



MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 19, 2009

TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Tustin Ranch Golf Course
12442 Tustin Ranch Rd.
Tustin, CA 92782

I. CHAPTER BUSINESS

- A. Hadi Tabatabaee, Chapter President, brought the meeting to order at 11:47 a.m. and asked the other board members present to identify themselves. Secretary Tony Weimholt, Treasurer Gabriel Linares, and Past President Joe Kirkpatrick were in attendance. Vice-President David Khorram arrived shortly afterward.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and a self-introduction by meeting attendees followed.
- C. Treasurer's Report: Gabriel Linares announced the balance for the Checking at \$13,030.84, and the Savings balance of \$10,120.72.
- D. Unfinished Business – Jon Traw reported that an announcement at the LA Basin Chapter meeting on March 12, 2009 had been made to inform the members that a response letter had been received from ICC stating that the LA Basin's letter in opposition to the code development format changes had been sent to the ICC Board for review. Jon also stated that the LA Basin had a committee reviewing the ICC changes. Jon advised the members that ICC had posted Council Policy 28 on the ICC web page dealing with the code development procedures.

Jon also expressed his concern about ICC's trend to adopt standards by reference where standards contain inspection criteria, and gave rebar clearance to earth as an example. That results in the need to purchase standards to distribute to the inspection staff.

- E. New Business – Past President Joe Kirkpatrick informed the members of continued problems with the ADA Reasonable Construction Tolerances document and that since the adoption of the 2007 Code the document was out of date. Joe commented that specific changes in Chapter 11B now

reference construction tolerances applicable to specific dimensions and not to those that have a given a range. He advised the members that Irvine had a written advisory informing the development community of the new accessibility provisions and copies were available to chapter member at the registration table.

Jay Elbettar stated that the original purpose of the Reasonable Construction Tolerances document was to assist the building official and their staff to determine compliance with installation and field applications. The design community misused the document by starting to design to the document tolerances instead of designing to the code requirements

A motion was made to remove the reference to contact the Chapter President for a copy of the document from the webpage and a unanimous vote was cast by the membership in favor of the motion to remove.

F. Communications/Announcements – Dan Kennedy, Education Chair announced the upcoming Energy Code Update seminar to be held in Mission Viejo and advised the membership that fliers were available at the registration table and on the website.

G. Meeting Minutes - A motion was made and passed to approve the February 19, 2009 meeting minutes.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Tabatabaee invited the committee chairs to the podium and introduced them to the membership. He asked each of them to identify their committee members and provide a short presentation of their respective committee goals.

A. Code Committee – Steve Ikkanda introduced his committee membership and stated the goals of the Code Committee were to assist the chapter to become an influence in code development at the national, state and local levels, and to improve the intent and wording of the codes.

B. Education Committee – Dan Kennedy introduced the committee membership and stated that the chapter benefits from a strong educational background, which creates and fosters an environment of cooperation in shared resources of knowledge. Dan advised that the CalDAG seminar by Michael Gibbons had 84 participants. He announced the upcoming 2008 update California Energy Standard's overview with Christopher Olvera from CEC on April 23rd. Dan commented that the educational committee is working on a calendar of events and attempting to shore up dates and locations with seminars that will educate staff and be priced to reflect today's economy.

- C. Quality Assurance Committee – Henry Huang stated that he did not have a set agenda, and made a call for committee members. He was looking for a wide range of experience and feedback from the membership. With goals to create standards for special inspectors, plan review, quality control and uniform administration of the codes.
- D. Green Building Committee – Roy Fewell of the committee goals that include developing uniform procedures within the region and to provide educational opportunities regarding building green.
- E. Public Relations and Membership Committee – Soroosh Rahbari commented that the fees had changed and that the member options were modified. That the committee members and goals continued from last year, that the holiday lunch would again be held at TBN in Costa Mesa, and some of the new ideas were to get the chapter involved in additional sporting events.
- F. CALBO ABM Committee – David Khorram introduced the committee members invited all chapter members to plan to attend the 2010 CALBO ABM in Anaheim. The committee was looking to set the theme for the ABM and they had a meeting scheduled immediately following the chapter lunch program.

III. ORGANIZATION REPORTS

- A. CALBO – Jay Elbetta, President of CALBO announced that Legislative day was to be in late April and urged all members to participate. Jay also stated that SB1608 author wanted to work with the membership in discussions with DSA to alter the Certified Access Specialist program application and certification process.

Jay also announced that due to the retirement of Steve he had a Chief Building Inspector position open in Newport Beach.

- B. ICC – There was no report from ICC. Bob Gunther advised the membership that he was working in Rancho Cucamonga three days a week and in the Whittier office two days a week.

IV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

No comments

V. PROGRAM

Cam Thomsen, Western Regional Manager for Uponor announced that on January 22, 2009 the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) approved the Environmental Impact Report on cross-linked polyethylene, better

known as PEX tubing. The CBSC adopted regulations approving PEX water distribution systems into the California Plumbing Code. The new regulations take effect August 1, 2009.

PEX was developed in 1968 and now has about two billion in annual sales. The polyethylene has three degrees of cross-linking (A, B & C) with the greatest strength in the higher percentage of cross-linking. "Type A" PEX flexibility and bending strength are based on the percentage of cross-linking. The tightest radius for PEX is six times the diameter of the tubing and kinks in the "Type A" PEX can be fully repaired. Contractors are required to be certified installers.

Cam stated that Uponor assisted with the development of ASTM E814 Standard. About 180 jurisdictions currently allow PEX, but on August 1, 2009 it will be in the California Plumbing Code.

After receiving questions from the members, Bob Payne (Keyline sales) clarified that all three types of PEX are acceptable, and that there are a few exclusion or restrictions to PEX installations:

- That petroleum products will affect PEX so it needs to be sleeved when installed underground.
- The maximum sunlight exposure was 30 days
- Large hot water circulation systems may need to consider expansion
- All types of PEX will meet ASTM 876 by August
- Fire rated wall penetrations require fire caulking approved for PEX

Bob Payne also stated that the Plumbing Design Manual Assist book has the installation information

Cam Thomsen informed the members that there were some new products that included pre-sleeved PEX. The product cannot be dry-fit; there is a tool that increases the size of the pipe to allow the fittings to be inserted and the PEX returns to its original size. PEX "Type A" is unique in memory (thermal & elastic) and that the product was only available through distributors to the trades. In PEX "Type B" & "Type C" the strength is limited to the exterior of the pipe.

Uponor 25 year product warranty is guaranteed only when a certified installer puts in the PEX system

Bob Payne continued to inform the members that Uponor had Brass fittings for a lead-free installation. The Type B PEX system installation with copper rings should be checked with a go, no-go gage, and that all installers must use the applicable standards, must be certified and must check every fitting with a go, no-go gauge. He cautioned that most likely that is not happening and that it should be specified as a condition of approval.

Bob Gunther commented that the 2009 Plumbing Code will include installation requirements for PEX.

Jon Traw commented that the fire listings for membrane and through penetrations require Uponor fittings and fire caulking specifically approved for PEX.

Cam Thomsen continued to inform the members that engineered plastics are durable and cost effective. There are new products including ceramic dish valves so it is possible to have no metal connections. He showed and discussed installation applications

Uponor has two types of Fire Sprinkler piping systems and that factory design is available as a service to contractors. Lineal expansion needs to be considered in the fire sprinkler systems

Bob Payne discussed the lawsuit in that PEX won at the Superior Court level and the Appeals Court determined that if the state wanted an EIR then it was required. The EIR was completed and PEX was adopted by all state agencies on January 22, 2009 with no exclusions. The pipe trades filled a lawsuit (an appeal to challenge the procedure) on the last day of the 30-day noticing process; however jurisdictions may continue to use the alternate materials provision of the code in the interim until the courts make the final decision. Bob stated that Dave Walls (Executive Director of the CBSC) commented that this type of appeal is rarely successful, and the state is proceeding with approval and adoption of PEX as of August 1, 2009.

Dan Dodgen announced that he had brought in some Tactile Warning product information and was available to answer member's questions after the meeting.

Dan Kennedy announced the answers for the Code Quiz.

Hadi Tabatabaee adjourned the meeting at 1:24 PM and announced that the next meeting would be a Tri-Chapter meeting with the LA Basin and Ventura chapters to be held in Downey on April 16, 2009 and that a notice would be forth coming.

Respectfully submitted:

Tony Weimholt
Chapter Secretary