated that the smoke development of rockwool is miniscule, in comparison to other types of insulations.

- Mr. Smith stated that Appendix X makes very clear, testing and rules that were earlier unclear.
- Mr. Pedersen noted the "Big 6", or the universal materials to coat as ignition barriers and noted the time period now assigned as minimum performance for an ignition barrier to resist fire penetration.
- Ms. Caldwell explained the background of the codes that Palm Beach County had put into place, and was happy to hear of the presentation and how it applied to the new code. She also asked where Appendix A1.2 sunsetted.
- Mr. Pedersen explained that Appendix X was adopted October 3, 2010 and was effective January 1, 2011.
- Ms. Caldwell stated that she sees that Appendix A, Section 1.2.2 will expire June 1, but it does not state where Option 2 has sunsetted.
- Mr. Smith said he does not have the information, but he will find it and forward it to the Board.
- Mr. Higgins asked if the product supported ignition.
- Mr. Smith stated that if you take the ignition source off, then, yes, the foam ignition would go out. However, there are other sources that are keeping the fire going, such as dust and wood.
- Ms. Caldwell pointed out that rockwool is much more environmentally friendly than other traditional products, such as fiberglass.
- **A sound test was given in order to display the insulating sound properties of rockwool.**
- Mr. Pedersen discussed the differences of prices, stating that their spray foam is approximately the same price as other options, maybe slightly less expensive.
- Mr. Gorman explained that fiberglass is still the cheapest option; however, spray foam is only slightly more expensive. From there, there are closed cell products, which are significantly more expensive.
- **Video was shown to demonstrate the fire-resistant properties of rockwool vs. foam, showing that rockwool did not have any evident changes for 20 minutes, whereas foam showed within 2 minutes.**
- Mr. Lewis asked what the purpose of using rockwool in addition to foam is.
- Mr. Dresdorlan explained that the hybrid provides the most economical way to insulate the structure, while meeting the new requirements for Appendix X.

5. Unlicensed Contracting Activity – Kurt Eismann

- Mr. Eismann introduced himself as the director of both Palm Beach County Contractor Certification and Code Enforcement. He verified that there is unlicensed contractor activity in the County and that the County Departments does not have jurisdiction over state-licensed contractors. The County has established the Local Construction Regulation Board (LCRB) to take disciplinary action against state licensed contractors for fraud and local building code violations, by taking away the contractor's permit-pulling ability.
- Mr. Eismann said that the biggest issues are that people are not pulling permits or getting inspections.
- Mr. Eismann said that the Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB) encourages qualified unlicensed contractors to get their licenses. They have seen that some licensed contractors have not updated workers comp or liability because there is not enough work to warrant keeping the license active.
- Mr. Eismann said that we have limited power to do anything because of laws or limited manpower, but working with Code Enforcement has helped to find work being done without permits.

VI. FUTURE BOARD MATTERS FOR MARCH -- NONE


VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. **Next meeting – March 16, 2011**
 - Ms. Caldwell mentioned that we are planning to have a presentation on Earth Anchor pads next meeting.

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS

1. **Updated Member List**
 - Ms. Salvati stated there will be one provided next meeting.
2. **Governor's Executive Order on Rulemaking Effect on FBC Timelines**
 - Mr. Boyer wanted to remind members that the Governor has established a new office on regulatory reform which has put all rule-making on hold, including the Florida Building Code.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



Jacek Tomasiak, Chair

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Salvati,
Recording Secretary