



## Subcommittee for Codes & Standards Liaison (SCCSL)

### Meeting Report -- March 29, 2016

**Present:** Matt Davy (Chair), Erel Betser, Ken Bush, Dorota Brzezińska, Carl Chappell, Joshua Greene, Ray Grill, Jeffrey Grove, Jeff Halpert, Donald Havener, Brian Kuhn, Gary Lewis, Mark Mannex, Michael Nightingale, Paul Nordmeier, Eric Reed, Lauren Waring, and Chris Jelenewicz (Staff).

**Apologies:** Ray Grill, Paul Nordmeier and Stephen Skalko,

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all committee members to the first meeting of the SFPE SCCSL. Introductions were made.

#### The following was discussed:

1. **New SFPE Committee Structure** -- As part of SFPE's new strategic plan, all existing SFPE committees were disbanded and five new standing committees were started – Committee on 1) Research, Tools and Methods (RTM), 2) Professional Qualifications, 3) Continuing Education, 4) Membership and 5) Advocacy.

The SCCSL is part of the RTM Committee that is chaired by Brian Meacham. The RTM also has the following subcommittees 1) Subcommittee on Standards Oversight, 2) Subcommittee on Handbook Development, 3) Subcommittee on Standards and Guide and 4) Subcommittee on Research & innovation. Generally, Brian's role as committee chair is to coordinate activities between subcommittees and to represent the committee at SFPE Board Meetings.

2. **Subcommittee Scope** – The SCCSL will be responsible for facilitating adoption of SFPE standards and guides into building regulations, codes and standards. Persons from the SCCSL may be appointed by the Board to represent SFPE in specific codes and standards development / liaison activities.
3. **Current SFPE Code Activity** – In the past, SFPE has steered away from getting involved in the code making process. Currently, SFPE is active in the following code related committees:
  - a. CJ represents SFPE on the NFPA 101/5000 Fundamentals.
  - b. CJ serves as SFPE liaison to the ISO TC 92/SC 4
  - c. Ray Grill represents SFPE on the ICC Industry Advisory Council

4. **SFPE Participation in the ICC process** – There are many opportunities for SFPE to participate in the ICC process including participating in code hearings, attending Fire Code Action Committee meetings and becoming committee members. There are also opportunities to participate in special ad hoc ICC committees (i.e. new health care committee).

It was agreed that a Working Group will focus on the ICC process, specifically, to answer the questions: 1) How should SFPE get involved, 2) who should get involved and 3) what this involvement should be.

It was noted that the Subcommittee for Standards Oversight has a working group that is exploring having SFPE standards receive ANSI accreditation. This would make it easier for SFPE standards to get adopted in other codes and standards.

5. **SFPE Participation in the NFPA process** – A similar discussion was related to getting SFPE involved in the NFPA codes and standards making process. It was agreed that a Working Group should focus on the NFPA process.
6. **Code & Standards Published by Other Organizations** – It was noted that in addition to ICC and NFPA, there are many opportunities for SFPE to get involved with codes and standards published by other organizations. It was agreed that a Working Group will focus on codes and standards published by organization other than ICC and NFPA. In addition to only focusing on US organizations, this working group should also focus on organizations that are based outside the United States.
7. **Whole Building Guide** – Tom Izbicki who sits on the SFPE Subcommittee for Standards Oversight and on the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) Board contacted SFPE HQ and indicated that NIBS has developed a National Performance Based Design Guide ([http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse\\_doc.php?d=9652](http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse_doc.php?d=9652)). It is a fairly broad document that contains sections related to Structural Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering, among others but FPE isn't referenced. He suggested SFPE consider working with NIBS to write an FPE section for this document.

It was noted that this document is used by US Federal Government agencies including GSA and it would be a good idea to consider this activity. It was agreed that a Working Group would explore writing an FPE section.

8. **SFPE Participation in the Codes & Standards Making Process** – There was a broad discussion on the procedural requirements related to SCCSL members and other SFPE members getting involved with codes and standards making committees. It was noted that SFPE has existing procedures for members that represent SFPE on code making committees. It was also indicated that the subcommittee should also explore having SFPE members serve on committees but not officially represent SFPE. For example the ASCE/SEI 7 Committee has several SFPE members sitting on this committee. It is important to have FPE representation on this committee. It was agreed that a Working Group will explore recommending a process for getting more members involved with the codes and standards making process.

- 9. Working Groups** – The subcommittee will start with five working groups: ICC, NFPA, Whole Building Design Guide, Other Organizations and Participation Procedures. So far the following members agreed to participate in these working groups:

ICC --Jeff Halpert

Whole Building Design Guide – Brian Kuhn, and Josh Greene

Each subcommittee member will be asked to participate in at least one working group.

- 10. SFPE Committee Management System** – SFPE will be implementing a new committee management system. The SCCSL will have its own page for subcommittee members to have discussions and post files. Information about this system will be sent to subcommittee members in the next few weeks.

**End of Report**