

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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MINUTES
Residential Care Facility Advisory Committee
May 26, 2011
Office of the State Fire Marshal, Sacramento/Monrovia, California

PRESENT:

Ernie Paez, Chair, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Joe Garcia, Tulare County Fire
Steve Hart
Denise Johnson, CRCAC
Heather Harrison, California Assisted Living
Walter Brandes, Riverside County Fire Department
Doug Pancake, Douglas Pancake Architects
Scott Miller, L.A. City Fire Department
Joe Rodrigues, Department of Aging (CDA)
Rocque Yballa, California Fire Chiefs Association
Pat Stranahan, Mario Ballard & Associates Consulting

ABSENT:

John Avis, Department of Social Services (DSS-CCL)
Laurie Almany, Board and Care Association
Thomas Stahl, Department of Social Services (DSS)
Richard Friend, Friend's Home Care
Steven Fairly, Melchiori Construction Company Inc.

PARTICIPANT:

Debbie Vanek San Ramon Fire Dept.
Ellen Makenna, Board and Care Owners Association
Paulette Moses, Board and Care Owners Association
Larry Williams, Ventura County Fire
Michele Krieg, Ventura County Fire
Chuck Skoien, CRCAC

STAFF:

Kevin Reinertson, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Steve Guarino, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Vickie Sakamoto, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Diane Arend, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ernie Paez, Chair, called the meeting to order at **1006** hours at State Fire Marshal Sacramento Headquarters and State Fire Marshal Monrovia Regional Office.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Each attendee gave a brief description of their background and the organization they represent.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Joe Garcia to approve the February 2011 meeting minutes, Steve Hart second the motion, all were in favor.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. **Ernie Paez** – Discussed outstanding action items from the February 2011 meeting. First item that was discussed was the RCF presentation and the possibility of having two presentations, one for training fire service personnel and a watered down version for providers covering basic requirements such as exiting, alarm, sprinkler, fire prevention etc. Joe Garcia stated that he has updated all handout materials and the existing presentation to the 2010 edition of the code. Ernie Paez asked if it would be necessary to form another ad-hoc committee to work on that project. Joe Garcia stated that he would work on that and re-submit. Scott Miller stated that floor plans and pictures for the providers would be helpful. Scott Miller offered his help as well. Second action item that was discussed was the attempt by Ernie Paez to have a meeting in Sacramento with the Drug and Alcohol administration to discuss and clarify issues regarding 850 fire clearances, licensing, etc. Steve Guarino pointed out that that ADP is in the process of being re-structured. Ernie Paez will continue to work on that issue and keep the group informed. Kevin Reinertson discussed the third item which was the package that was submitted regarding the external accessibility ramps provisions for R3.1 facilities. Kevin stated the package will be reviewed internally first by SFM staff and then moved forward to the State Fire Marshal. Ernie Paez gave an update on the code interpretation request that was submitted to the SFM Code Interpretation Committee regarding window latches. He stated that the committee was unable to review due to the backlog that currently exists, but thinks it will be reviewed on June 16, 2011. The last action item discussed was the letter regarding CO detectors that was formulated by Joe Garcia with the RCF Committee Chairs signature block. The letter will be forwarded to the State Fire Marshal. Rocque Yballa stated ad everyone agreed that a joint answer to this letter should come from the SFM, Cal-Bo, HCD, and the Fire Service.
2. **Doug Pancake** – Provided the committee with an update on the Day Care Ad-Hoc committee. Doug stated that he had two items to cover; 1) Daycare definitions and provide clarity to these definitions and who (agency) licenses. Doug will be communicating with Tom Stahl from CCL. Doug also spoke in regards to some code language in Chapter 3 specifically 305.2 and 308.5.2 that is somewhat confusing and should be revised and clarified. Doug suggested that an I.B. or a code interpretation be issued by the SFM. Doug stated that the ad-hoc committee will review and discuss at their next meeting. 2) Are large and small family daycares allowed to be located in an R-2 occupancy? Licensing stated that they do not have the authority to deny an application based solely on the daycare being located in an apartment building. It seems that there more than likely is not an issue. The Ad-Hoc committee will further discuss this at their next meeting and possibly make a recommendation to the SFM for a code interpretation. **A recommendation was also made by the Ad-Hoc committee that the SFM issue an information bulletin clarifying the need for day-care providers to pull a permit for the use of garage space.** Doug also shared the draft matrix for daycares the ad-hoc committee has been working on.

3. **Kevin Reinertson** – Gave an update on the State Fire Marshal’s interim rule making cycle to come out with supplements to the 2010 California Residential, Building and Fire Codes. The supplements will include the definition for bedridden (AB 762) and clarification for six or less facilities in 425.3.2.
4. **Rocque Yballa** – Discussed the issue of code exception 1008.1.8.6 for special egress devices which states; *In facilities housing Alzheimer’s or dementia clients, a delay of not more than 30 seconds is permitted.* Rocque stated that the problem is this is allowed in California but the ICC code only allows 15 second delay. If you want to purchase the hardware from a manufacturer/vendor a letter from the fire department to the manufacturer/vendor must accompany the order. He feels this issue is another cog in the wheel for providers and industries. Roque stated that he has spoke with vendors and have provided copies of the California code and the process of obtaining a letter from the fire department should no longer be an issue.

V. ROUND TABLE/NEW BUISNESS

Steve Hart asked the group if they thought that “part-time homeless shelters” was an issue in their communities. Most of the group stated that it really is not an issue.

VI. SET MEETING DATE(S)

Next meeting [August 4, 2011](#) 10:00am – 2:00pm at the South SFM Monrovia Office 602 E. Huntington Dr. Suite A, Monrovia Ca. 91016

Conference room will be available for Northern participants at the SFM Headquarters Office 1131 S. Street Sacramento Ca. 95811. [Conference Phone # \(877\) 213-9444 Participant Code 821139](#)

VII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1155 hours.

Meeting Minutes Developed by:
Ernie Paez, Chief
Fire & Life Safety Division
CAL FIRE/OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
602 E. Huntington Dr. Suite A
Monrovia CA, 91016