

CENTRAL IOWA CODE CONSORTIUM
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Johnston City Hall, Council Chambers
6221 Merle Hay Road
October 18, 2017

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by committee chair Lund.

2. Roll call

Members present: Bernholtz, Christensen, Junker, Lund, Pardekooper, Rash, Sanders, Schemmel, Whitsell

Also present: Brian Bishop, Des Moines

3. Agenda approval

Moved by Whitsell, seconded by Rash to approve the agenda; ayes - unanimous

4. Approve the minutes for the July 20, 2017 meeting

Moved by Bernholtz, seconded by Whitsell to approve the minutes; ayes – unanimous

5. Discuss strategy, process and timelines for reviewing the 2018 building and fire codes (see lessons learned and proposed timeline below)

The codes were reviewed thoroughly during the 2015 code review process. The committee discussed the strategy for reviewing the 2018 codes would involve making sure the references from the 2015 code are correct and addressing any proposals for changes that are submitted. Local governments should be encouraged to submit their code amendments so they can be considered in the 2018 code review.

A couple of items that need further review and consensus are floor joist protection and Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST).

6. Discuss filling the Executive Committee vacancy for local government administration and filling committee representatives

Sanders is to reach out to find another administrator to serve on the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee members that were assigned as liaisons to a code committee should reach out to the committee members to confirm if they are willing to continue on their committees for the 2018 code review. This will help the Executive Committee determine how many committee openings are available.

7. Report on new Capital Crossroads Director, Nikki Syverson

Lund and Sanders met with the new director and Capital Crossroads is committed to continuing their support of CICC. They will assist in posting meetings and minutes, maintaining content on the web site and other support functions.

8. Update on effort to secure an intern to assist on Capital Crossroads/CICC initiatives

No applications for an intern were received for the fall semester. We will continue to search for an intern for the spring semester. It was suggested we reach out to other schools besides Simpson (i.e. Grandview or DMACC)

9. Other business

It was noted that even though not all of the 17 communities adopted the code, there still was significant progress in getting a number of communities on the same code cycle. The communities that took action on the 2015 code proposals represent a majority of the population in Central Iowa.

Bernholtz mentioned there were several other communities in Central Iowa that may want to get involved in the CICC initiative.

Other items that need to be addressed:

- An announcement letter to the CICC communities that outlines the timeline and process for the 2018 code review.
- Reaching out to potential new communities that may be interested in participating in the 2018 code review process.
- Posting tentative schedule for the 2018 review on the CICC website, including when code proposals are due.
- Encourage communities to submit their local amendments for consideration by the code committees.

Schemmel presented a chart he shared with the Urbandale Board of Appeals that showed some of the differences in the 2015 code language that were adopted by communities.

10. Upcoming meetings

The committee scheduled Wednesday, December 6 at 10:00 am for their next meeting.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Bernholtz, seconded by Christensen to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

Below are the lessons learned recorded in the 1/11/17 minutes with additional notes from the 7/20/17 meeting:

- Get more communities involved in the code review process, it would be great to have someone from each Participating Community involved
- Consider local amendments in the code review process, if there are local amendments, they should be reviewed
- Increase the amount of time in which code proposals can be submitted by the public
- We need something to truly differentiate how cities use the International Residential Code (IRC) verse other codes. The construction community understands what the state law applies to. If the state code is not applicable, what are architects designing to? Clearly identify the consortium's approach to state adopted codes
- Do we need to have a sub-committee review the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) with other code books; IRC verse other codes; NFPA 54 and 58, what is applicable; We should obtain legal advice on this issue; Is it the role of the Executive Committee to set the bar?
- Look at IRC and state mandated codes
- Create more established deadlines; complete the review of the 2018 codes (draft comes out during the summer of 2017) by January 1, 2019
- State Board is industry driven with no jurisdictional representation.
- Des Moines hosted a class led by CICC members, in cooperation with the Iowa Fire Chief's Association, that was open to all Participating Communities. The purpose was to solidify how the newly adopted fire codes are enforced. They felt the session was well received and should be created for all codes. There was interest from other communities throughout the state.
- Hot button issues that need to be addressed directly include: day cares, storm shelters at schools, floor joist protection (most cities have opted out and used 2012 IRC code language), sprinkler thresholds
- It was suggested that elected officials be appointed to CICC committees. It was noted that although no elected officials applied to serve on a committee for the 2015 code review, they always have the opportunity to participate since the committee meetings are open to the public.
- Issues to be worked out with the State if Iowa: Scope of IRC, energy code (is there a funding source for changes that may be mandated?). It was noted cities can be more restrictive than state codes, but not less restrictive.

The committee would like the 2018 codes to be adopted by January 2019. A tentative schedule:

September 2017; 2018 code comes out

September 2017 – April 1, 2018; review 2018 code changes

January 1, 2018 – April 1, 2018; CICC receives code proposals

April 1, 2018; Committees begin review of proposed code changes and code proposals

January 1, 2019; CICC adoption and recommendation completed

Early 2019; cities consider adoption of the codes