

Disability Access Review and Advisory Committee



Hyatt Regency McCormick Place
CC23ABC and CC24ABC
Chicago, IL

June 5-6, 2009 Minutes (Draft)

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman, Bill Scott followed by self- introductions of members and guests
2. **Attendance.** Those in attendance were:

Rocky Burks	Access Manager, D.O.T, City of Sacramento, CA
Allan Fraser	NFPA Staff
Marilyn Golden	DREDF, CA
Marsha Mazz	US Access Board Representative
Nancy McNabb	NFPA Staff (Saturday)
Tom Norton	Norel and NFPA Board of Directors
Toby Olsen	Exec. Sec., Governors Comm. on Disability, WA
Bill Scott	Abilities Unlimited, Glendale, AZ
Stephen Spinetto	ADA Coordinator, City of Boston

Guest:

Gail Minger	Michael H. Minger Memorial Foundation
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3. **Minutes:** The committee approved the minutes as corrected from the meeting of Sept. 29-30, 2008 in Washington, DC. The correction being that Rocky Burks title should be "Access Manager, D.O.T, City of Sacramento, CA".

It was noted that follow-up is needed from item #5 of that meeting, specifically: "Bill Scott and Marsha Mazz will draft a letter for review by the committee to send to Jim Shannon stating that DARAC strongly believes that these standards and testing need to be developed and encouraging NFPA to further encourage this work in the best ways it can."

4. **Update on Initiatives:** Allan Fraser provided the Committee with the following updates:
 - a. **e-ACCESS-** Has been very well received. First issue opt-in list was 367. The fifth issue that went out last week was sent to almost 6200 people. We may want to gather more information on readers via a survey once audience is "mature", ie. circulation levels off.

- b. **“Guides” and related seminars** – The “Guide” has downloaded over 33,500 copies since its posting which is a rate of 41 per day. Seminars on the “Guide” have been presented for the last two annual meetings, the Ohio State Fire Academy, the City of Chicago, Illinois State Fire Marshal’s Office, Illinois Fire Inspector’s Assoc., Miami University-Ohio and 24th CSUN Technology & People with Disabilities Conference.
 - c. **Residential Sprinkler Initiative** – Is generally being well received, but there is some pushback by the home builders. There is a very good presentation on a fully sprinklered, fully accessible home being given on Monday at 9:30am.
 - d. **IFIA Annual Fire and Life Safety Conference** – Allan Fraser was sponsored by the Illinois Fire Inspectors Assoc. to present on the “Personal Emergency Evacuation Planning Tool for School Students with Disabilities” to about 100 inspectors at their annual fire and life safety conference in Galena, IL.
5. **Update on tentative ASTM project and UL efforts:** It appears that RESNA is getting prepared to do something relative to a standard for stair descent devices. We understand that Glenn Hedman with the University of Chicago is putting together a proposal to start that project. (Note: Bill Scott and Marsha Mazz need to draft a letter for review by the committee to send to Jim Shannon stating that DARAC strongly believes that these standards and testing need to be developed and encouraging NFPA to further encourage this work in the best ways it can as a follow up to committee action at the 9-28-08 meeting.)
6. **Update on ANSI-HSSP Workshop – Feb. 3-4, 2009 at Gallaudet University, Wash., DC.** Allan Fraser, Bill Scott and Marsha Mazz updated the committee on the very successful workshop. While ANSI was expecting about 30-40 people, over 115 registered with almost 100 in attendance. DARAC’s issues and concerns were presented and supported by workshop attendees and are included in ANSI’s report. Staff will keep the committee updated on future workshops and action as information becomes available.
7. **NFPA 1, 101 & 5000.** These documents are going into cycle with a July 31, 2009 closing date for NFPA 101, NFPA 5000 and November 24, 2009 for NFPA 1. Relevant proposals will be forwarded to the committee for review and input should they desire.
8. **Update on NFPA Public Education Division.** A. Fraser talked about the excellent new brochure they have produced. The committee requested staff to provide them with copies of the new brochure. In addition, the committee discussed FPW and “Disabilities Awareness Month”. Members discussed the concept for developing two sets of educational information relative to people with disabilities, one geared for the general public and a second geared for the firefighter. There is a belief that much, if not most of the information is developed for the fire service to give to the public while not enough is designed to educate the firefighters.
9. **ICC/ANSI A117.1 Update** – Allan Fraser, Marilyn Golden and Marsha Mazz updated the committee on where the work stands. There is a meeting (conference call) tentatively scheduled for August and it is hoped that the document may be able to go to ANSI for approval before the end of the year.
10. **Concept Paper:** A concept paper from Mary Brunner and Bruce Barnhart proposing a method for identifying the locations of people, both horizontally and vertically, within

building was discussed. A number of concerns were raised and a number of suggestions brought forth. This initiated discussion and a decision to begin planning to hold a workshop this fall, 2009, relative to “alarm signals”. It was suggested that at least the following people or groups should participate:

- Representatives from NEMA
- Robert Schifiliti
- Representative from the Deaf community
- NFPA Research Foundation
- NFPA Data & Analysis
- Tom Norton
- Representatives from NFPA 72
- Possibly others

The thinking is that this would be an excellent vehicle for manufacturers and users with disabilities to talk and share information relative to what’s available and what might be needed to provide functional usability for disability community. Members should e-mail their individual recommendations for invitees to Allan Fraser.

11. Committee Membership & Bylaws: The committee discussed some issues and concerns related to membership, participation and some of the bylaws relating to them. The committee voted to have the staff liaison draft a letter for the Chair to review to send out to Patricia Barbosa and Richard Skaff asking if they are still interested in actively participating and if not would they consider resigning in order to free their slots for folks who can actively participate. In addition, the committee voted to recommend that Jim Shannon appoint Mrs. Gail Minger, Executive Director, Michael Minger Foundation and a member of the board directors of the Center for Campus Fire Safety. Committee members are to send their recommendations for potential members to Allan Fraser, particularly those from the blind and hearing impaired communities. Chair Bill Scott took under advisement a motion to appoint an Ad Hoc task group to review the committee’s Bylaws particularly with respect to the length of terms and the criteria for removal. He will develop a task group charge and list of members later in the year.

12. Dates/Location for Next Meeting: Staff suggested that the next full committee meeting be held during the 2010 NFPA Conference and Expo in Las Vegas, NV, June 7-10, 2010. This is agreeable to the committee. Staff will check further and confirm.

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm, Saturday, June 5, 2009.

Minutes prepared by A. Fraser, NFPA Staff liaison