

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 653-7772
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



MINUTES
Residential Care Facility Advisory Committee
November 2, 2011
Office of the State Fire Marshal, Sacramento/Monrovia, California

PRESENT:

Ernie Paez, Chair, Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM)
Steve Hart, National Automatic Sprinkler IP-Fund
Denise Johnson, CRCAC
Heather Harrison, California Assisted Living
Thomas Stahl, Department of Social Services (DSS)
Scott Miller, L.A. City Fire Department
Rocque Yballa, California Fire Chiefs Association
Richard Friend, Friend's Home Care
Walt Brandes, Riverside County Fire

ABSENT:

Joe Garcia, Tulare County Fire
John Avis, Department of Social Services (DSS-CCL)
Laurie Albany, Board and Care Association
Joe Rodrigues, Department of Aging (CDA)
Steven Fairly, Melchiori Construction Company Inc.
Doug Pancake, Douglas Pancake Architects

PARTICIPANT:

Chuck Skoien, CRCAC
Eric Dowdy, Aging Services of California
Randy Metz, Moreno Valley Fire
Tom Harvey, San Francisco Fire Department
Pat Stranahan, Mario Ballard & Associates Consulting
Robert Gunther, L.A. County Fire Dept.
Debi Vanek, San Ramon Fire
Nancy Seibert, Child Care Licensing

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)

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Ernie Paez, Chair, called the meeting to order at **1010** 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 Scott Miller to approve the August 4th 2011 meeting minutes, Steve Hart second the motion, all were in favor.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. **Kevin Reinertson** – Discussed Triennial Rulemaking cycle for 2013 California Codes and the Pre-ruling making activity and timelines. Scott Miller brought to the attention of the committee that the R3.1 ramps proposal had been approved by the committee to move those proposals forward to the State Fire Marshal. Walter Brandes stated that it was approved by the committee in February or March. Ernie will meet with Kevin to discuss with the State Fire Marshal. Kevin stated for those who wished to follow along with the rule making process could provide an e-mail address to participate in those conferences. Dates those meetings will take place are November 16, 2011, December 14, 2011, January 18, 2012 and February 15, 2012.
2. **Steve Hart** – Wanted to know the status of CO detector issue, State Fire Marshal code interpretation 11-016 and the status of day care facilities use of garages. Steve stated that CO alarms are still an issue among the fire service. Ernie stated that the HCD and SFM have put out information bulletins covering the issue of enforcement and responsibility. Heather Harrison stated that as time draws closer for the installation of CO detectors in the larger (R2.1) facilities that there is going to be a lot of questions that will be directed towards the SFM by default. Heather Harrison stated that she has a list of questions from large provider owners that she will share with the group. Further discussion took place regarding the enforcement and installation of the detectors in R3.1 existing facilities. Kevin Reinertson stated that HCD has developed and published regulations that will be effective January 1, 2012. Tom Harvey suggested we get a representative from HCD for our next meeting. Kevin suggested Doug Hensel or Shawn Huff from HCD. Code interpretation 11-016 was discussed and the committee was notified that it has been posted. Steve Hart asked the group where we were in regards to the use of garage space in day cares. There were lots of discussion on this issue and the appropriate use of unpermitted garage conversions. Most of the group felt that the use of unpermitted use of the garage should not be used. However, Nancy Seibert from licensing stated that there is nothing prohibiting the garage from being used as a play area as long as there is no issue with health and safety. Fire department should refer any inappropriate use of a garage to licensing.
3. **Randy Metz** – Asked that the group discuss an issue of when a foster child becomes a mother while in a foster care home does that newborn becomes part of the overall count in regards to six or less or 7 or more, or is the mother of the children considered the caregiver of those children. Tom Stahl stated that Foster Family Home regulations require homes which accept a minor parent and his/her children shall have such child(ren) included in the home's licensed capacity. Tom Stahl stated that Community Care Licensing (CCL) defines an infant as a child under 2 years of age and does not consider an infant non-ambulatory. The group was reminded that CCL makes the determination of who is ambulatory, non-ambulatory or bedridden.

4. **Ernie Paez** – Asked the committee to comment on the future of the committee. Heather Harrison stated that the committee is very important to all stakeholders due to the unlimited amount of issues that arise and need to be shared. The committee agreed we will meet on a **quarterly** basis and the time will change to **0900-1200**.

V. ROUND TABLE/NEW BUISNESS

- Steve Hart stated there are two items that still need to be followed up on, which is the R3.1 ramps issue and the day care matrix.
- Heather will provide the group with the questions coming from the large facility providers regarding CO detectors.
- Richard Friend suggested that licensing provide some training to new or potential providers with a certain amount of hours regarding the requirements in the building code for opening a new facility. Tom Stahl stated that there is a list of core topics that should be taught in regulations to new or prospective providers. Richard also brought up to the group that an RCF booklet should be available to providers on the SFM web-site. Ernie Paez stated that Nor-Cal was working on such a booklet. This issue will be put on the next meeting agenda.

VI. SET MEETING DATE(S)

Next meeting February 2, 2012 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

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 1215 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**