

Residential Sprinkler Working Group
March 25, 2011
Department of Public Safety – Room 348
1111 Country Club Road
Middletown, CT

Attendees

Charles Appleby
Janet Ainsworth
Jamie DiPace
Whitney Huber
Richard Hurlburt
Brian Finn
Robert Fusari, Sr.
Dominick Kasmauskas
Joseph Kingston
Alan Lagocki
John Livingstone
Joe Pellecchia
Barry Rickert
Robert Ross, Chairman
Daniel Tierney
Patrick Tourville
Tim Travers
Ray Walker
Dave Waskowicz
Timothy York

Representing

Plumbing Industry
CT – DPS – Legal
CFCA
AIA – CT
CT - DCP
CSBT/L.U. 669
CT - HBA
NFSA
CT – DPS – OSFM
AIA – CT
CSBT/L.U. 669
CT-PHCC
OSFM
CT – DPS – DFEBs
CT – DPS – OSBI
CFMA
NFPA
CCM
Industry
CBOA

Introductions

Rob Ross, Chairman, introduced himself and all attendees introduced themselves.

Review of Researched Issues

- The unknown requirements of the State’s water purveyors, and for individual supply lines, metering, back-flow preventers and related annual fees if applicable and the related costs for installation outside of the building footprint for this water service, excavation costs and other related expenses - *Dominic Kasmauskas* – [Working with Rob Ross to obtain an AWWA contact.](#)
- Actual financial installation cost estimates (relative to the State of Connecticut construction industry) of the NFPA 13D system inside the residence (installation requirements). *Tim York and Jamie DiPace* – [In the process of acquiring pricing for design and installation cost for a 2,500 sq. ft. colonial and single story home \(with great room\) in 7 different Connecticut districts.](#)
- Which licensed installer may install this system and how many of such individuals are licensed in Connecticut and available to do this work? Codes vs. License. *Richard Hurlburt and Dan Tierney* – [See attached \(1\) Licensure and Design-attachment 2\) F-2 Apprentice Program Enrollment List\)](#)

- Who can be the responsible individual to design the system? Can a homeowner do this? *Richard Hurlburt and Dan Tierney* – See attached (Licensure and Design-attachment) – Discussion held regarding the determination of jurisdiction (building inspector vs. fire marshal or either). There will be a need for training in regards to inspection of these systems. Homeowner cannot design the system but can physically install themselves (with required permit)
- What are the required annual maintenance and inspection requirements of an NFPA 13D residential sprinkler system? Can a homeowner do this or is a specialized tradesperson required? *Robert Duval* – See attached (Maintenance and Inspection Requirements) – Discussion held clarifying that a homeowner cannot be responsible for anti-freeze in the system. However, anti-freeze should not be needed in the majority of systems in Connecticut. Educating the homeowner to do periodic inspections will be important. A representative from the Department of Public Health may be needed to address the issue of a back flow prevention device.
- What components are needed to install such system and will product suppliers sell the materials, such as sprinkler heads and related equipment, to homeowners, or only to licensed contractors? *Richard Hurlburt and Dan Tierney* – Information pending
- Will the municipalities include this new system as an additional item to financially assess the homeowner on and what are the implications of such annual cost assessment to a homeowner? *Tim York* – It was requested that this be discussed at the next Assessors Association meeting. Preliminary discussions have resulted in mixed outcomes. The state of Illinois may have information relative to this that may be helpful.
- What are the specific insurance implications to a homeowner? *Phil Crombie* – The average insurance savings is 7%. The savings depends upon the insurance company and may result in a percentage savings relative to the fire rating. Information is needed from an insurance representative to answer if the system is not maintained properly, will the insurance company pay it there is a fire.
- What are the impacts on firefighters, first responders and residential occupant safety? What are the financial costs to rebuild a home experiencing a fire with and without a residential sprinkler system here in Connecticut and/or the Northeast? *Todd Paige and Bob Walsh* – Will be discussed at the next meeting.
- What education is needed to understand the requirements of the 2009 IRC Sections R313 and P2904 to potential user groups such as the construction industry and code officials relative to NFPA 13D? *Tim Travers* – See attached (Education) – Discussion was held regarding the need to educate design professionals and general contractors.

Additional Issues

Arrangements to implement a sprinkler system in a Habitat for Humanity home will continue.

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will be on April 15, 2011 from 9:00 – 12:00, at the Department of Public Safety, room 348.