

Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review
Minutes: April 9, 2024

The Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review met at its headquarters located at 560 Jefferson Boulevard, McKenna Conference Room-1st Floor, Warwick, RI 02886 on **Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 1:00 pm.**

Call to Order:

Chairman Newbrook called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Present were Chairman Newbrook and Commissioners Mancini, Walsh, O'Donnell, Thornton, Booth, and Horan.

Also Present were Executive Director W. Keith Burlingame, Esq., and Assistant Administrative Desiree Campanini.

Absent from today's hearing were Vice-Chairman Blackburn and Commissioners Walker, Muto and Spaziani.

Minutes:

Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Horan to accept the April 2, 2024, minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

APPEAL #2024014: Mayra Khalil appeared for the property located at **955 Chalkstone Avenue, Providence.** Deputy State Fire Marshal (DSFM) Robbie Lopez appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made motion, seconded by Commissioners Walsh and Horan to grant the Applicant a time variance of six (6) months to provide the State Fire Marshal with documentation for Items # 3 and 4 for sprinkler system fire department connection test and sprinkler system backflow valve test and for annual door testing documentation and the repair and/or replacement of any doors not in proper operating condition. Finally, the Board authorized the State Fire Marshal's Office, upon receiving a written request, to extend the above timeline(s) for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated by the Applicant one (1) or more extensions of time of not more than thirty (30) days each, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days in accordance with the provisions of 450-RICR-00-00-1.7.2(X). The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #2024010: Bishop Jenniefer Hightower appeared for the property located at **122 Benefit Street, Pawtucket**. Assistant Deputy State Fire Marshal (ADSFM) Will Maher appeared for the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioners Walsh and Horan to grant the Applicant thirty (30) days to correct the existing emergency lighting on the first floor and the exit sign in the basement. The Board directed the Applicant not to use the second floor for assembly use until a second means of egress is provided. The Board advised the Applicant that the offices on second floor may be used by employees only and no more than ten (10) employees may be on the second floor. Finally, the Board authorized the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office, upon receiving a written request, to extend the above timeline(s) for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated by the Applicant one (1) or more extensions of time of not more than thirty (30) days each, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days in accordance with the provisions of 450-RICR-00-00-1.7.2(X). The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #2024025: Angel Munoz appeared for the property located at **616 Weeden Street, Pawtucket**. ADSFM Robert Robin appeared for Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Horan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thornton to grant the Applicant a time variance of sixty (60) days to bring the suppression system and any other outstanding violations into compliance. The Board advised the Applicant not to use the spray booth in this facility until it's in full compliance with the code. Finally, the Board authorized the Pawtucket Fire Marshal's Office, upon receiving a written request, to extend the above timeline(s) for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated by the Applicant one (1) or more extensions of time of not more than thirty (30) days each, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days in accordance with the provisions of 450-RICR-00-00-1.7.2(X). The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #2024027: Richard Avery and Thomas Gaccione appeared for the property located at **600 Centre of New England Boulevard, Coventry**. DSFM Traci Choiniere appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioners Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioners Booth and Horan to grant the Applicant a time variance of six (6) months to bring the kitchen exhaust fan into compliance. Finally, the Board authorized the State Fire Marshal's Office, upon receiving a written request, to

extend the above timeline(s) for good faith compliance efforts being demonstrated by the Applicant one (1) or more extensions of time of not more than thirty (30) days each, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days in accordance with the provisions of 450-RICR-00-00-1.7.2(X). The motion passed unanimously.

APPEAL #2024040: Lauren Barnes, Edward Orazine and Andre Gill appeared for the property located at **ECHO Village, 21 Victor Street, Providence**. DSFM Dennis Greenless and Chief Deputy David Pastore appeared for the State Fire Marshal's Office. Commissioner Thornton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner O'Donnell to grant the Applicant a variance on items # 1, 2 to allow the Fire Department Access Road to remain as is [slope and surface], with no objection from the State or the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. The Board granted an equivalency variance for utilizing a Ceasefire dry chemical automatic fire-extinguishing system instead of an automatic sprinkler system. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: None

Open Forum / Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Horan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mancini to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 pm. The motion passed unanimously.