

Disability Access Review and Advisory Committee



Kellogg Conference Center
Gallaudet University
Washington, DC

September 29-30, 2008 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:

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| Rocky Burks | ADA Coordinator, Marin County, CA |
| Allan Fraser | NFPA Staff |
| Marsha Mazz | US Access Board Representative |
| Tom Norton | Norel and NFPA Board of Directors |
| Bill Scott | Abilities Unlimited, Glendale, AZ |
| Stephen Spinetto | ADA Coordinator, City of Boston, Guest |

Members not in attendance were:

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| HolLynn D'lil | CODAP, CA |
| Marilyn Golden | DREDF, CA |
| Todd Gritch | HKS. Inc, Dallas, TX |
| Toby Olsen | Exec. Sec., Governors Comm. on Disability, WA |
| Richard Skaff | Skaff & Associates, CA |

Guests:

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| Jessica Carl | Program Administrator, Standards Panels, ANSI |
| Dr. Meloyde Batten-Mickens | Exec. Director, Public Safety/ Facilities/Transportation, Gallaudet University |
| Gail Minger | Michael H. Minger Memorial Foundation |
| Lisa Braxton | NFPA Staff |
| Jake Pauls | Kake Pauls Consulting, Inc. |
| Edwina Juilet | NFT/LSPwD |
| Ken Schoonover | KMS Associates, Inc. |
| David Cappozzi | US Access Board |

3. **Minutes:** The committee approved the minutes as written from the meetings of:
 - a. July 20-21, 2006 in Boston, MA and,
 - b. April 26-27, 2007 Meeting in St. Louis, MO
4. **Welcome:** David Capozzi, Acting Executive Director of the U. S. Access Board presented welcoming remarks and an overview of the current activities of the Board.
5. **Update on tentative ASTM project and UL efforts:** Staff stated that there has been no further action by either organization. The committee discussed possible additional actions as members expressed the desire to see product standards and third party certifications programs developed. 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.
6. **Update on provisions for “Elevators for Occupant Evacuation Prior to Phase 1 Emergency Recall Operation” in NFPA 101 & 5000, 2009 editions.** The committee discussed the changes and voted to send a letter to Jim Shannon supporting the process for developing changes although the committee is not in agreement with the specific changes themselves. Committee members stated that they need to take a more active role in the next cycle to provide input and track TC actions.
7. **Update on provisions for “Stair descent devices” in NFPA 101 & 5000, 2009 editions.** The committee discussed the changes and voted to send a letter to Jim Shannon supporting the process for developing changes although the committee is not in agreement with the specific changes themselves. They noted that while suggested technical changes were made, they still believe that these devices should be required as opposed to the information being in the annex. Committee members stated that they need to take a more active role in the next cycle to provide input and track TC actions.
8. **Update on provisions for “Area of Refuge Criteria” in NFPA 101 & 5000, 2009 editions.** The committee discussed the changes and voted to send a letter to Jim Shannon supporting the process for developing changes although the committee is not in agreement with the specific changes themselves. There is still concern that the provisions are not adequate protection for people with disabilities under all emergency conditions. Committee members stated that they need to take a more active role in the next cycle to provide input and track TC actions. The committee would like to have NFPA staff (preferably Ron Cote) be available at its next meeting, either in person or by phone to present the committee with the thinking behind these changes so that DARAC may be better prepared to submit public proposals for the next cycles of 101 and 5000.
9. **Update on NFPA Public Education Division - Fire Safety for People with Disabilities Task Force.** Lisa Braxton presented an overview, brief history and the work of the task force to date.

10. **Update on NFPA’s “Emergency Evacuation Guide for People with Disabilities” and “Personal Emergency Evacuation Planning Tool for School Students with Disabilities”** Allan Fraser updated the committee on the download numbers for the “Guides” to date and the launching and growth of “e-ACCESS” newsletter. He also updated DARAC on the two seminars presented mid-September at Miami University of Ohio and the Ohio State Fire Academy. Committee members provided feedback on some suggested changes to the annex in the school guide and Marsha Mazz offered to have the US Department of Education review it.
11. **ICC/ANSI A117.1 Update** – Ken Schoonover, Chair of the ASC presented the committee with an overview of his committee’s progress toward the next edition and the major changes being proposed as well as the committee thinking behind those changes.
12. **Discussion of topic suggestions for ANSI-HSSP Workshop – Feb. 3-4, 2009 at Gallaudet University, Wash., DC.** Jessica Carl, ANSI Program Administrator, Standards Panels, provide DARAC with an overview of the Homeland Security Standards Panel and preparations for the February, 2009 workshop also being held at Gallaudet. Members suggested that Stair descent devices and mass notification be at least two of the areas in need of standards be discussed at the workshop.
13. **Update on U.S. Access Board and FEMA efforts with respect “Emergency Transportable Housing Issues for PWD”** Marsha Mazz updated the committee on the efforts to resolve issues that arose during recent natural disasters. In response to questions, members of DARAC were advised that it would be appropriate for them to submit any comments they may have on the US Access Board’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking as individuals.
14. **Dates/Location for Next Meeting:** Staff suggested that it might make sense to have the next meeting during the 2009 NFPA Conference and Expo in Chicago, June 8-11, 2009. This seemed agreeable to the committee. Staff will check further and confirm.
15. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2008.

Minutes prepared by A. Fraser, NFPA Staff liaison