

Meeting Minutes Construction Trades Board Caroline County, Maryland

DATE: Wednesday January 9, 2019

PLACE: Health & Public Services Building
403 S. 7th Street, 2nd Floor, Room 242
Denton, Maryland 21629

BOARD MEMBERS: Earl R. Kitchen, Jr., Chairman
Levi Hayman
Scott Holden
Mike Mann
Glenn Orme
Curtis Short
Eric Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Crystal Dadds, Assistant Director of Codes
Melanie Smith, Administrative Assistant to Boards
Rob Smith, First State Inspection
Ron Southard, Citizen

CALL TO ORDER

At 2:00 p.m., Chairman Kitchen called the meeting of the Caroline County Construction Trades Board to order.

DISCUSSION

CODE MODIFICATION – PRIVATE AIRPLANE HANGAR

Ms. Dadds explained that the 2015 International Building Code (IBC) has two definitions for aircraft hangars, neither of which describe the type of hangar Mr. Southard needs. The definition for a residential aircraft hangar defines a hangar as an accessory use incidental to the dwelling.

Building Inspector Rob Smith explained that the second definition for an airplane hangar is designed for large airports. The fire suppression requirement was very expensive and unnecessary in this case.

Ms. Dadds explained that because the 2018 IBC is to be adopted in March of 2019; the Board could discuss the possibility of creating language for a third definition. A definition that would fit an agricultural or free-standing hangar to fit Ms. Southard's needs and possibly those who are in the business of crop-dusting.

Inspector Smith suggested the County Commissioners may ask for what other jurisdictions already have in their codes. Staff was asked to reach out to the following Counties: Frederick, Dorchester, Talbot, Kent and Sussex in Delaware.

He explained that the IRC (International Residential Code) definition is, naturally, addressed to residential hangars. The IBC (International Business Code) definition is, naturally, addressed towards commercial hangars. There is no code in Caroline County for Agricultural Buildings.

Inspector Smith explained that they want to find language that is pliable enough to fit approval for a private airplane hangar not associated with a residence. Chairman Kitchen suggested they add wording to the agricultural exemption to allow planes for crop-dusting or non-commercial land surveys.

Ms. Dadds asked the Board to consider wording that will justify why such planes should be exempted from the IRC or IBC code and apply conditions. The Board shared some of their reasons to ask for an exemption:

- The fuel and equipment needed to maintain a plane is no more dangerous than that of farm equipment, and
- The Annual Federal Inspection requirements for planes are lengthy and strict, whereas, most farm equipment has no inspection requirements, and
- The Code should not be more restrictive on storing a plane than it is on storing farm equipment or race cars (that use highly flammable fuel).
- Requiring a sprinkler system on an agricultural building is not required and the code should not be more restrictive for private use or crop duster planes.
- A sprinkler system is required for commercial buildings and residences not storage buildings or garages.
- Unlike commercial and residential hangars, a stand-alone hangar is not a danger to anyone if it catches on fire.

It was noted that there has already been crop dusters stored in agricultural buildings without being an issue. It was agreed that the definition would fall under the agricultural building exemption.

The meeting closed with the decision that Inspector Smith would research the code, specifically pertaining to a private use hangar. Ms. Smith would reach out to surrounding Counties to see if they may already have a code in place. The members would consider an appropriate definition.

The members asked for the February meeting to be moved to the 20th rather than the 13th of February.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Mann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.
Second: Mr. Smith seconded the motion.
Action taken: All members approved the motion unanimously (7:0).

CONSTRUCTION TRADES BOARD

Earl R. Kitchen, Jr, Chairman



Minutes prepared by:
Melanie Smith, Boards Administrative Assistant