

HOME INSPECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 14, 2003 Public Session

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Home Inspection Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice-Chairman Michael Fitzpatrick at 9:50am in the Union Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey. All parties were duly notified of the time, date and place and all pertinent material had been provided.

SUNSHINE LAW ANNOUNCEMENT

Joseph Grabowy, read the statement required by Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, known as the Open Public Meetings Act, and announced that notice of the meeting was prepared in the office of the Committee and mailed to the Secretary of State, the Star Ledger, the Courier Post, the Bergen Record and the Atlantic City Press.

ROLL CALL

CMs present:

Robert Corrado
Michael Fitzpatrick

CMs absent:

Randy Ortiz
Thomas Kraeutler

Others present:

Arthur Russo, Executive Director, Joseph Grabowy, Auditor/Accountant Assistant, Ernest Gonzalez, Senior Clerk Transcriber, DAG Olga E. Bradford, Martha Richardson, Staff, and 1 member of the public.

SUB-COMMITTEE

This meeting was conducted as a Sub-Committee of the full Committee. The following topics were discussed and/or voted upon by the Sub-Committee as a recommendation to the full Committee:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 8, 2002

The Sub-Committee reviewed the minutes of October 8, 2002 and unanimously voted to recommend approval to the full Committee.

November 12, 2002

The Sub-Committee reviewed the minutes of November 12, 2002 and unanimously voted to recommend approval to the full Committee.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

General Report

ED Russo distributed a draft version of the Associate Home Inspector file jacket. After a review of this handout, the Committee instructed VC Fitzpatrick to amend this draft to reflect various changes.

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ED Russo informed the Committee that a list of individuals approved for licensure by date of approval is being maintained by the staff.

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ED Russo distributed statistics on the number of current home inspector applications received, processed and approved. The Committee noted the statistics for the record.

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The Committee discussed the option of preparing a consumer alert to advise the public that individuals practicing home inspection as of May 30, 2003 will be required to be licensed. The staff will prepare this draft and forward it to the Director of Consumer Affairs for review.

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A discussion ensued regarding the use of a license directory available on the Committee's web site. ED Russo informed the Committee that this directory is currently unavailable and was informed that it will be operational at a later time. He will monitor the status of this menu item and report back to the Committee.

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ED Russo informed the Committee that he will contact the Governor's office advising that there are now currently licensed home inspectors from which to select individuals for consideration to fill vacant positions on the Committee.

Incoming Correspondence

Senator Byron Baer

RE: Constituent's letter

(January 9, 2003)

Senator Baer submitted this request on behalf of a constituent who complained that there are not any schools available in southern New Jersey where an individual may take the approved home inspector course required for licensure. He states that the closest approved school would require approximately three hours of travel time from his home in Gloucester County.

VC Fitzpatrick will draft a response to Senator Baer for the Committee's review.

LEGISLATION

S1685 - Revises the "grandfather" provisions for eligibility to become a licensed home inspector

Joseph Grabowy informed the Sub-Committee that this bill which would revise the grandfather provisions for a home inspector has passed in the Senate.

After a discussion, the Sub-Committee recommended to inform the Director of Consumer Affairs that it opposes this bill since it lessens the standards of the industry, and further, indicated that anything less than the current licensing act would cause harm to the consumer.

A567 - Revises various provisions of the "Home Inspection Professional Licensing Act"

The Committee previously reviewed this bill which would serve to revise the Home Inspector Professional Licensing Act and reiterated its opposition to it.

S2069 - Installation of carbon monoxide detectors in residential homes

This bill which would require carbon monoxide detectors in one and two family residential homes was noted for the record since the Committee voted to support this legislation at its December 2002 meeting.

ARTICLE OF INTEREST

"CREIA Survey"

"Why should we report what we see, even if good?" The Home Inspectors REPORT: November 2002: Volume 02, Number 11

The Sub-Committee reviewed and noted these articles for the record.

Approval of Applications

The Sub-Committee unanimously recommended to approve the following applications for licensure to the full Committee:

Glenn Woertz	906794
Stephen Longo	904828
Glen Fisher	904836
Michael Falcone	904647
Henry Sobczak	904664
Robert Osborne	906797
John Moss	912030
Thomas Wanchison	927596
Richard Roshak	912103
Brian Finnegan	904653

APPEARANCE BY DIRECTOR RENI ERDOS

Ms. Erdos appeared before the Sub-Committee to familiarize herself with the Committee's operations and to discuss A567 which seeks to revise the Home Inspector Professional Licensing Act.

MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by CM Corrado, second by VC Fitzpatrick, the Sub-Committee unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of completing the Executive Session agenda.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion contained within the Executive session minutes, the Sub-Committee re-entered into Public Session for the purpose of adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by CM Corrado, second by VC Fitzpatrick, the Sub-Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:30pm.

APPROVED BY:

F. Michael Fitzpatrick
Vice-Chairman

Arthur Russo
Executive Director