



**MEETING MINUTES**

**Ottawa Electrical Commission**

**Date:** April 16, 2014

**Attendees:** Greg Farmer                      Don Ganiere  
                    Chuck Schafer                      Tim McTaggart  
                    Arnie Bandstra  
**Absent:** Jeff Newbury  
**Guests:** Steve Burns, Jack Novotney, Monte Ricci

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm
2. Opportunity for public input: Steve Burns asked:
  - a. NEC 2014 Sec.210.8(A)(6) require GFCI receptacles for DW and Ref. to be accessible. Suggestion: have a blank receptacle above the counter.
  - b. NEC 553-Floating Buildings; grounding conductor must be copper for flexibility.
3. The agenda was approved MSP: McTaggart/Ganiere
4. Arnie Bandstra will be resigning from the Commission as of April 30, 2014. At Bandstra's request, Jack Novotney introduced Monte Ricci as a potential appointment to fill Bandstra's unexpired term. The commissioners informally interviewed Mr. Ricci and he was dismissed. Motion was made to recommend to the City Council to appoint Monte Ricci. MSP: Ganiere/McTaggart.
5. Minutes of the January 15, 2013 meeting were approved. MSP: Bandstra/Ganiere
6. Electrical Inspector's Report for Jan-Mar 2014.
  - a. Electrical License renewals – 226
  - b. New Electrical Licenses Issued – 7
  - c. Tests administered – 15
  - d. Tests passed – 4
  - e. Schafer reported on a test administered in April. Three applicants, sitting at the same table were observed to be collaborating (cheating). They all failed the test and were told they would not be eligible to re-test.
7. After discussion of the implications, a motion was made to adopt of the NEC 2014 carrying forward the amendments that are currently in the City Ordinance relative to NEC 2011. MSP:

Ganiere/Farmer. Don Ganiere will review the ordinance to determine if any other amendments are necessary.

8. Continued Discussion: How to improve quality of electrical work: Require CEUs for license renewal (concern over evaluating adequacy, credibility of documents, accreditation, etc.), periodic retesting for license renewal. Require a licensed electrician on each job to do the work or oversee un-licensed workers.
9. Continued discussion of proper installation in unfinished basements:
  - a. Require conduit for basement wiring?
  - b. Educate electricians about alternatives, including the benefits of conduit, without requiring it by Code?
  - c. Educate electricians on proper procedures for penetrations thru joists?
10. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm. MSP McTaggart/Ganiere

Respectfully submitted: Arnie Bandstra