



Peninsula Chapter  
Est. 1949

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## International Code Council

<http://www.iccpeninsula.org>

2005 OFFICERS: Patricia Kutzmann, President;  
Dennis Corbett, Vice-President; Tom Whisler, Secretary;  
Larry Ford, Treasurer; Brent Hipsher, Immediate Past-President

### General Membership Meeting

August 3, 2005

Mariani's Restaurant, Santa Clara, California

#### 1 CALL TO ORDER

.01 The meeting was called to order by President Patricia Kutzmann at 10:15 AM with 18 members present. Self-introductions followed.

#### 2 CHAPTER BUSINESS

.01 Approval of minutes - Tom Whisler  
Minutes of the July meeting were distributed. It was approved as presented.

.02 Old Business

Mark Kløver distributed the results of his comparison of the maximum allowable height and floor area between the Uniform Building Code and the International Building Code. In most all categories, the IBC allowed more stories and more floor area. Dennis Richardson commented that the IBC considers compartmentalization; Mark replied that the UBC allows area separation walls. Mark requested that he be contacted directly if a more detailed conversation was desired.

Patricia Kutzmann brought up having a Peninsula - East Bay chapters picnic in September. The park in Milpitas was not available, so she would continue to check other possibilities - perhaps Central Park in Fremont.

.03 New Business

Peninsula Chapter was asked to sponsor a portion of ICC's 2005 ABM in Detroit. Opportunities are available in the \$200 to \$2000 range. The Chapter voted to sponsor a coffee break for \$400. It was mentioned that CALBO's 2006 ABM in Palm Springs is also seeking sponsors in the \$150 to \$2500 range. No decision was made at this time.

.04 Announcements

Brent Hipsher announced that he is no longer working for the Town of

Portola Valley. He has a special assignment with the City of Milpitas as an inspector. He hopes to attend and continue to be active in Chapter meetings.

It was noted that attending Chapter meetings may be credited toward AB 717 continuing education requirements.

.05        Treasurer's Report - Larry Ford  
            The treasurer's report for August was distributed. It was approved as presented.

.06        Code Discussion  
            No issue presented to discuss.

### **3 PROGRAM - "Pressure Treated Wood Connectors and Fasteners"**

### **4 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

.01        Code Changes - John LaTorra:  
            John will check the published code changes to confirm that the changes are printed correctly. He will also search for similar items to individually support, or to team with other sponsors for approvals. John will present his findings to the three chapters at their September meetings. All items are on ICC's website ([www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)) along with the Final Action Hearing schedule which begins Wednesday, September 28th and will continue through Sunday, October 2nd.

.02        Legislative - Dennis Corbett  
            Dennis distributed a copy of California Government Code Section 65850 which addresses the implementation of consistent statewide standards to achieve the timely and cost-effective installation of solar energy systems. He asked that members make sure their planning office staff is aware of this statewide concern.  
            CALBO has withdrawn its support of AB 304 - the soft-story bill, and is watching SB 855.

.03        Special Inspection - Dennis Richardson  
            The next meeting will be at the City of Milpitas. Items under discussion include charging a fee to defer the cost of investigating applicants; and accepting reciprocity from other reviewing agencies. Keyvan Irannejad will prepare an summary of possible actions. The Tri-Chapter Committee will continue to search for a new method of listing special testing and inspecting companies.

.04        Education - Dennis Corbett  
            Dennis had nothing to report. John LaTorra announced that ICC and CALBO have agreed to a coordinated educational effort in California. Currently, IRC training is scheduled in October in Stockton and San Leandro. Topics will be

more specific (foundations, fire separations, etc.). Bonnie Patterson of CALBO will set up CALBO's training page - check it regularly for most current information. John stated that Sacramento Valley Chapter has 17 members on their Education Committee and challenged Peninsula Chapter members to get involved. The IBC and the IRC are finally on the way!

.05 Membership Services - Patricia Kutzmann

Patricia noted that there are Chapter pins left over from the CALBO 2005 ABM. She will be taking them to ICC's ABM.

.06 Resolutions

Although there were no resolutions, a lively discussion began when Mark Kløver brought up the possibility of returning code development to one year cycle. Fred Herman said there is an article in the current Engineering News Record magazine that states there is too little time to develop and discuss changes. John La LaTorra preferred the longer cycle. Fred Herman said the industry advisory committee recommends the 18-month cycle.

.07 Tri-Chapter Code Adoption and Interpretations - Dennis Richardson

The City of San Jose will be moving their offices to the new city hall soon. Until all is settled, you can reach Dennis on his cell phone at 408 981 9482. There will not be an August committee meeting, but the September meeting will be held in San Jose's new city hall.

Terry O'Hara is developing a policy addressing the minimum number of plumbing fixtures. It will be presented and discussed at the next Code Adoption and Interpretation meeting. Bob Stevens is working on a pressure treated lumber policy.

The State Fire Marshal's Office has published a paper concerning the process of adopting and amending codes in California, and is requesting feedback. He wants to look at all changes that affect a specific occupancy group. He is encouraging the participation of Building Officials in the state code development committees. Committees have been established to address the following occupancies: A, B, E and I4, F1 and F2, H, I1, I2, I3, M, S1 and S2, R1 - 6, U, highrise, malls, stages and platforms, smoke control, roofs, wine caves, and fixed-guideway transit systems. Contact Dennis if you are interested.

Fred Herman asked if this effort is hindering the prompt adoption of the ICC-based California Building Codes; it could be counterproductive. He reminded us that our Silicon Valley group partner wants no amendments unless absolutely necessary. Dennis suggested that the Silicon Valley group send a letter to the governor encouraging methods to adopt the code in a timely manner.

## 5 OTHER REPORTS

.01 ICC - John LaTorra

Dennis Corbett announced that ICC is working with CALBO to develop

certifications programs in plan checking, and inspecting of electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems based on the California-amended ICC codes. Test are being developed and should be ready by the end of 2005.

John LaTorra announced that ICC is also working with other states: Minnesota has certified over 29,000 applicants in six months, and has scheduled over 1000 training days this year - they're looking to expand their program next year; Florida's legislature overturned the governor's exemption of the panhandle part of the state to hurricane precautions, while ICC distributed information to citizens on how to reduce damage due to flooding; Pennsylvania is considering the retroactive installation of smoke detectors in dwellings and automatic sprinklers in schools; and US Virgin Islands has adopted ICC's codes and is looking for teachers to spread the knowledge; James Lee Witt met with the ambassador to Thailand regarding not just sending money but to teach them how to rebuild their country safely.

John said that there is a new code in development regarding the abatement of hazards in existing buildings. Also, he will be teaching the IBC to members of CBIA.

.02 CALBO - John LaTorra reporting for Sheila Lee

John asked members to respond to CALBO's survey regarding the effectiveness of their website, and suggest ways that it might be improved. CALBO wants to create a video library for its members - the first will be an introduction to CA energy regulations. CALBO will begin an on-line certification process for plan checkers and inspectors near the end of this year. CALBO applied for Chapter of the Year honors with ICC and is encouraging its members to apply for Building Official of the Year.

Dennis Corbett announced that CALBO is looking for someone to train the trainers of Public Relations classes.

John announced that the 2007 ABM will be held in the Sacramento area.

.03 International Evaluation Service - Fred Herman

IES will hold their annual board meeting in Detroit as part of ICC ABM. James Lee Witt is encouraging an IES internal audit to improve its services.

.04 IA EI -

No report.

.05 IAS - John LaTorra for Sheila Lee

John said IAS has a new website and is encouraging comments for improvements.

## 6 OTHER BUSINESS

None.

**7 ADJOURNMENT**

.01 President Kutzmann adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Whisler  
Secretary