

South Central Regional Construction Code Council Meeting
Thursday, June 24, 2010
Time: 10:00AM

Location: St. James Parish Courthouse Annex
2631 La. 20 West
Vacherie, La. 70090

Members in attendance were:

Kristi Muller (St. John)
John Boudreaux (Assumption)
Shane Landry (St. James)
Pat Gordon (Terrebonne)
Kevin Belanger (SCPDC)

Meeting Minutes

At approximately 10:00am the meeting began starting with the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call followed with all members being present with the exception of Mr. Pat Gordon.

Mrs. Kristi Muller opened the floor to the HBA. There was no one present at this time.

Mrs. Kristi Muller opened the floor to the public wishing to address the council. There were no comments at this time.

It was moved by Mr. Kevin Belanger, seconded by Mr. John Boudreaux to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

Mr. Pat Gordon, Terrebonne Parish, arrived approximately 10:15am during review of the financial report.

Ms. Dawn Allemand presented the council with a financial analysis. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Mr. Kevin Belanger, seconded by Mr. John Boudreaux to adopt the financial report. Motion Carried.

Mr. Joey Yesso and Mr. Rob Hamilton with the HBA arrived. It was moved by Mr. Pat Gordon, seconded by Mr. John Boudreaux for the HBA or public to make any comments. Motion Carried. There were no comments at this time.

Mr. Michael Wich discussed submitting plans on 11 X17 paper or electronically would be easier for the permit office. He did speak with HBA per the request of the council there were no objections with this process. Mr. Rob Hamilton of the HBA stated the contractors they spoke with are all in agreement.

Mr. Wich advised SCP applied for a grant to provide high speed scanners for each Parish in our region. The scanners do scan 11 X 17 sheets of paper. Discussion Ensued.

Mr. Wich provided the board with a procedure for inspections and plan review packet. He gave an update to the board in reference to the complaints filed on two third party providers in our areas. It took a judge 90 days to file the answer and in the mean time the same activities are repeatedly being done. Mr. Wich recommends making changes to help protect the public. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Wich gave the board a few examples of the things being found in error continuously.

- a.) Emergency escape and rescue openings are not proper size.
- b.) Required firewalls being ignored.
- c.) Sprinklers required being ignored.
- d.) In-ground plumbing needs water/air test. Water test has a 10ft. standpipe. We have been on several sites where there are no water connections at all to be able to fill it up.
- e.) Smoke detectors not in home at final inspection.
- f.) Water Heater pop off valves draining directly inside instead of outside.
- g.) House being built on mounds with no compaction test.
- h.) Anchoring, strapping, improper use of beams, improper bracing, Electrical – No Arc Fault - No Ground Fault protection, uncapped gas lines and the list goes on and on.

Mr. Wich explains with the State taking so long the Third Parties attitudes are nothing will happen to them. Our job is to ensure things are done correctly. Mr. Wich advised there is a cost but the cost is minimal compared to the protection we will provide to the public. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Pat Gordon feels this item needs to be taken to the administration due to it being such a drastic change. He also questions is it compliant to Act 12? Mr. Wich advised this is compliant with Act 12. Another option is to file an injunction which will put the third party out of work. The purpose is not to put them out of work but to be sure they are doing proper work. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Boudreaux would like to know how much time is being taken on third parties for a month or so to see the cost we are spending.

It was moved by Mr. Pat Gordon, seconded by Mr. Kevin Belanger to table until the next meeting to get some additional information. Motion Carried.

Mr. Joey Yesso stated had the International Building Code been read we would not be where we are now with the Third parties. This should have been taken care of at a local level. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Wich will put together a process submit to Mrs. Muller and she will then call a meeting to discuss.

Mr. Belanger requested to discuss the inconsistencies amongst member Parishes concerning mobile homes and trade permits. There are a few Parishes charging different rates for Mobile Home and Trade Permits. This was initially set up to have all the Parishes as a whole to work together with the same fees. Discussion ensued.

Initially in reference to trade permits everyone was on board. Somewhere it has all changed. The different permit costs are confusing to the contractors who work in more than one Parish. We are not protecting the public if the inspections are not being done. This also burdens the cost to the other Parishes who are getting inspection. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Wich discussed Fema Park Models are being auctioned off by the State. They were never made to be a permanent dwelling. Guidance is needed from the board as to how they want to handle these structures. They are being permitted as a temporary structure at this time. Discussion ensued.

It was moved by Mr. Pat Gordon, seconded by Mr. Kevin Belanger to only permit these structures as temporary recreation vehicles. Discussion ensued. Motion Carried.

Mr. Wich stated he worked with Mr. Geoffrey Large and Mr. Tom Watkins to eliminate the need to go back to the council each year to review, adopt and amend the ordinance language to adopt future additions of the building code. They would like it to say whatever present the Louisiana State Code is shall be the code of our Parish. Discussion ensued.

It was moved by Mr. Pat Gordon, seconded by Mr. John Boudreaux to approve and start utilizing the Louisiana State Code changes each year. Motion Carried.

Mr. Wich advised the council SCP has turned over the proposal to St. Charles Parish on June 14, 2010. If we are successful they will be ready to begin with our service August 1, 2010. Discussion ensued.

It was moved by Mr. John Boudreaux, seconded by Mr. Pat Gordon, if St. Charles Parish accepts the proposal we shall allow them in the Regional Code Council. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Mr. John Boudreaux, seconded by Mr. Kevin Belanger to go into executive session to discuss CBO contract. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Mr. John Boudreaux, seconded by Mr. Kevin Belanger to return from executive session. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Mr. John Boudreaux, seconded by Mr. Pat Gordon to accept the contract for the CBO. Motion Carried.

There being no further information to be discussed, it was moved by Mr. Pat Gordon, seconded by Mr. Kevin Belanger to adjourn. Motion carried.