STRUCTURAL STATES

Structural Engineers Association of North Carolina

Code Advisory Committee

MEETING NOTES

DATE: January 8, 2015 LOCATION: Conference Call

COMMITTEE MEMBER		PRESENT
RE	Rich Eckert	Υ
MH	Matt Hickey	
CK	Chris Keelor	
SK	Steve Knight	Υ
BM	Bill Martin	Υ
SM	Steve Morris	
TR	Tyler Robinson	
MW	Meade Willis	Υ
RS	Rob Stevenson (Guest)	Υ

Discussion Items:

- 1. Introductions with background and interest in emergency response
- 2. RS advised that committee should reach out to the NCSEA Code Advisory Committee to learn their priorities and get insights on our how to pursue our NC priorities
 - a. Committee info is on NCSEA website; chair is Thomas DiBlasi
 - b. Annual report from 2014 conference is attached
 - c. This is NCSEA's most popular committee and tough to get on; there are 6 subcommittees
 - d. Hottest topic of discussion at annual conference was advocacy and enforcement of Special Inspection; chair of Special Inspections / Quality Assurance subcommittee is Kirk
- 3. SK provided overview of the workings of the NC Building Code Council
 - a. Council is under the jurisdiction of DOI
 - b. SK is sole structural engineer on the council
 - c. Quarterly meetings open to the public are held in Raleigh in March, June, September and December
 - d. Code modification proposals (petitions) can be at the meeting or ahead of the meeting; form is available on DOI website
 - e. Petitions must progress through 4 levels before going to the state legislature for adoption; process generally takes at least one year
 - i. "A" item Formal introduction of petition
 - ii. "B" item Presented to council for vote to deny or approve petition; approvals advance to vetting phase, typically in subcommittee
 - iii. "C" item Public comment
 - iv. "D" item Final adoption
 - v. Petitions are often revised and cycled back through the process
 - f. Last year the SEA of NC interacted with the council on two items

- i. 3-yr vs 6-yr code cycle (commercial code): provided public comment following membership poll and Board discussion (copy statement attached)
- ii. Petition for wood screw deck ledger attachment (residential code): attended quarterly meeting and subcommittee meeting to help vet the issue (copy of statement attached)
- g. Meeting notes are posted on DOI website
- 4. RS pointed out that lots of petitions with structural emphasis are associated with the residential code; proposed that a subcommittee be created and members recruited to help
 - a. A suggestion shared at the NCSEA conference was that a member of the SEA join the state Home Builders Association; this can dramatically reduce the number or petitions and the resulting conflict at council and subcommittee meetings
 - i. Contact Jesse Burke with the SEA of South Carolina
 - ii. BM expressed interest is pursuing this
 - iii. (Mr.) Jody Thompson at Fluhrer Reed in Raleigh helped with the deck screw effort last year and may be interested
- 5. Members present were queried about priorities for the committee; interest in advocacy for special inspections was unanimous
- 6. Potential activities for this year were summarized; members to brainstorm interests and priorities before next meeting
 - a. Attend quarterly BCC meetings where relevant petitions are being presented; meet ahead of each meeting when agenda comes out (SK to distribute agendas)
 - b. Investigate process for joining the North Carolina Home Builders Association and starting a residential subcommittee; contact Jesse Burke with SEA of SC
 - c. Develop plan for advocacy of Special Inspections; contact Kirk Harman with NCSEA
- 7. RS suggests that next meeting be in person at a central location, maybe Greensboro

Prepared by: Rob Stevenson