

TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL (TAC)

MINUTES

March 26, 2008

Present were Gail McQuiston, Mary Ellen Jackson, Marilyn Tidwell, Rick Jones, Jim Paulus, Gary Ragland, Richard Smith, Ralph Gregory, Hal Balthrop, Mike Morris, Ilke Hanloser, Rick Blackburn, Josh Schulz, Jim McLean, Eba Hobbs, and Ronnie Russell.

Review of Minutes

January and February 2008 minutes were approved as written

Process for Requesting Consideration for New Materials

The New Materials Committee was originally assigned two tasks. The first was to develop a process that would allow vendors to submit and MWS to consider products to be included on the Department's approved materials list. Gary reviewed the form and process to be followed by vendors. This form will be placed on the MWS website. The additional task of reviewing and updating MWS technical specifications is in the final stages of completion by Mike Morris' staff and should be updated on the website within the month.

Flow test Requirements

Various members stated there continued to be issues with the Fire Marshall's requirements for hydrant testing prior to approval of building application. After much discussion it was clear that there are basically two issues.

- New construction cannot begin until there is a live fire hydrant within 500 feet of new construction. Hydrant must have been tested. MWS does not test until deeding to Department has been completed. Hal reported System Services is presently able to complete flow tests within a maximum of two weeks from date of request.

- Fire Department requires a certain amount of flow for fire protection based on square footage of new home (Table H.5.1 of the Uniform Fire Code, NFPA1 2006 edition). MWS strives to meet the fire service needs of the county when possible; however, in some areas this cannot be done. Should that be the case, new homes should be built with other options for fire protection.

This will be discussed at the next internal meeting and Hal will invite the Fire Marshall personnel to this meeting. This will also placed on the April TAC agenda.

Cut and Cap Policy

MWS policy for sewer relining is not to leave a tap for vacant property. This is causing some concern for members. The internal process for identifying these projects will be discussed at the next internal meeting. If a water service needs to be cut and capped, System Services will place on a schedule based on Public Works' schedule for paving.

Handbook Update

Mary Ellen reported the handbooks have been sent to the printer. We will proceed with placing the new documents on the website as soon as possible. Mary Ellen/Mike will begin reviewing the website and making suggestions for change.

Next meeting is Wednesday, April 16, in the CSC 2nd floor conference room.