



Meeting Minutes Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Unreinforced Masonry Committee

Attendance	DATE	Wednesday, July 26, 2017	
	TIME	9:00 A.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management DEM Executive Conference Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, NV 89701	
	METHOD	Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Janell Woodward	
Committee Members	Present	Staff and Others	Present
Craig dePolo	X	Janell Woodward (DEM)	X
Mike Blakely	X	Gennady Stolyarov (Div. of Insurance)	X
Tim Ghan	X	Jeff Menicucci (DAG)	X
Werner Hellmer	X	Stacy Belt	X
Kyle West	X		

1. INTRODUCTIONS, ROLL CALL, AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Craig dePolo, called the meeting to order. Introductions and roll call were performed. Quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair, Craig dePolo, opened discussion for public comment. There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair, Craig dePolo, asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the May 2, 2017, meeting. Werner Hellmer made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Blakely seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

4. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Chair, Craig dePolo, asked for a motion to accept the goal and objectives outlined in the agenda. Kyle West made a motion to approve the goal and objectives. Tim Ghan seconded. Discussion ensued.

Gennady Stolyarov questioned the accuracy of the statement and the line referencing thousands of unreinforced masonry buildings being found throughout the state. He noted the recent surveys being done and the how fewer URMs are being found. Werner Hellmer provided additional information regarding this, advising that in Clark County is finding

significantly more URMs as their surveys move into the incorporated areas of Southern Nevada. It was noted that as surveys are completed this statement can be modified as it is fluid and to be used as a guide. Kyle West stated his agreement and explained that the City of Reno is in the early stages of their inventory of buildings.

Mike Blakely stated the goal is to provide guidance and questioned if they are strong enough in their objectives. He advised that he believe there are two things that need to be done; public information and code enforcement. He noted the conversion of certain buildings into higher occupancy uses and the need to prevent this. He stressed the need to focus on enforcement and recommending legislation preventing these conversions across the state. He spoke to ordinances California have enforced. He suggested the Committee take a stance on mitigating public hazard and promoting public safety.

Gennady questioned what the existing provisions of building codes and if they include reinforcement or upgrade requirements for protection against seismic hazards. Werner advised that when conversions are done there are certain provisions. However, he is not aware of any provisions in building codes that relate solely to occupancy change and that occupancy itself does not drive these provisions. The provision thresholds are driven by risk category changes. The exception to this would be when structural changes or alterations are done then provisions are necessary. There was brief discussion on risk categories and the types of buildings that fall into each.

Craig questioned how many are aware of the URM risk, noting that this is an underlying problem. This would support discussion on building codes and that the Committee needs to recommend ways for change. If individuals are not aware of the risk they are not going to make progress.

Mike spoke to the objectives, questioning if they address the issue of occupancy change and URMs and whether or not they are specific enough. Craig explained his thought process on the objectives with the Committee being finite and needing to achieve goals, he wanted to keep everyone focused. He believes the objectives are good to drive the Committee and get them going on projects. He doesn't believe they need to be comprehensive as Committee members are likely the only individuals that will view them.

Craig asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the objectives and noted that they can remain fluid and be changed as needed. He called for a vote for the motion on the floor. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL SPEAKERS

Chair, Craig dePolo made a recommendation to ask Gilbane Construction, company that completed retrofit of Lincoln Hall, to give a talk to the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC) at the November meeting. He noted that they did a great job and provided a high quality retrofit. He added that he would like to give an award of excellence highlighting an individual that has completed a retrofit. This idea was brought up at the last NESC meeting as well.

Craig opened the meeting for discussion and recommendations of other speakers. There was no additional input.

6. MISSION ASSIGNMENTS

Chair, Craig dePolo discussed the mission assignments and advised he would like to assign one person to each of the assignments outlined in the agenda. Jeff Menicucci provided

clarification on how many individuals can be assigned to a task to remain compliant with Open Meeting Laws. It was determined that one individual can be assigned; the individual can draw upon various resources and then report back to the Committee.

There was extensive discussion on the development assignments and it was determined that they would be assigned to the following individuals:

1. URM Summit – Kyle West

Craig noted the potential of having Utah be a co-sponsor of the summit due to the similarities between the states and collaboration with them in the past. The Committee was in agreement with this. Craig provided additional outline recommendations and development ideas for the summit. There was discussion on the timeline for the summit and it was decided that the aim would be for February 2019 to coincide with the legislative session.

2. Messaging and communications – Gennady Stolyarov

It was recommended that examples be pulled from other states/areas for ideas.

3. URM Building Inventory project – Werner Hellmer

Craig mentioned the possibility of putting out a publication that highlights projects that have been done and making recommendations on how it can be completed in other communities. The goal is to promote inventory across the state. There was brief discussion on the potential for a fieldtrip meeting being done to gain perspective on URM buildings in the area. Janell Woodward commented that it would be helpful to develop ideas to assist rural areas with completion of a survey as they likely do not have the resources for a project like this.

4. Roadmap for Nevada and overarching final message of the Committee – Mike Blakely

5. URM building website – Tim Ghan

7. FUTURE MEETINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The Committee deliberated briefly over an appropriate meeting date. It was determined that the next meeting will take place on October 24th, 2017 at 9:00am.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair, Craig dePolo, opened discussion for public comment. There was none.

9. ADJOURN

Chair, Craig dePolo, adjourned the meeting.