

# NEW JERSEY SKYLANDS CHAPTER

## International Association of Electrical Inspectors

### Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties



**12 September 2019**

**Officers:**

**President**

**Robert Rutan**

**1st V/President**

**Frank Baguiao**

**Secretary**

**Greg Chontow**

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**Treasurer**

**Donald Storms**

**Board of Directors:**

**James Burke**

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**Roy Konwiser**

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**Kevin O'Connor**

**William O'Connor**

**Larry Ott**

**Chris Walthour**

President Bob Rutan opened the meeting at 6:04 pm with the flag salute and a moment of silence for our men and women overseas. Rutan requested a report from Treasurer Don Storms who reported our strong balance and received a motion to accept the report. Rutan then asked the Secretary Greg Chontow for his report. Chontow noted that the minutes were posted and asked for any corrections to the posted minutes. As there were none, Rutan asked for, and received a motion to accept the minutes.

Rutan commented that although the chapter does receive a small portion of funds in dues distribution from the I/O, the success of the funds is due largely due to the membership participation in the classes offered by the chapter, and the fact that the instructors do not receive any payment for their time teaching the classes. As the attendees will likely get class offers from other organizations, he suggested that keeping the education at home, helps us all. Rutan moved on to comment that the 2017 NEC was adopted by the State on 3 September and there is a six month grace period that the applicant may choose the code cycle before the 2017 NEC is mandatory. Chontow commented that as he has done in the past, the New Jersey adoption of the electrical Subcode which included the 2017 NEC and its modifications was posted on the Skylands website. Additionally, he mentioned that the Rehab code still references the 2014 NEC and that is also posted on the website. Rutan then mentioned that as we as an organization get older, so too does the membership. We therefore need to bring in new members, and in turn educate new instructors. Pat Murphy stated that he is teaching the Electrical Inspector ICS course at Essex County College, and there is still time to sign up for the course. Chontow then mentioned that as the membership structure has changed within the organization, all chapters are required to change their bylaws. As approved by the Chapter Board, he has made the necessary modifications, which now have to be approved by the Eastern Section and the I/O before being returned to the Chapter for a vote. The two significant changes to the model bylaws were the number of members to the Board (four enforcer members and 3 regular members), and the terms of office (two years, as opposed to one). Rutan then mentioned that it was time again to activate the nominating committee to recommend a Board for the next election. Any interested parties should contact the Nominating Committee Chairperson Roy Konwiser, or Greg Chontow to request Board membership. Rutan then mentioned the Board membership

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structure where the Board would be called upon for a vote on pertinent matters concerning the Chapter, i.e. a bylaw change, via email. In the past, the Board had to meet separately, but the use of electronic communications has made the Board requirements easier.

Rutan then asked for any questions from the floor. A question was asked whether the old work LED hi-hats were approved for use with lay-in tiles. A response was that there are metal plates specifically for that type of installation. Another question was whether a single receptacle and GFCI are required for a dishwasher. A response was that if the appliance was greater than fifty percent of the circuit ampacity, a single receptacle (or hard wired) would be required. Another question was whether a permit that was reviewed under the previous code could be inspected under the new code and alternately could the reverse be acceptable. A response was that any inspection must be made based on the code that was in place during the time of review. If a contractor would like to use a different code, a variation form must be submitted to the Subcode official for approval.

With no additional questions, Rutan turned over the meeting to Mike Brennan from Vitalink/Comtran. Brennan stated that fire resistive cable was introduced about 100 years ago in the form of MI cable. Since that time, UL created a standard known as UL 2196 (also known as FHIT) that determined that the integrity of a cabling system would need to withstand an 1850 degree temperature for two hours. In 1999, the NEC recognized the need for a fire rated cable system. Some methods of providing a 2 hour rated system would be to encase the conduit in concrete, create a fire barrier for the conduit to run through, run the conduit on the exterior of the building (or underneath), create a redundant system, or utilize a fire resistant cable. The NEC introduced Article 728 to provide guidance for fire rated cabling systems. In 2012, Vitalink found a flaw in the UL standard in that the installation method included RMC which had a zinc internal coating and at a temperature of 1600 degrees, zinc turns to a gas and deteriorates the insulation. This led to UL pulling the listing of all cabling systems listed under this standard. The standard was reintroduced in 2014 with modifications. Brennan also mentioned that the NEC requires circuits to have survivability in a number of locations for equipment such as fire pumps, elevators for emergency use, and fire alarm circuits.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Mike received a round of applause from the 47 members present.

Respectfully Submitted  
Greg Chontow, Secretary