



**ILLINOIS
FIRE
PREVENTION
ASSOCIATION**

720 Heartland Dr. unit "P"
Sugar Grove, IL. 60554

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Visit us on the WEB at www.ifpanet.org

**MEETING MINUTES
FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION of ILLINOIS
November 10th, 2009**

Location: Churrasco Brazilian Steakhouse
541 W. North Avenue
Villa Park, IL.60181
Phone # 630-832-0877

Attendees: Available Upon Request

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by IFPA President David Cobian.

FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Sandfox to accept the meeting minutes from October 13th, 2009 meeting. That motion was seconded by Danielle Sandfox and accepted by the membership.

TREASURER REPORT

The treasurer's report was given by Brian Johnstone. The financial status of the Association was provided along with a tally of the current membership count. Brian mentioned in the report that the year's end is up and coming soon, which will require that all members visit the website and reregister their membership. Also mentioned in the report was that the dues will not increase for next year's membership.

PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATIONS WITH FEE TO BRIAN JOHNSTONE!!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NFPA 25 Report (Richard Ray Jr.)

Rich Ray provided information with regards to the NFPA 25 ROC meeting- "This is not final yet as the ROC Ballot has not been distributed nor voted on yet so this is preliminary!!!"

-Please view the attached report (which was discussed in our meeting) at the end of the meeting minutes.

**-Please take note of all of Rich's accomplishments which are listed on the attached report
-Rich also mentioned in his report that he may require the assistance of our membership when it comes to submitting NITMAM's.**

NFPA 20 Report (David Whitfield)

David informed the membership of how the "TIA" will become formal and will be presented to the Standards Council in Florida during the month of February.

Dinner was served at 7: pm

New Business:

IFPA President David Cobian made a motion to make an amendment in the By Laws which would appoint the current term IFPA Secretary to full Administration position of maintaining the IFPA web site. Brian Johnstone seconded the motion and the membership accepted.

IFPA Secretary Vincent Rodriguez provided an overview of the web site. The following suggestions were made by the membership in order to improve the web site:

- Comments box or tab
- Drop down for NFPA comments
- Categorizing the membership (Vendors, Manufacturers, Contractors, Engineers, AHJ's, Other)
- Possible "Related Sites" to add to our web site (NFPA, HFSC, NIFSAB, HSC, ICC.SAFE.ORG, U/L, FM Global, Trade Magazine, Sprinkler Quarterly, AFSA, FPC.Org, Sprinkler Age, The Gong)
- Web site "Blogs, Forums, Question of the week"

Thank you to all of the membership for your input, it is great!

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

See NFPA 25 report below!!!

We will be posting all our membership information on the website, so please be sure to contact us if your membership information needs to be updated. Also, please visit our website and feel free to comment on what is available as well as what should be available.

Future meeting minutes will be posted on the website for membership viewing!

Vince Rodriguez

Secretary



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Report to the IFPA

11/10/09

Re: NFPA 25 ROC meeting – THIS IS NOT FINAL YET AS THE ROC BALLOT HAS NOT BEEN DISTRIBUTED NOR VOTED ON YET SO THIS IS PRELIMINARY!!!

The ROC meeting was held 10/6 & 7/09 in Charlotte, NC. There were 23 voters there plus the Chair, the NFPA staff liaison and many alternates. There were approximately 130 comments to be addressed. After two twelve hour days, we were UNABLE to finish all of the comments.

The Committee reconvened via a webinar on 11/2/09 which lasted about 6 hours and included 21 voters plus the Chair, the NFPA staff liaison, and many alternates.

The ROC ballots are overdue and are due BACK to NFPA by 11/11 with the ROC being published by 2/26/10. The closing date for NITMAMs is 4/9/10 and the document will be voted on at the NFPA Final Hearings in Las Vegas, NV 6/5 – 9/10.

There was a fair amount of “flip flopping” – that is the Committee overturned the actions that it had taken at the ROP meetings last January.

My Comments – Log 9 (p3) regarding retrofit of test connections if AHJ wants them was rejected AGAIN! Log 8 (p15) owner shall replace hydraulic placard if missing was rejected AGAIN BUT the committee found an error in the various editions of 25 so I am fine now. Log 3 (p27) remove the words “if a jockey pump is installed” which was rejected at the ROP, I got the committee to flop and I won this time. Log 2 (p31) to require that mercoid settings of jockey pumps must be checked weekly was sunk due to another issue and had been rejected at the ROP. Log 7 (p37) a committee flip flop: this was rejected at the ROP but I won at the ROC: air leakage tests (like on dry systems) will be required on preaction systems. Log 5 (p43...) CPVC doesn't have to be inspected for obstructions, they changed to “nonmetallic pipe” but I took it as a win as if any of the 14 items noted in Chapter 14 (plus hearing something) then an obstruction investigation is required ON ALL PIPE TYPES. Log 4 & 6 (p50&43) piping that is inaccessible doesn't have to be inspected for obstructions – after being rejected at the ROP I argued that inaccessible may be interpreted as “we don't have a lift that tall” and I won that at the ROC so the exception will be removed. Log 10 (p49) at the ROP I was rejected to require that certain fire pump alarms be transmitted to a place that is constantly attended and I was successful at keeping “pump running, power failure, phase reversal, and pump on alternate power source” as signals that MUST be transmitted to a constantly attended room. This was another Flip flop. Of my 9 comments, I won 6, lost 3.

1) Lots of discussion and comments on the scope of an NFPA 25 inspection, the scope of the NFPA document, and the scope of the NFPA Committee. We were again successful in beating back the property owner interests and consultant types who want an NFPA 25 inspection to verify the design, adequacy, and successful operation of a system.

2) Committee agreed on “impairment”, “critical deficiency”, and “non-critical deficiency” for describing various levels of problems with a sprinkler system. Many wanted a “red, green, yellow tag” system for this but were defeated. There will be many tables added to a new Annex. Impairment = out of service like a shut valve; critical deficiency = can affect the system's

performance like an inoperative water flow switch; non-critical deficiency = does not affect system performance but needs correcting action like a missing sign.

3) Retry at if the pipe has a leak you must replace the entire length – rejected. Not always necessary nor feasible.

4) Property owner types wanted no responsibility or action required on their part for changes in occupancy, process, etc – they felt this should be part of the inspection. They lost.

5) LOG 96 – WE NEED TO VOTE TO REJECT THIS ACTION AND PUT THIS BACK IN THE BODY OF THE STANDARD. The owner types were successful in reversing the committee action at the ROP and placing the “owners section” in the Appendix and removing it from the body (is the bldg occupied? has there been a change in hazard or occupancy? is the system in service? have there been modifications to the system or bldg since the last inspection? etc.)

6) LOG 15 - We retried to get the owner to have to identify his insurer on the inspection form. We were defeated AGAIN as we were at the ROP. Quote from a sprinkler contractor: “the owner will fire me”; quote from a BIG insurer: “don’t send us something that we don’t want to see”.

7) Attempt was made AGAIN to change the age at which standard spray standard response sprinklers heads must be tested or replaced from 50 years to 30 years – this was rejected as it was at the ROP. UL: “no real problems with 50+ year old heads”; FM: “if the head looks good, it probably is”.

8) Log 17 (p14) – At the ROP it was agreed that “areas of a building lacking protection shall be identified” during an inspection. We do not want this! The original proposal was resubmitted and rejected.

9) Cultural Resources Committee resubmitted what they had rejected at the ROP – “test with out introducing fresh water”. HUH? This was rejected again.

10) Log 55 – “The concentration of antifreeze shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the anticipated minimum temperature”. This was rejected at the ROP but the Committee reversed itself and this was accepted at the ROC. FLAMMABILITY??

11) Log 20 – another committee flip flop: “Water supply tests on city mains must be done every 5 years and compared to the system demand”. This was accepted at the ROP and rejected at the ROC. We don’t want this!

12) Log 71 – A 200 psi/2 hour hydrostatic test is required every 5 years on all manual standpipes AND (we added at ROC) all semi-automatic standpipe systems.

13) Log 112 – Flip Flop! WE MUST TRY TO REVERSE THIS! This was rejected BIG at the ROP but they beat us at the ROC: churn testing of electric fire pumps has been changed from weekly to MONTHLY. No change on diesel driven pumps.

14) Log 49 – NFPA Committee on Cultural Resources tries again – “after you trip a preaction system, dry the pipe”. Rejected at ROP & ROC.

15) Log 47 – NFPA Committee on Cultural Resources tries again – inspect for an obstruction in a branch line “along the entire length of the branchline”. Rejected at ROP & ROC.

16) Log 68 – An attempt by the owner types to remove the “Hazard evaluation form” from the standard that we won at the ROP. They were defeated. They say “don’t mention it”, we say “it makes it obvious that it’s the owner’s responsibility”.

17) CC#5 – Fire pump test results are NOT to be adjusted for speed and then compared to the system demand AS FURNISHED BY THE OWNER. Accepted.

18) Log 117 – Owners tried to remove the need for obstruction inspections on wet systems ALL TOGETHER (now required every 5 years) and give us a bone that dry & preaction systems will need to be inspected for obstructions every 3 years. This was rejected.

19) CC#4 – 5 hour debate!! Regarding obstruction inspections. Owners again tried to remove the 5 year requirement on wet systems, defeated. They got “do every other floor in a high rise or every other system in a warehouse every 5 years”; if foreign material is found, all systems go back to 5 year intervals. Add “if foreign material sufficient to block a sprinkler head is found during an inspection or obstruction investigation, flushing is required”. Cleared up language: Obstruction inspection=the regular 5 year requirement; obstruction investigation is triggered if one of the 14 items listed in Chapter 14 of NFPA 25 occurs (15th added but in appendix: if you hear things.....).