

Plumbing Board of Appeals  
Meeting Minutes  
October 26, 2015

Board Members Present:

Tom Day, Chairman  
Brian Rogers  
Jim Meier-Gast  
John Pint  
Greg Wolfe

Board Members Absent:

Mike Hessenius, Vice-Chairman

Also Present:

Kevin Ciabatti, Building Services Director  
Duncan McCallum, Plans Examination Coordinator  
Dale Seaman, Chief Plumbing Inspector  
Dawn Kolosik, Recording Secretary

Chairman Tom Day brought the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Minutes from the previous meeting held on August 25, 2015, were reviewed. Jim Meier-Gast made a motion to approve the minutes as recorded, seconded by Brian Rogers. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Day welcomed the new members to the Board, John Pint and Greg Wolfe. He then introduced the next agenda item, discussion and approval of the Rules of Procedure for the Plumbing Board of Appeals. Kevin Ciabatti said that it was realized by the Building Services Dept that this Board did not have a Rules of Procedure in place. The document presented was approved by the Board with the addition of a 60-day time limit for re-hearing to occur. Tom Day entertained a motion to amend Article 6 to include a 60-day period. Brian Rogers made a motion; Jim Meier-Gast seconded. The motion to adopt the Rules of Procedure for the Plumbing Board of Appeals with an amendment to Article 6 to incorporate a 60-day maximum timeframe was approved.

**New Business**

Kevin presented a plumbing amendment which mandates unisex restrooms in every public building. He requested the Board's opinion and requested they review this amendment within the next Code cycle to see if there is anything they would like to modify. Kevin stated the issue is with the small retail establishments / small office settings whereby it is required to have one unisex restroom. Chairman Day believes the original reason for having this requirement was more of a sanitary condition. He stated he didn't want the unisex bathroom requirement to discourage new businesses from coming to Cedar Rapids. Duncan highlighted the ADA requirements for unisex bathrooms. The Board agreed to review this Code amendment before their next scheduled meeting.

Kevin turned the discussion over to Dale Seaman to talk about domestic dishwashing machines (amendment 35.28). Dale stated he would like to see a change to this amendment allowing installers to connect directly to the disposal or highline tail piece as the current amendment requiring a connection to an airgap creates issues. Dale stated Amana Refrigeration had previously commented to Mike Clay that the code requirement for installation within Cedar Rapids was causing problems with their dishwashers. Chairman Day requested Dale try to secure a statement from them concerning the issues

they are encountering. Greg stated he has received calls from installers about these issues they encounter in the field. After much discussion, the Board agreed to continue this discussion at the next scheduled meeting.

Chairman Day stated he would like to discuss the minimum sewer requirements within Cedar Rapids. Currently, the Code calls for a minimum sewer coming into a residence as 3"; Cedar Rapids requires 4". He asked for the opinion of the Building Services Dept. Dale stated he felt the fixture count should dictate was the minimum sewer requirement should be as 4" is more likely to plug (doesn't scour) than 3". He felt the Code as it was written should be sufficient. Brian stated had heard the 4" requirement came in because only three water closets can be connected to a 3" horizontal line. He also stated there is a PERC (Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition) Study 1 and 2 that has been released in cooperation between IAPMO, ICC, and a number of different engineers. They studied drainline transport; this could change the fixture count requirements.

### **Unfinished Business**

Brian asked if the Code amendments were approved by the Board and sent to Council. Chairman Day stated they were reviewed and approved by the Board allowing Building Services to proceed with sending to Council for vote.

Chairman Day asked if there was any further business to discuss. There being no response, Chairman Day entertained a motion to adjourn. Jim Meier-Gast moved; Greg Wolfe seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Kolosik, Recording Secretary