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CITIES
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*Electrical
Code
Interpretations
Committee*

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GENERAL UNIFORM CODE
INTERPRETATIONS COMMITTEE
ZIO FRAEDO'S RESTAURANT
PLEASANT HILL, CALIFORNIA
JULY 17, 2018

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Chairman Ray Robertson.

Committee Members

In Attendance: G. Arcidiacono, L. Diehl, M. Geller, F. Luna, R. Maryatt,
R. Robertson, M. Thomas, R. Walsh

Others In

Attendance: J. Ashton, K. Baker, N. Baligod, D. Bartlett, J. Cevalasco, P. Ellis,
G. Galong, M. Larsen, J. Losado, S. McGraw, D. McGee,
J. Oseguera, T. Pangilla, G. Robertshaw, C. Schmidt, R. Shoemake,
M. Springer, M. Straub, R. Thomas, D. Timmons, L. Tolson

After self-introductions, it was M/S/C to accept the Minutes of December 12, 2017, as submitted.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE:

The Chairman reported on the items discussed at the meeting of the Sub-Committee earlier in the day.

1. **Electrical Code Quiz:** The Committee reviewed and distributed an Electrical Code Quiz prepared by Mike Holt from April 2018 dealing with metal-clad (MC) cable; where it is permitted and not permitted and requirements for both exposed and concealed work. The Quiz was included in the meeting packet for the meeting.

2. **Green Meter Adaptor for PG&E:** The Chairman noted that the information on the Green Meter Adaptor (GMA) program was included in the meeting packet for today's meeting. The program became effective in early 2018 and is available to certain residential customers that are installing solar systems. Unfortunately, the program is only available for existing services of 125 Amps or less, which makes it much more limited than the companion programs from Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric, which both allow its use on services that are 200 Amps or less. As a result, there has not been much utilization of the program to date.
3. **Follow-up to Previous discussion on Battery Storage for Solar Systems:** The Committee reviewed several follow-up questions on the required external disconnect for battery storage systems from the previous meeting. The first issue was the nature of the disconnect provided by the manufacturer. Q1. Will this suffice as the required disconnect? A.1. Only if a throw-type or pull-out switch is provided on the unit. First responders should not be required to remove a plate or use a tool to access the disconnect. Q2. Where should the external disconnect be located? A.2. Within view of the main service, as first responders should not be required to hunt for the renewable disconnect at a second location (such as a garage). This is specifically required in 691.71 (H)(4).
4. **Grounding Issues with Dry-Type Transformers:** The Committee reviewed a situation that occurred with lighting transformers installed in an existing commercial building. In the immediate case the AHJ required a ground to the nearest water pipe for each transformer because he felt there was no way of verifying the building steel provided an adequate ground, as provided in 250.104 (D)(1). The contractor noted limitations of utilizing a ground/bond to a water piping system (for instance, if o-rings are used for connections).

While this situation involved a single main service, it raised the question of what would happen in the case of multiple separately-derived services in the same building. In such buildings, the grounds for each service must be properly tied together.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chairman noted there have been a number of personnel changes within the various building inspection departments over the past several years due to the economic improvement in the construction industry. He asked that each department respond to the Committees request for updated information that would follow shortly after the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, it was M/S/C to adjourn at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Geller
Secretary

MG/ss