

Green Buildings Advisory Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 | 9:00 AM

McKenna Conference Room (1st Floor), 560 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI 02886

Members of the public were allowed to join remotely via Zoom

Committee Members Present

Dr. Joseph da Silva	Rhode Island Department of Education
Michael O'Brien Crayne	Rhode Island Energy
Mark Winslow	Representing Building Construction
Melissa Travis	Representing Building Materials and Industry
David Patten	Rhode Island Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance
Kenneth Filarski	Representing Architecture
Lawrence Filippelli	Representing School Boards
Commissioner Jim Cambio (arrived at 9:45)	Rhode Island Building Code Commission
Christopher Armstrong (Virtual)	Representing Building Design Industry

Other Attendees Present

Steven Chybowski	Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources
Representative Terri Cortvriend	Rhode Island House of Representatives
Chris Kearns	Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources
Bill Nash	International Code Council
Tasneem Osman	Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships
Darren Port	Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships
Michael Rossi	Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships
Karen Verrengia	CLEAResult

1. Call to order

Mr. Chybowski called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. Administrative announcements

Mr. Chybowski updated the Committee that work is ongoing within the Department of Administration to help add clarity with the new Green Buildings Act legislation. He provided an overview of the meeting agenda and asked Committee Members for their input on proceeding with the Green Buildings Act study. Introductions were conducted as new Committee Members were present.

3. Voting on previous meeting minutes

a. May 2022

Committee Member da Silva motioned to approve the May 2022 meeting minutes. Committee Member Patten seconded. The motion passed; the minutes were approved.

ARMSTRONG – absent
CAMBIO – absent
DA SILVA – aye
DAY – absent
FILARSKI - abstain
FILIPPELLI - abstain

O'BRIEN CRAYNE - abstain
PATTEN – aye
TRAVIS – aye
TURNER – absent
WINSLOW – aye
ZEMAN - absent

b. June 2022

Committee Member da Silva motioned to approve the June 2022 meeting minutes.
Committee Member Patten seconded. The motion passed; the minutes were approved.

ARMSTRONG – absent
CAMBIO – absent
DA SILVA – aye
DAY – absent
FILARSKI - abstain
FILIPPELLI - abstain

O'BRIEN CRAYNE - abstain
PATTEN – abstain
TRAVIS – abstain
TURNER – absent
WINSLOW – abstain
ZEMAN - absent

c. August 2022

Committee Member da Silva motioned to approve the August 2022 meeting minutes.
Committee Member Patten seconded. The motion passed; the minutes were approved.

ARMSTRONG – absent
CAMBIO – absent
DA SILVA – aye
DAY - absent
FILARSKI - abstain
FILIPPELLI - abstain

O'BRIEN CRAYNE - aye
PATTEN – abstain
TRAVIS – abstain
TURNER – absent
WINSLOW – aye
ZEMAN - absent

4. Discussion of New Chair

Mr. Chybowski led a discussion about the updated Green Buildings Act legislation regarding selecting a chairperson. Committee Member Filarski stated that he would like to be considered for the Chair position. Committee Member da Silva expressed support for that nomination based on Mr. Filarski's professional qualifications and experience with the Green Buildings Act.

5. Discussion of Green Buildings Act Rules and Regulations Updates

Mr. Chybowski led a preliminary discussion about updates to the Rules and Regulations for the Green Buildings Act. Committee Members discussed the areas that need further clarification including the status of existing Committee Members and the qualifications of future Committee Members.

6. 2021 Annual Report Addendum: State Permit Data

Committee Member Patten noted that at previous meetings, the Committee had discussed ways to improve data collection and noted that it will be an important effort for the Committee moving forward to better track the progress of the Committee. Committee Member da Silva motioned to approve the State permit data as an addendum to the previously approved 2021 Annual Report, as originally presented at the May 2022 meeting. Committee Member Travis seconded. The motion passed and the addendum will be added to the 2021 Annual Report.

ARMSTRONG – absent
CAMBIO – absent
DA SILVA – aye
DAY – absent
FILARSKI - abstain
FILIPPELLI - aye

O'BRIEN CRAYNE - aye
PATTEN – aye
TRAVIS – aye
TURNER – absent
WINSLOW – aye
ZEMAN - absent

7. Act on Climate – Buildings Sharing Session

Mr. Chybowski provided a summary of the virtual Buildings Sharing Session hosted as a part of the Act on Climate efforts. Committee Member O'Brien Crayne attended the virtual workshop and noted that workforce development was a major theme of the discussion. Committee Members discussed the importance of covering new technology and building operations for workforce development. Committee Members also discussed federal funding opportunities for buildings which could be another topic explored in more depth at a future meeting.

8. Other updates from Committee Members, if any

Committee Member da Silva shared that there will be a tour of the new East Providence High School in the upcoming week and that Members are welcome to attend. He also noted that there a lot of opportunities to pursue federal funds with the new infrastructure bills that the Committee Members should look into pursuing.

9. Public comment

Darren Port, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

Mr. Port noted that the Federal government will be looking to provide funding to support building codes work within the states and that NEEP can help with these efforts in Rhode Island. He also noted that to qualify for the federal Infrastructure Reinvestment Act funding, states must pass the 2021 International Energy Conservation Codes without weakening amendments.

Commissioner Jim Cambio, Building Code Commissioner

Commissioner Cambio explained that in Rhode Island, we are required by law to adopt the 2021 building energy codes as written, without any weakening amendments. The State is currently in the code adoption process and the energy code is expected to be adopted as written. Commissioner Cambio is hoping that the new codes are in effect on January 1, 2023.

Bill Nash, International Code Council

Mr. Nash noted that he can also be a resource to the Green Buildings Advisory Committee and the codes process. He is happy to hear that the model energy code is expected to be adopted as written.

10. Adjourn

Committee Member da Silva motioned to adjourn the meeting. Committee Member Patten seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.