



MEETING MINUTES

Ottawa Electrical Commission

Date: January 19, 2011

Attendees:

Chuck Schafer Don Ganiere
Arnie Bandstra Tim McTaggart
Jeff Newbury Steve Burns

Absent: Mike McDonald

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:08pm.
2. Opportunity for public input: Steve Burns asked about the requirement for egress lighting with battery backup at exits. It was discussed that the specifics are not in NEC. The subject is believed to be covered in the Life Safety Code. Other small topics were discussed.
3. The agenda was approved.
4. Minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting were approved as corrected.
5. Reappointment of Commissioners was recommended as follows:
 - a. Arnold Bandstra term to expire FEB 2014
 - b. Mike McDonald's term is ending FEB 2011. By mutual agreement, he will not be reappointed. Discussion of a replacement did not result in a candidate that is a registered electrical contractor with his business located in Ottawa. It was decided to leave the position vacant until an appropriate candidate can be identified.
6. Electrical Inspector's Report
 - a. Electrical License renewals – 148
 - b. New Electrical Licenses Issued – 15
 - c. Tests administered – 18
 - d. Tests passed – 11
 - e. An electrician from Lisle took the test but did not feel he had to answer the questions relative to the Ottawa Code. It was decided to require him to come back to Ottawa to

answer the six questions regarding Ottawa's code. We do not have the option to issue a license that would exclude him from working in Ottawa.

7. The electrical inspector asked for an interpretation of the commission's intent regarding the requirement of a licensed electrician being responsible for all work. Two issues:
 - a. Do we require a licensed electrician on the job at all time? No, a lic.elect. must oversee all work. Basically, there must be a lic.elect. in the company responsible for directing all work.
 - b. Should we require the lic.elect. to be present at the time of inspection? No, but we could recommend that. The application of the re-inspection fee section of the code may be an incentive to the electrician.
8. Discussion of adoption of NEC 2011:
 - a. It is recommended that NEC 2011 should be adopted by Ottawa. The new requirements do not appear to be unusual or very costly. The requirement of a neutral to all switches will impact almost all projects and accessibility of all GCFI.
 - b. There is also a requirement for labeling and tagging available fault current on commercial meters (impacts Ameren).
9. Don Gainere will be teaching a class on NEC 2011 from Jan. 31- Feb. 9 thru the Joint Apprentice Training Center. Class hours 6 to 9 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Arnie Bandstra