

OC/NIBS
Board of Directors' Meeting
BOCA Mid-east Regional Office
Westerville, Ohio

MEETING MINUTES

November 28, 2000

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

Bill Smith, Chairman
Dave Williams, Vice-Chairman
Sara Ward
Kerry Illes
Jim Shoaff
Larry Brown
Donn Ellerbrock
Joe Schmitt
Dave Ledvinka, Executive Director

ABSENT

Bruce Larcomb
Paul Myers
Hank Sherowski
Laik Ali
Dave Denison
Bob Schmitt

GUESTS

Vince Squillace, OHBA
Kelly O'Reilly, OHBA
Sandy Pogan, Ohio PHCC
Jim Ferris, OBOA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Smith called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Self-introductions followed.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2000, meeting without amendment.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the treasurer's report compiled by Bruce Larcomb as submitted (copy attached).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Smith offered brief comments. He advised that elections for the OC/NIBS Board of Directors are due at mid-year. In that regard he directed Vice-Chairman Williams and Larry Brown to recommend a slate of potential Board candidates. He also emphasized that current

Board members are eligible to run for another term. Current Board members are requested to let Dave Williams know if they are interested in serving another term.

Future meeting dates for next year are set as follows:

- < March 30, 2001
- < July 27, 2001
- < November 30, 2001

Comments have been received from several sources expressing interest in more meetings available for the general membership. As such, the meetings set for next year will be set up as combination Board of Directors/General Membership Forums addressing issues of interest relating to the general mission of OC/NIBS.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dave Ledvinka reviewed a number of current activities to update the Board.

NIBS CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL: This group has been considering its current status within the current NIBS organizational structure. Both Dave Williams and Dave Ledvinka are members of this group. At its November 1, 2000, meeting, the Council agreed to send a communication to the NIBS Board recommending that the Consultative Council be maintained with a change in structure. Chairs of the existing Councils within NIBS (e.g. the Multihazard Mitigation Council) should be added to the Consultative Council and the consensus base represented by three members each from the twelve building industry sectors presently represented be reduced to one member each. Ledvinka offered the recommendation that the Ohio Council of NIBS be added to the make-up of the Consultative Council. Chairman Tom Frost took this under advisement and agreed to add this to his report to the Board of Directors the following day.

NIBS STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: Ledvinka chairs the Subcommittee for State and Local Outreach under this initiative. His committee completed its work and developed final recommendations for consideration by the NIBS Board. The Board asked the subcommittee to develop a start-up package to assist states to begin organizing a local NIBS effort.

NIBS WEBSITE: Ledvinka completed arrangements with NIBS to link the OC/NIBS website with the NIBS website. The framework of NIBS' newly, redesigned website is complete and incorporates a site for OC/NIBS. Arrangements are now being made to transfer the www.occnibs.org domain name from ASCINET (our present holder) to NIBS. When this is completed, we will begin stocking the new website with current information about OC/NIBS.

OC/NIBS MEETING WITH THE OHIO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (OML): After numerous tries, a meeting was held with Susan Cave, Executive Director of the OML. Ledvinka and Larcomb participated. A vigorous discussion took place relating to Ohio's building regulatory process

and the roles that NIBS and BOCA play in that scenario. A chord was struck when the issue of disaster response was brought up. This is a key area of interest with OML and OC/NIBS was asked to present a workshop on this subject at the OML annual meeting on September 13. The workshop was organized by OC/NIBS and presented. Response from OML was very favorable.

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES WILSON: Ledvinka met with Rep. Wilson on July 25, 2000, to discuss OC/NIBS initiatives with emphasis on disaster response in Ohio's Appalachian area. Wilson expressed interest and offered to support OC/NIBS efforts to initiate programs relating to this issue.

MEETING WITH JOY PADGETT, DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF APPALACHIA: Ledvinka met with Joy Padgett on July 25, 2000, to discuss OC/NIBS' mission and initiatives. Disaster response and expanding apprenticeship programs in Ohio's Appalachia region were of great interest. She suggested that the Appalachian Regional Commission, which funds Padgett's office, might be tapped for funding to support meaningful programs developed by OC/NIBS and its allies. Follow-up is planned.

MEETING WITH THE OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (OEMA): Ledvinka and Larcomb met with Director Dale Shipley and three of his staff members on July 7, 2000, to offer its good offices to assist Shipley in his emergency planning and response efforts. Shipley expressed deep interest in OC/NIBS involvement in this area and NIBS' relationship with FEMA on a national level. He pledged to provide staff members to participate in OC/NIBS forums dealing with disaster response.

WORK STUDY PROJECT: After being turned down by NIST for funding, the proposal was submitted to OSHA by OC/NIBS for consideration. Notification was received that funding was available for this kind of study but had to cover at least five states in scope. With that proviso, it became academic for OC/NIBS to not pursue this further. Other options are still being considered.

EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR BOCONEO AND FBOA: OC/NIBS sponsored an emergency-planning workshop for the above groups on November 27, 2000. Speakers included representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, FEMA Chicago regional office, Ohio Flood Plain Managers Association, and OC/NIBS. Approximately 50 people attended. Response to the workshop was excellent.

OHIO MANUFACTURER'S ASSOCIATION (OMA): Ledvinka attended a meeting at OMA to assist in reconstituting OMA's Building Code Committee. He met with their legal counsel, Executive Director, and lobbyist to discuss new building code related issues of interest to OMA. A discussion of the OC/NIBS mission was included in the day's agenda with an expression of interest by OMA to support efforts to develop a state residential building code. Ledvinka will follow-up with OMA to provide input on their concerns relating to pressure piping

and the seal law. OMA is a powerful ally and could be a major influence in assisting with OC/NIBS priorities.

OHIO RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CODE: The primary focus of the day's meeting related to this topic. The discussion included consideration of H.B. 434 (Licensing Bill) and Dave Denison's white paper encapsulating this issue. One concern expressed, relating to the licensing bill, was whether or not multi-licenses would be required for residential and commercial work under this bill for plumbing and air-conditioning/refrigeration contractors. That area appears to need some clarification. Strategies were offered on how this bill might relate to new efforts to reintroduce legislation aimed at statewide adoption of a residential building code. The makeup of the new legislative committees will be critical in determining what interests might control this issue. It was mentioned that the formation of the Code Advisory Committee called for in H.B. 434 might be an important precursor in leading to discussion of a residential code. Pressure points such as Butler County resistance to a residential building code, home rule fever in Northeast Ohio, and position of the fire service are just a few of the challenges that must be addressed if there is any hope of making real progress. One suggestion was that an alliance be formed (e.g. OC/NIBS, OMA, OHBA, OBOA, and others) to approach Director Suhadolnik to establish with him that a solid support base exists to further the cause. Another item of importance would be to focus on a reasonable standard for the code with flexibility to incorporate local variances into the mix.

This effort would take an enormous amount of work, but there was cautious optimism expressed that some new avenues of approach might now exist that were not there in the past. The suggestion was made that OC/NIBS consider airing this issue in a full-blown forum to be held in conjunction with the March Board meeting. Ledvinka will work on a proposed format for such a meeting.

DISASTER RESPONSE: Ledvinka reviewed the progress that has been made by OC/NIBS in building an alliance to deal with this issue. The following groups are now working together to improve the regulatory system dealing with disaster planning and response: OC/NIBS, NIBS, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Building Officials Association, Ohio Flood Plain Managers Association, Ohio Rural Development Partnership, Governor's Office of Appalachia, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, and FEMA. To conclude the discussion, Ledvinka reviewed the workshops that have taken place to date and the ones planned for the future. More information on future events will be published in the OC/NIBS newsletter, the FORUM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.