

MINUTES
CONNECTICUT HOME INSPECTION LICENSING BOARD
165 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

MAY 4, 2006

The Connecticut Home Inspection Licensing Board met on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at 9:30 A.M. in Room 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

Board Members Present: Bernard F. Caliendo, Chairman (Home Inspector)
 Susan A. Connors, Esq. (Public Member)
 Richard J. Kobylenski (Home Inspector)
 Bruce D. Schaefer (Home Inspector)
 William Stanley, Jr. (Home Inspector)

Board Members Not Present: J. Andre Fournier (Public Member)
 Dana J. Fox (Home Inspector)

Board Vacancies: One (Public Member)

Board Counsel: Not Present

DCP Staff Present: Robert M. Kuzmich, License and Applications
 Specialist
 Vicky E. Bullock, Administrative Hearings
 Attorney
 Richard M Hurlburt, Director
 Occupational & Professional Licensing

Others Present: None

Note: The administrative functions of this Board are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, call Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135.

1. Call to order by Chairman Bernie Caliendo.

Mr. Caliendo called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

2. Review of minutes of the February 2, 2006 and the March 2, 2006 meetings of the Board. After a thorough review, *the Board voted, unanimously, to accept the minutes as written. (Kobylenski/Schaefer)*

3. Review of Final Decisions and Orders.

Chairman Bernie Caliendo acknowledged that there are none before the Board today.

4. Applications for review.

Chairman Bernie Caliendo acknowledged that there are no applications before the Board today.

5. Applicants appearing before the Board.

Chairman Bernie Caliendo acknowledged that there are no applicants appearing before the Board today.

6. Formal Hearings to be held.

Mr. Caliendo noted that there are no Formal Hearings scheduled for today's meeting.

7. Old Business

A. Home Inspection Course Application for Pre-Licensing:

Course: Connecticut Home Inspection Pre-Licensing

School: Real Estate Education Center
350 5th Avenue, Suite 1106
New York, NY 10118

Both Mr. Stanley and Mr. Schaefer reviewed this school curriculum and recommend this pre-licensing program for approval. ***As such, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the application of the Real Estate Education Center as a pre-licensing school for home inspector training. (Kobylenski/Stanley)***

8. New Business

A. Correspondence from Director Richard M. Hurlburt regarding Psychological Services, Inc. (PSI) rescoring of Home Inspector Examinations.

The Board noted that after the code-related questions were deactivated as previously requested by them, the rescoring affected only four candidates. It was also acknowledged that since the total numbers of test candidates per year is only approximately 12 to 20, four candidates reflects a significant percentage. Mr. Caliendo thanked Mr. Hurlburt for pursuing this test change with PSI and getting this information to the Board so they can see what is being done about inappropriate questions and how it affects the candidates.

Mr. Stanley questioned why PSI never removed these questions when the Board first issued their directive. In response, Mr. Hurlburt stated that PSI management told him they initiated this action with their Information/Technology people, but for some reason, they never acted on it.

B. Letter from Governor M. Jodi Rell, dated February 24, 2006, concerning the resignation of Ms. Denise C. Robillard.

Mr. Caliendo acknowledged receipt of this item and stated that as Chairman of the Board, he also received a copy of this letter.

C. Correspondence from Firestop Inspector LLC for the Board's information.

Mr. Caliendo noted that this material deals with fire code issues in construction which, although good to know, does not fall under the realm of what a Home Inspector does or relevant to home inspection. Ms. Connors asked the Board that if they considered this information relevant for home inspection, how would this material be disseminated to the professional in this field? It was noted that the manufacturer should approach the private home inspector organizations directly and offer seminars on their product to their members.

9. Other Business

A. Mr. Caliendo presented the Board with a copy of a letter he sent to Commissioner Rodriguez of the Department of Consumer Protection concerning the Home Inspector Examination. The letter thanks the Commissioner for meeting with Mr. Caliendo and Mr. Stanley on April 5, 2005 and expresses the Board's concern for the current Home Inspector Examination being administered by PSI. The letter reviews the examination history with PSI and their promises to make the examination all closed book and to remove code specific questions that the Board had reviewed and rejected. It also details the exam history through accounts of past licensing Board meetings.

The letter concludes with the Board's endorsement of the National Home Inspector Examination and references other States who have met with success in using the same. The Board feels strongly about using this examination and believes that the home buyers in Connecticut are better served by Interns who have passed this test.

The Commissioner was very receptive to the suggestions of the Board and asked that he be sent a follow up letter which is what the Board has before them today. He noted that the Department's criteria for the bidding on this examination was to have been sent to Administrative Services this month (May) after which the bidding will go out and be decided in June at which point the Board's requests should be implemented.

The Board emphasized the urgency to work with the successful bidder in implementing the National Home Inspector Examination. Mr. Caliendo noted that the actual bid specifications outline the general parameters of the examination to be used but does not actually state the exact examination title to be used. It would be up to the Board to work with the successful bidder on the examination specifics. Mr. Hurlburt noted that as of last March, the Commissioner has been totally in charge of examinations. He also reviewed the general conditions of the bids and noted that he personally does not see any of the bids for proofing.

The Board discussed the possibility of sending another letter to the Commissioner emphasizing the use of the National Home Inspector Examination. Mr. Stanley noted that as of today's Board meeting the Board now knows that the bids specifically request the administration of specific exams for other disciplines which differs greatly from the Home Inspectors Bid which will ask for an examination to be designed and then administered.

It was agreed, after much discussion, that a follow-up letter will be sent to the Office of the Commissioner simply asking for a copy of the bid proposal that was

actually sent out since this information is now public information. The letter shall again express the Boards intention that they want the National Home Inspector Examination to be used. The letter shall be brief and communicate this information early on in its content so that there can be no mistake of the Board's wishes.

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m. (Schaefer/Stanley)

Note: the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for November 2, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in Room No. 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
License and Applications Specialist