



ACCESS APPEALS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting Wednesday, February 11, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Access Appeals Commission was called to order by President Park at 1:14 P.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Walter Park, President
Mr. Arnie Lerner, Vice-President
Ms. Alyce G. Brown
Ms. Roslyn Baltimore

CITY REPRESENTATIVES: Ms. Elaine Warren, Deputy City Attorney
Mr. Rick Halloran, Acting Secretary
Ms. Nancy Curvino, Acting Recording Secretary

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from a regular Commission meeting of January 11, 2009 was reviewed and approved without change.

3. REVIEW OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS:

The Secretary synopsised an email from Mr. Richard Skaff stating his displeasure with the Commission allowing the approval of destination based elevator systems.

4. NEW APPEAL: No. 09-02

50 Beale Street

Ms. Kathy Finnerty representing Otis Elevator Company, presented arguments in favor of approving this appeal for a destination based elevator control system based upon past approvals of similar systems. The Commissioners and Ms. Finnerty discussed and amended a draft of a proposal for approval authored by Commissioner Park. After a line by line discussion of the draft proposal the Commission voted 4 to 0 to approve the appeal. The amended Draft is incorporated as part of the AAC decision 09-02.

5. NEW APPEAL: No. 09-03

One Front Street

Ms. Kathy Finnerty representing Otis Elevator Company, presented arguments in favor of approving this appeal for a destination based elevator control system based upon past approvals of similar systems. The Commissioners and Ms. Finnerty discussed and amended a draft of a proposal for approval authored by Commissioner Park. After a line by line discussion of the draft proposal the Commission voted 4 to 0 to approve the appeal. The amended Draft is incorporated as part of the AAC decision 09-03.

6. COMMISSIONERS' AND STAFFS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Commissioner Park gave an update of progress of the Administrative Bulletin regarding Destination Based Elevator Controls. Commissioner Park mentioned that the next steps are to have a meeting with an acoustical expert, hold a special meeting at an elevator lobby and then hold a general meeting to develop a final draft (#6) for adoption. The draft would then be submitted for approval.

Commissioner Baltimore asked that a special outreach be made to the disabled community in regard to this AB prior to approval, especially to the hearing impaired.

Commissioner Baltimore asked that a discussion of using human assistance to aid in achieving accessibility (such as a doorman for a non-compliant door) be held at a future meeting.

Commissioner Baltimore requested information and discussion on budget and fees for the Commission.

Commissioner Lerner mentioned that the Commission could save money by independently visiting the elevator sites without holding a meeting or having all the Commissioner present for the demonstration by the acoustical expert. Commissioner Baltimore and Brown expressed a desire to be present for the demonstration by the acoustic expert. After discussion of how it would be possible for Commissioners to visit a site without creating a "meeting". The Deputy City Attorney stated that she would look into the legalities involved.

Commissioner Brown welcomed the new court reporter.

Commissioner Lerner asked what progress has been made regarding finding a new commissioner.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was a comment by Mr. Jeffrey Le Cox that NEII would expect to be involved in any meeting held regarding these elevator systems.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Park moved for adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Richard Halloran, Senior Building Inspector
Department of Building Inspection
Secretary to the Access Appeals Commission