

Advisory Committee for the South Carolina Building Codes Council, Loss
Mitigation Grant Program and South Carolina Comprehensive Hurricane
Damage Mitigation Grant Program

Draft Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2008

2:00 P.M.

Ann Roberson called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m. The following Advisory Committee members were present at the meeting: Gary Wiggins, Gary Mason, Amanda Loach (by proxy Scott Hammond), Ernie Dorsey, Allison Dean Love, Frank Hodge (by proxy Ernie Dorsey), John Reich, Ed West and Ann Roberson. Staff members Sara Eaton and Charlotte Harrison were also present at the meeting. The following members joined the meeting by conference call: Eric Demoura, and Todd Hiott.

Ms. Roberson welcomed everybody to the meeting and took roll call.

Ms. Roberson moved on to Agenda Item III. The minutes were not available to review thus Ms. Roberson agreed to forward them to the board for review following the meeting.

Ms. Roberson moved on to Agenda Item V, Update of the Program. SC Safe Home held BluePrint for Safety training for inspectors and contractors on April 22-23 in Columbia, SC. As a result of that training, SC Safe Home has 10 additional certified contractors bringing the grand total to 47 certified contractors. In addition there are now over 70 certified wind inspectors.

Ms. Roberson and staff are creating a new logo for the website as well as all printed materials. A new banner is being created for the website to include more colors and a brand new design. The new banner will encompass other natural disasters in addition to hurricanes to reflect the state-wide implementation. Ms. Roberson will present the new logo and banner to the board when the preliminary designs are complete .

Ms. Roberson asked the board about “heir’s property.” Mr. West mentioned that he always has all heirs sign off on properties. He recommended asking for legal advice to determine if necessary for resident to apply in lieu of all heirs.

Staff has received complaints from homeowners fearing that certified contractors are inflating prices within the program. Ms. Roberson and staff reminded homeowners that SC Safe Home is “code plus” and thus often more expensive than a roof at minimum code. Nonetheless, Ms. Roberson is aware of the concern.

Ms. Roberson is drafting a new bulleting to be sent out to all certified inspectors and contractors. The bulletin will ask all contractors to take photographs at various intervals of the work being done to ensure the retrofits are being completed in compliance with SC

Safe Home guidelines. Ms. Roberson will forward the draft bulletin to the board for review.

The Grant Review Subcommittee met via conference call on March 5, 2008 to review the current submitted applications. Mr. Demoura announced that he and the sub-committee is comfortable to approve the submitted grant applications. There being no questions regarding the synopsis as presented, Mr. Demoura made a motion to approve the grants. Ms. Roberson called for a vote. After a vote and with no objections, the motion carried and the grant applications were approved.

Ms. Roberson moved on the following Agenda Item VII, New Business.

The SC Safe Home Grant Program will need to create and implement a rating and rating system. The state of Florida hired an outside consultant to create a system. South Carolina will need to create the system internally. Mr. Dorsey recommended utilizing the Specifications Committee to help design the ranking system. He also recommended asking Tim Reinhold for advice.

Ms. Roberson stated that we will have about the same amount of money next fiscal year. The funding will likely be spent quicker when the program is implemented statewide.

Ms. Roberson thanked Ms. Love for sending various articles to her including an article regarding My Safe Florida Home's survey results. Ms. Roberson will forward the article to board.

Ms. Roberson suggested SC Safe Home draft a survey to send to grant recipients. It would guide the program and create preventable maintenance. The survey would be public.

Ms. Roberson has received new products for the board to review to include Hurricane Harness and Foam Seal.

Ms. Roberson would like to have an "SC Safe Home Conference" in June or July. The purpose of the conference would be to have a mandatory refresher BluePrint for Safety Course for all contractors. In addition, contractors and inspectors would have an opportunity to discuss questions and concerns with staff, the board, vendors, and each other.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Dorsey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Love seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm. The next Advisory Board Meeting will be on May 21, 2008.

This concludes the meeting minutes for the April 30, 2008 Advisory Committee Meeting for the South Carolina Building Codes Council, Loss Mitigation Grant Program and South Carolina Comprehensive Hurricane Damage Mitigation Grant Program.