INDIANA FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING SAFETY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Details

Date: November 8, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Government Center South – Conference Room 1 & 2

Member Attendance

Name	Pres	sent	Means of Participation	
	Yes	No	_	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		Electronic Means (MS Teams)	
John Crisp	\boxtimes		NA	
Harold Davidson	×		In Person	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		In Person	
James Murua	×		In Person	
Scott Pannicke	×		In Person	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		In Person	
Michael Popich	×		In Person	
David Porter	\boxtimes		In Person	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes		In Person	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes		Electronic Means (MS Teams)	

Notes

Additional information may be available at the **Commission's Web Page**.

Also in attendance:

Dustin Dyer, Director of Boards and Commissions, IDHS

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call All present. Commissioner Cook attending online.

Name	Present		Means of Participation
	Yes No		
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		Electronic Means (MS Teams)
John Crisp	\boxtimes		In Person
Harold Davidson	×		In Person

Todd Hite	\boxtimes	In Person
James Murua	×	In Person
Scott Pannicke	×	In Person
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	In Person
Michael Popich	×	In Person
David Porter	\boxtimes	In Person
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	In Person
Michael Zehner		Electronic Means (MS Teams)

3. Review and Action on October 2023 Meeting Minutes – Commission accepted the minutes with no corrections.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

4. IDHS Reports and Updates

- i. IDHS Variance Determinations Report as required by 675 IAC 12-5-6.2(f) Isaac Delgadillo.
- ii. BESS Report Director Dyer informed the Commission that the Department had filed the required report with the State.
- iii. Commission Vacancy Commissioner Miller resigned, leaving a vacancy for a remodeler with experience in residential or commercial remodeling.
- iv. New counsel for the Commission Christopher Anderson
- 5. State Building Commissioner Interpretations
 - i. None
- 6. Rulemaking Update(s)

- i. Electrical Code Update Committee Electrical code update committee is ready to schedule first meeting.
- ii. Fire & Building Code Update Committees Discussion was had on whether Commissioner Patarino and Commissioner Cook can serve on the subcommittees. Director Dyer indicated that only one Commissioner position had been approved in the bylaws, and that by a strict reading it would require the Commission to approve an interpretation allowing additional Commission members to serve. Commission waited to discuss the matter at the December meeting pending further interest from the public.
- iii. Lift Device Update Committee Commission voted to remove DME elevator from the bylaws, as they declined to participate.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino		\boxtimes
Michael Popich		
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		\boxtimes

7. Variances

a. Tabled

i. 23-08-43 Fall Creek Pavillion (Indianapolis) – Commissioners Hite and Davidson recused. Christina Collester presented. Large assembly occupancy with over 1000 occupants. Tabled to allow for more time to look into PA system and evacuation announcement systems. Looking to use the emergency notification system that the fairground already has, adding additional notification systems in areas to ensure consistent coverage. Condition: Speakers must be procured and installed on or before May 31, 2024, annual system training, can continue using current system in interim.

Motion: Approve with Conditions

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	

Harold Davidson (R)		
Todd Hite (R)		
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

23-09-25 Spy Run Avenue (Fort Wayne) – Ed Rensink presented. Seeking to not use a fire suppression system. Looked into alternate systems, but proponent is claiming difficulty and expense based on design of historical building. Looking to use an NFPA 72 fire alarm system instead of fire suppression system, which would cost \$100-150k. Commissioner Murua expressed concern that the venue is used as an event center, where individuals would be drinking and sleeping. Commission tabled while Ed considered alternatives.

Motion: Table

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

23-09-34 Hartford City Public Library (Hartford City) – No proponent.

Motion: Table

Vote

	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Commission broke from 10:05 - 10:22.

b. New

i. 23-10-28(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f)(g) Republic Airways Parking Garage (Carmel) – Christina Collester presented. Staff has no issue with variance (a). Various variances related to stairways, sprinklers, etc. Motion: Approve Variance (a).

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Motion: Approve b through g with Conditions: Signage posted at entrance indicating no accessible parking for

handicap vehicles.

e	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	×		

Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
(A)		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	×	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

ii. 23-10-29 Nucor Steel Indiana Coatings Complex (Crawfordsville) – Basement required to be sprinklered over 1500 feet, does not have proper openings. Unoccupied spaces save for equipment maintenance. LFO in support of variance as-written.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	×	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	×	
Michael Popich		
David Porter		\boxtimes
Kenneth Wagner	×	
Michael Zehner		

iii.23-10-30(a)(c)(d) Wabash Campus Center (Crawfordsville) – Staff has no issues with (c) or (d). Staff does not feel that hardship in (a) was adequate, as

hardship was listed as 'desire to be open and inviting.' Fully sprinklered with fire alarm. Looking to allow vertical openings more than two stories. Occupiable spaces on lower level not open to floors with vertical opening to prevent exposure to smoke and hot gages in a fire event. Proponent notes that hardship is actually that denial of the variance would require an atrium smoke exhaust system that he feels is unnecessary to meet the intent of the code.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote
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	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich		\boxtimes
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

iv. **23-10-32 Kolossal Fireworks Insanity (Sunman)** — Christina Collester presented. Seeking to use 2021 edition of NFPA which allows more lenient standards for retail firework storage.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

v. 23-10-32 PIN1 (Indianapolis) – Requesting temporary portable restroom on site each year for a period of time Oct

1 thorugh March 31. No proponent.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	

James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	×	

vi. **23-10-33(a)(b) Combat Ops (Indianapolis)** – Requesting no sprinkler head in arcade and variance on required work space to electrical panel.

Motion: Deny (a).

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		\boxtimes
John Crisp		\boxtimes
Harold Davidson		\boxtimes
Todd Hite		\boxtimes
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	×	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	×	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Motion: Approve (b) with the following conditions: 24 inches clearance with no permanent structure.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite		
James Murua	×	

Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

Commission broke for lunch from 12:20 to 1:00.

vii. 23-10-34 Christ the King Catholic Church Narthex Addition (South Bend) – LFO notes that the church is over 120k square feet and is opposed to the variance. Two fires in the last two years in areas that do not have fire suppression system. Seeking to not include a fire suppression system in new areas. 3 hour firewall separating proposed addition from the rest of the building. Mr. Rensink believes that rfirst exception for religious spaces under 7k feet and primarily used for worship apply, fire marshal disagrees based on number of seats. Commissioner Cook believes that the exception also applies. Chairman Murua believes that it does not due to being a gathering area not necessarily primarly used for worship. Christina Collester notes that the language included was meant to include the entirety of any building used primarily for worship, not individual spaces.

Motion: NVR.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua		\boxtimes
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Unlimited area three-story school. Auditorium is not sprinklered, two hour wall. Adding a polytechnic shop on high school with existing variances. Commissioner Pannicke asked how many times we would be asked to approved the same variance before demanding that the school come into compliance before adding new additions.

Motion: Table

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

ix. 23-10-36 DC Coaters, Building Addition (Tipton) – F1 occupancy requesting to exceed allowable area with no sprinklers, not using existing building rules. Christina Collester presented.

Motion: Approve

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

x. 23-10-37 IU Health Morgan (Martinsville) – Proponent requested table.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠	
Michael Zehner		

xi. **23-10-38(b) Flat Storage (Indianapolis)** – Requesting to remove fire suppression system. LFO opposes. Christina Collester presented. Christina explained that the system would be deactived and left in place with signage at the riser that the system is not in service.

Motion: Approve

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

xii. 23-10-39(a)(b) Wren Building (Carmel) – No issues with (a). Requesting that type b units not have operable parts on electrical panel within acceptable ranges per A17.1. Ed Rensink presented, notes that problem is self-reported and that correction would be costly and create structural problems.

Commission broke from 2:10-2:20 while Mr. Rensink conferred with architect.

Motion: Deny (b)

Name	Vote

	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp		\boxtimes
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino		\boxtimes
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		\boxtimes

Motion: Approve (a).

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite		
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xiii. 23-10-40 Hatchet Hollow Reno: Bleachers and Pressbox (Washington) – First step is out of compliance with acceptable height requirements, creating a trip hazard. Architect presented, notes that he did not design bleachers. State inspector found height violation. Commission notes that extending the step 5 feet into a landing negates the need for a variance. Proponent believes that this would create a less safe situation.

Motion: Deny

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	

James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xiv. 23-10-41 USI Theater Detector Operation (Evansville) – Request to allow smoke detectors to revert to heat detectors during fog performances. Roger Lehman presented.

Motion: Approve

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	×		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	×		
Scott Pannicke	×		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		
Michael Popich	×		
David Porter	\boxtimes		
Kenneth Wagner	×		
Michael Zehner	×		

xv. 23-10-42(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f) Revive (West Lafayette) – Variances a-c recommended for approval. (d) is to separate space with a one hour wall instead of a two hour wall. 13-R sprinkler system, proposing to enhance sprinkler system with added density. 2-hour horizontal rating in existing portion of historic building not feasible. (e) is a request to allow 25 inch guardrails. (f) is a request not to provide attic ventilation for existing building and to use protected foam insulation.

Motion: Approve a-c.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No

Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	×	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Motion: Approve (d)

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	×		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	×		
Scott Pannicke	×		
Michael Patarino	×		
Michael Popich	×		
David Porter	\boxtimes		
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes		

Motion: Table (e) until Melissa can confer.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

XVI. Motion: Table (f) to get confirmation of details on spray foam and determine if electrical or HVAC exists in space.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	×		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	×		
Scott Pannicke	×		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		
Michael Popich	×		
David Porter	⊠		
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes		

23-10-43 Bunge Project (Morristown) – Requesting to use an exception based on fail-safe system based on NFPA 36, which is not accepted in Indiana. Engineering manager presented.

Motion: Approve with conditions: must comply with 201 Edition of NPFA 36.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

23-10-44 Goshen College-Kitchen Weather Protection (Goshen) – Looking to use a tent to keep kitchen staff out of the weather. Tent will not be occupied in the event of significant predicted snowfall. State Building Commissioner Alan Blunk expressed concern that this project has not been submitted for review. Proponent indicated that variance request is for 11 months but they are hoping to be rid of it before June.

Motion: Table until snow loads can be calculated.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

23-10-45(a)(b) Hwy 41 Apartments (Evansville) – Request to allow a fire barrier in lieu of firewalls for fire separation, requesting a 0 score instead of -10 on Chapter 34 evaluation. Roger Lehman presented. Proponent notes that they wish to withdraw (b).

Motion: Approve (a).

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite		
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	⊠	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠	
Michael Zehner		

23-10-46 YMCA of Muncie – New Downtown YMCA (Muncie) – Sprinklers omitted over swimming poor, whirpool, omittedating area. Dennis Bradshaw presented. Resubmission of previously submitted variance that was approved with conditions. Proponent resubmits for reconsideration based on new information about design of the building. Proponent notes that piping over the seating area inside a caustic chlorine environment creates a difficult maintenance issue. Commissioner Cook notes that there are piping materials that can accommodate such an

environment.

Motion: Deny.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson		\boxtimes
Todd Hite		
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke	\boxtimes	
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠	
Michael Zehner		\boxtimes

23-10-48 New Renovation of Chicken House (Seymour)

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

- 8. Industrialized Building Systems Renewals
 - i. Expert Modular Consultants, LLC

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	×	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke	×	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	×	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

9. Report on Administrative Review

- a. OALP Non-Final Orders Commission Review/Action Required as Ultimate Authority
 - i. None
- b. New Cases
 - i. Education Destination/Five House
 - ii. Washington Community School Corporation
- c. Ongoing Cases
 - i. Scannell Properties *Monitoring Only*
 - ii. Lone Star Equities Inc. c/o JRB Management
 - iii. The Paramount Heritage Foundation, Inc.
 - iv. Firebrand Ministries
 - v. Singh Basra LLC
 - vi. Southlake/Tri-City RBA
- d. New Filings Commission Review/Action Required
 - i. None
- e. OALP Final Orders No action required
 - i. None

- 10. Final Comments/Closing Remarks Chairman Murua
- 11. Next Meeting Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time in CONFERENCE ROOM C of the Indiana Government Center, 302 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Virtual meeting details TBA.

A public notice with specific details regarding the format of the meeting will be provided on the <u>Commission main web page</u> in advance of the meeting date.

12. Adjournment