



Shaping Tomorrow's  
Built Environment Today

## MINUTES

Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee Conference Call  
Tuesday, August 30, 2016

**Note: These minutes were approved by the Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee on November 1, 2016.**

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## MINUTES

### GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2016  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM EDT (USA)**

#### ATTENDANCE

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom Phoenix, Chair  
Jim Wolf  
Chad Moore  
Isabelle Lavoie  
Bill McQuade  
Wane Baker  
Dick Hayter  
Randy Jones  
Ron Gagnon  
Jeff Vestal  
Chad Powell  
Art Hallstrom  
Mike Mueller  
Dave Palty  
Jeff Hurd  
Nate Boyd  
Vorasen Leewattanakit  
Vikram Murthy  
Jaap Hogeling  
Bill Klock

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eduardo Conghos  
David Underwood  
Rich Vehlow  
Mike Witkowski  
Sonya Pouncy  
Dan Merkel  
Maged Fouad Hashem  
Sheila Hayter  
Bjarne Olesen

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jim Scarborough  
Mark Ames  
Lilas Pratt  
Lauren Walters

**CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Phoenix at 9:05 am EDT (US). After welcoming the members, Mr. Scarborough conducted a roll call. A quorum was present.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was accepted as written.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 25, 2016 MEETING**

**MOTION:** To approve the Minutes of the June 25, 2016 meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Hallstrom and seconded by Mr. Boyd.

**MOTION PASSED: 18-0-0 CNV**

**REVIEW OF MBOS (ATTACHMENT A)**

The MBOs have been sent out to the full committee with assignments. Mr. Hallstrom suggested that Basecamp be used to update the full committee on each MBO. Mr. Wolf said that he has had some difficulty accessing information on Basecamp. Mr. Boyd noted that everything needs to be moved over from Basecamp 2 to Basecamp 3 if that has not already happened.

**ACTION ITEM # 1: Mr. Scarborough will contact Ms. Ratcliff with the web team to make sure that all information on current projects is on Basecamp 3. DUE DATE: ASAP**

**(ATTACHMENT B)**

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Subcommittee Chairs each gave brief reports.

**GGAC Executive Subcommittee**

Chair Phoenix gave the GGAC Executive Subcommittee report. He and Mr. Scarborough met last week via telephone and finalized the MBOs which have now been distributed to the full Committee. The subcommittees and the various Ad Hoc Committees can go ahead and begin their work. At this point, Chair Phoenix had to leave the call due to a work matter. He asked Mr. Wolf to chair the meeting from this point forward.

**Active Outreach Subcommittee**

Mr. Wolf gave the Active Outreach Subcommittee report. The last conference call was August 4. There are six Action Items. He gave a brief description of each. Mr. Scarborough gave a brief report on his planning for the Days on the Hill. Mr. McQuade noted his MBO will overlap with the work with the Chapters planning Days on the Hill. Ms. Pratt gave a brief report on the upcoming Residential Committee Meeting in the DC area during the week of September 12.

**Responsive Engagement Subcommittee**

Mr. Moore gave the Responsive Engagement Subcommittee report. This subcommittee has already held several conference calls since the St. Louis meeting. One item of business today is the brochures that have been created for the combined Region XIII/Region at Large CRC in Bangkok next month.

**Approval of Region XIII/Region-at-Large Brochure (on Basecamp)**

**MOTION:** To approve the brochures as written.

This motion came from a subcommittee so it does not need a second here.

**MOTION PASSED: 18-0-0 CNV**

Mr. Moore thanked Ms. Walters for her hard work on these brochures.

On other matters, there may be Masters or Equivalent (MOE) legislation in NJ. Mr. Vehlow is working with the Chapter in NJ on this issue. Mr. Hayter noted that he represents ASHRAE on the Licensing that Works Task Force with ASME and other engineering societies. Almost all the engineering societies are opposed to increasing the educational level for PE licensure except the civil engineers. There is an updated draft of a resolution from the LTW Task Force that ASHRAE has been asked to endorse, as we had done in the past. That will be sent on to President Wentz and Mr. Littleton for review.

Mr. Moore also noted that Engineers Week (EWeek) is scheduled for February 19-25, 2017 and materials to assist the Chapters in getting proclamations is being reviewed. These will be posted to the website and Basecamp just after Labor Day.

**REPORTS FROM REGIONAL VICE CHAIRS**

There were reports from the RVCs present on the call. Mr. Wolf did note that he has attended several of the CRCs and has some comments about one motion that was made at one of the CRCs he attended recently. He will raise that issue during that RVC report.

**Region I (Mr. Vehlow).** There was no report from Region I as Mr. Vehlow was not present on the call.

**Region II (Mr. Gagnon).** This Region just held its CRC this past weekend. Eight of the nine GGAC Chairs were present. He reported that GGAC is seen in a positive light. He reported that Hydro Quebec has committed to having two of their buildings undergo a Building EQ rating. He is also having Building EQ translated into French so it can be used in Quebec. This has already been run by Mr. Comstock in the Publishing and Education Department of ASHRAE. Mr. Wolf asked if they are planning at Day on the Hill. He said this is not being planned as the relationship with officials of the Canadian government is different than in the United States. It is better to meet with officials individually. Ms. Lavoie noted that there was a lot of discussion in the GGAC workshop which she appreciated.

**Region III (Mr. Witkowski).** There was no report from Region III as Mr. Witkowski was not present on the call. However, Mr. Wolf reported that there was a motion to eliminate PAOE for GGAC but this motion did not pass. Mr. Wolf noted that we need to do more work with this Region to get the Chapters more invested.

**Region IV (Mr. Vestal).** Mr. Vestal reported that all Chapters but one have a GGAC Chair. Several of them have past Chapter Presidents serving as GGAC Chair. He did report that they are making Day on the Hill a major focus in each of the three states in his Region. Mr. Wolf asked if Mr. Scarborough and Mr. Ames could travel to states to help organize. Mr. Wolf asked Mr. Scarborough to talk to Chair Phoenix about this and, if the Chair believes this is a good idea, to make such a request from Mr. Littleton.

**ACTION ITEM # 2: Mr. Scarborough will contact Chair Phoenix about traveling to several identified states to lead Days on the Hill. DUE DATE: ASAP**

**Region V (Ms. Pouncy).** There was no report from Region V as Mr. Pouncy was not present on the call.

**Region VI (Mr. Powell).** Mr. Powell reported they had a regional planning meeting. Eight of his 11 Chapters now have GGAC Chairs. Mr. Wolf suggested that the Presidents of Chapters be written and informed they will be contacted as the GGAC Chair until such time as a GGAC Chair is chosen for that Chapter.

**Region VII (Mr. Hallstrom).** Mr. Hallstrom reported that 13 of the 14 Chapters were present, either physically or through GoToMeeting, for the GGAC Workshop at the CRC. Mr. Hallstrom briefly discussed the spreadsheets he has assembled to track the work of the Chapters. Mr. Wolf asked if this information could be placed on Basecamp. He said it's not quite ready for that yet but should be very soon. This will be presented before the Committee prior to posting on Basecamp.

**Region VIII (Mr. Merkel).** There was no report from Region VIII as Mr. Merkel was not present on the call. Mr. Scarborough did report that the Chapters in Texas are well underway in planning their Day on the Hill for 2017. Mr. Klock reported that Oklahoma is planning their third Day on the Hill. In Texas, the Austin Chapter is leading that effort but the other Chapters in the state are helping.

**Region IX (Mr. Mueller).** Mr. Mueller said that only one Chapter needs a GGAC Chair in this Region. Mr. Wentz and Mr. Littleton were present for the GGAC CRC training and were quite helpful during that session. He reported that there is a lot of work being done in South Dakota to help that state move from a voluntary state energy code.

**Region X (Mr. Palty).** Mr. Palty reported that their GGAC CRC training went very well, particularly when he helped the Chairs learn how they can access information on who their elected representatives are and how to contact them.

**Region XI (Mr. Hurd).** Mr. Hurd reported that their CRC was in May and had a great turnout for the GGAC training. Eight of the 12 Chapters have GGAC Chairs. He plans to visit the four Chapters this year that do not have Chairs to help with that effort. Mr.

Hallstrom said he heard that the State of Oregon is enacting new legislation to cease the use of coal in that state and also to stop the export of coal from Oregon. He also reported he has been working with US Senator Murkowski's office on energy codes for the various villages in Alaska.

**Region XII (Mr. Boyd).** Mr. Boyd reported he had 16 attendees in his GGAC CRC training. All of the Chapters in this Region have GGAC Chairs except Puerto Rico. The Brazil Chapter made a motion that will come forward to this Committee regarding the ASHRAE Associate Society Alliance and making sure that, when contacts are made with government officials, that they go through the Chapter first since there is a separate organization in Brazil. Orlando is moving forward with BERDO. The city council should vote on this by the end of September. Mr. Boyd talked about having a Day on the Hill in Florida. There is some difficulty as there is no Chapter in Tallahassee. Mr. Hallstrom noted that the northwest Chapter in Pensacola, which is in Region VII, has a very strong GGAC Chair and could be of help in coordinating a Day on the Hill in Florida. There is also a ballot initiative on the ballot in Florida for today's primary on tax exemptions for renewable energy sources. Mr. Boyd will write a brief article on this for the *Government Affairs Update*.

**Region XIII (Mr. Leewattanakit).** Mr. Leewattanakit had left the call by this time so there was no report from Region XIII.

**Region at Large (Mr. Hashem).** There was no report from Region at Large as Mr. Hashem was not present on the call.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING REPORTS

Mr. Murthy had submitted a written report in advance of this call. (ATTACHMENT C)

Ms. Walters also gave a brief report. Facebook posting as usual (3x per week).

She recently posted about WISE internship on LinkedIn, Students and Young Engineers Facebook pages.

Region at Large + RAL brochures final drafts posted to Basecamp for review (Send off to the printer today since this Committee has approved them).

GGAC (U.S.) brochure was recently updated to match design and fix a few grammatical errors. (No printed copies available for distribution at this time, but the PDF is available on GGAC website for download.)

Legionella in Legislation script is underway and she is working on final draft. She thanked Mr. Scarborough, Mr. Ames and Ms. Reiniche for their input. (e.g.: white board animation; breaking down the regulation process/issues at a local chapter level)

Possible Podcast to chat about government affairs within the built environment. She asked if any GGAC members would be interested in becoming a host/co-host for a podcast given the niche market. They would help formulate ideas for each episode, draft

and review scripts, voice for recorded episodes. (Available for remote recording, edited in house at ASHRAE headquarters by Krystin Gilstrap)

Look Into Possible Feature in Pre-established Podcast:

- DOE “Direct Current”
- Matt Nelson (ASHRAE Member) “HVAC 360”
- IAQA “Radio Joe”

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were several items of Other Business.

### **Winter Meeting**

A notice went out yesterday that for reservations at the Winter Meeting in Las Vegas. Mr. Wolf reminded everyone to make reservations to include the Committee and Subcommittee meetings. The GGAC Subcommittees meet January 27 and the full Committee meets January 28.

### **The Need Project/Need.org**

Mr. Hallstrom said the NEED Project (National Energy Education Development Project) is something that works through the schools. Kits are sent out to the teachers to use with students on energy conservation. This site can be accessed at [www.need.org](http://www.need.org). Mr. Boyd asked if this has been presented to the Student Activities Committee. Mr. Hallstrom said he does not know if Student Activities is aware. Mr. Hayter suggested passing the information on to YEA as well.

### **GGAC Website Redesign**

Mr. Scarborough asked that Committee members make final comments on Basecamp. Mr. Boyd would like to be involved in that conversation with Ms. Ratcliff.

**ACTION ITEM # 3: Mr. Scarborough will arrange a conference call with Mr. Boyd and Ms. Ratcliff to discuss ideas for the redesign of the GGAC website. DUE DATE: ASAP.**

### **Use of GoToMeeting for Future Calls**

There have been requests to use GoToMeetings (GTM) in the future. Ms. Pratt noted that it would be a great help because of the VOIP. The polls and raised hand features for votes are on the webinars only. Mr. Wolf noted that he is using webinars for his MTG and was a bit unclear about the difference between GTM and webinar. Ms. Pratt noted that the biggest difference is that, with a webinar, participants must be able to be on the web whereas the GTM, participants do not have to be on the web. Mr. Hallstrom suggested that we try it once to see how we like it.

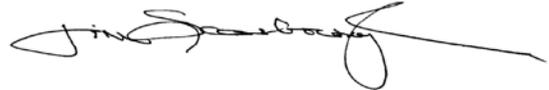
**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM EST (USA)**

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Wolf adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am EDT (US).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Scarborough", written over a thin horizontal line.

Jim Scarborough, Staff Liaison

**ATTACHMENTS**

**ATTACHMENT A: MBOs**

**ATTACHMENT B: GGAC ACTION ITEM LIST**

**ATTACHMENT C: COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**