

Green Buildings Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 | 9:00 – 10:00 AM
McKenna Conference Room (1st Floor), 560 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI 02886
With remote participation via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present

Dr. Carrie Gill, Chair	Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources
Commissioner Jim Cambio	Building Code Commission
Mark Winslow	Gilbane
Christopher Armstrong (remote)	AIA Rhode Island
Josh Kessler (remote)	National Grid
Steven Hughes (remote)	Tremco Roofing
Ann Battersby (remote)	RI Department of Environmental Management
Dr. Joseph daSilva (remote)	RI Department of Education

Other Attendees Present

Steven Tadros (remote)

1. Call to order

Chairperson Gill called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

2. Announcements

Chairperson Gill announced the hybrid meeting style, the objective of which is to allow more people to join Green Buildings Advisory Committee meetings. However, to continue to comply with the Open Meetings Act, only members who attend in person will count toward a quorum.

Chairperson Gill also provided an update on the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Plan, which is in development. The draft Plan will be posted at www.energy.ri.gov/evplan and members are encouraged to review and comment on the draft.

Committee Member Hughes announced he will be stepping down from his position after eleven years of service to the Green Buildings Advisory Committee. Committee members thanked him for his service and wished him the best.

3. Review and vote on:

- a. **August 2021 meeting minutes**
- b. **October 2021 meeting minutes**

There were no revisions offered on the August 2021 or October 2021 meeting minutes. There was no quorum, so a vote was not taken. There was no opposition to Chairperson Gill posting the meeting minutes as draft.

4. Old business

a. Base code advancement

Commissioner Cambio announced that the new base code (the 2018 base code with 2021 amendments; called the '2021 RI Code') will go into effect on February 1, 2022. The Board plans to begin the next code review cycle at their next meeting.

Committee Member Battersby joined at 9:25am.

b. Stretch code development

Chairperson Gill noted there were no updates at this time.

c. Updates on other work and from committees, if any

Committee Member Winslow announced a tour of East Providence High School in development for January 2022.

Committee Member DaSilva joined at 9:30am.

Committee Member Hughes summarized a meeting with staff from the Department of Environmental Management and developers regarding renovations at Goddard Park. Some infrastructure in the park is being designed to be resilience to flooding and sea level rise. Developers are using LEED as the basis of design, rather than SITES, and are considering self-certification with the IGCC.

Committee Member Armstrong updated members on an ongoing discussion regarding the relationship between IGCC and ASHRAE 189.1 codes; the ASHRAE standard has prevailed which may limit flexibility with compliance. He will continue to keep the Green Buildings Advisory Committee updated.

d. Updates on trainings, if any

National Grid and their vendor CleaResult are offering three upcoming trainings:

<i>November 16</i>	<i>RIBA</i>	<i>Residential - 002-007 Advanced Bld. Science & ZEH (1CEU)</i>	<i>Jeremy Dagold</i>
<i>December 1</i>	<i>AIA</i>	<i>Commercial - RICodeC 103-21- RI ZEB and RI Stretch Code</i>	<i>Stephen Turner</i>
<i>December 6</i>	<i>RIBA</i>	<i>Residential - 001-037 Insulation and Wallboard (2.5CEU)</i>	<i>Jon Ericson</i>

Commissioner Cambio announced a training for building inspectors in development. Committee Member Armstrong suggested timing the training for building inspectors with stretch code development since the IGCC may impact the stretch code.

e. Update on efforts related to Act on Climate

Chairperson Gill reminded Committee Members about the Public Sharing Session being held November 16, 2021 noon-1:30pm. Registration for this session and for future sessions is available at www.climatechange.ri.gov/aoc.

Committee Member DaSilva echoed the importance and urgency of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and pointed Committee Members to the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report. He suggested the Committee have further discussions to scope out the Committee's role and opportunities to support advancement of the Act on Climate. Committee Member DaSilva also noted further study of school energy use and actions needed for schools to reach net zero emissions.

5. New business

a. Discussion on 2022 activities

Committee Members discussed updating rules and regulations (i.e. protocols for appointing and transitioning members), elevating Committee mission and strengthening standards, expanding membership, increasing outreach and education efforts, revitalizing efforts to streamline and enhance data collection, and enhancing Committee resources available to support municipal projects.

b. 2021 Annual Report

Chairperson Gill will develop a form for data collection and a workplan for the 2021 Annual Report for review at a future Committee Meeting.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Committee Member DaSilva noted that lack of public attendance was troublesome, and suggested the Committee discuss strategies to improve awareness and participation.

8. Adjourn

Chairperson Gill adjourned the meeting at 10:06 am.