

PORTSMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

2300 East Main Road • Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871 • Tel:(401) 683-1200 • Fax:(401) 683-1206

April 8, 2003

Scott Boyd, President
Common Fence Point Improvement Association
PO Box 134
Portsmouth, R.I. 02871

Re: Inspection of the C.F. P. Community Hall located at 933 Anthony Road

Dear Mr. Boyd,

Enclosed are the results of the inspection conducted at the referenced facility on March 31, 2003.

You are hereby notified that the remaining deficiencies cited need to be corrected immediately. I will contact you on or about May 8, 2003 to conduct a re-inspection. I am enclosing new occupancy signs. The locations where these signs are to be posted are listed on the back. Please post these signs in conspicuous locations.

You are entitled to submit an application for a variance from any provisions of the Rhode Island State Fire Safety Code to the Board of Appeal and Review. Variance applications may be obtained at this office.

Sincerely,



Alan T. Adams
Assistant Deputy State Fire Marshal

PORTSMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

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April 8, 2003

OWNER: Scott Boyd, President
Common Fence Point
Improvement Association
20 Kensington Ave.
Portsmouth, R.I. 02871

OCCUPANT: C.F. P. Community Hall
933 Anthony Road
Portsmouth, R.I. 02871

INSPECTED BY: Jeffrey P. Lynch
Assistant Deputy
State Fire Marshal

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 31, 2003

BASIS FOR INSPECTION: Per order of the State Fire
Marshal

**BUILDING INSPECTED UNDER THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY
CODE CHAPTER 23-28.6, PLACE OF ASSEMBLY**

Any violation, deficiency or requirement of the R.I. Fire Safety Code, which may have been overlooked in the course of this inspection, is also subject to correction under the provisions of any applicable code.

Correction of any deficiency followed by the term "Grandfathered" is recommended, but not required.

BUILDING DESCRIPTION

This is a single story unprotected wood frame structure, built in 1966. It is approximately 3,500 square feet in size. Both the main floor and basement are being used as assembly areas. The main floor also has a kitchen, stage and bar area. The basement area also has a boiler room which houses a 250,000 BTU oil fired hot air furnace, and a storage room. It has group type "C" exit signs, some emergency lighting, and fire alarm detection devices in the kitchen and boiler room areas. This is a class "C" place of assembly with a maximum occupancy of 288 persons.

AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION, THE FOLLOWING DEFICIENCIES EXISTED

- 1) The two stairways need to be fire rated and the stairway from the basement to the kitchen area needs to be enclosed.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-8(a) VERTICAL OPENINGS -- Every existing interior stairway constituting part of an entrance or egress passage from a place of assembly shall be enclosed or be segregated from other portions of the building by materials with a fire resistant rating of not less than sixty (60) minutes. Where interior stairways constitute the entire means of egress, the stairways shall lead directly to the outdoors or to an enclosed passageway leading to the outdoors constructed to resist fire to the same degree. One stairway, where necessary, may be allowed to lead through an open space or lobby with ample egress openings to the outside. All other vertical openings shall be enclosed throughout by material with a fire resistant rating of not less than sixty (60) minutes.

- 2) Approved self-closing devices are required on all doors leading into the stairways. The springs that are being used as self-closing devices need to be changed.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-9(b) EGRESS DOORS -- Egress doors into stairway enclosures and all doors in side wall openings of enclosed egress passages shall be equipped with suitable self closing devices.

- 3) The door at the top of the south stairway is required to be fire resistant.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-9(c) EGRESS DOORS -- Doors in walls or partitions require to be fire resistive for one hour shall be "C" label three-quarter (3/4) hour door assemblies.

- 4) The exit sign over the front egress door was on a switch and does not have battery backup.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-12(a) EXIT SIGNS -- All places of assembly and their means of egress shall be provided with exit signs in accordance with this code. Group type C specified in section 23-28.23-2 shall be required.

- 5) A fire suppression system is required in the kitchen.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-14 EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT REQUIRED - For all places of assembly with hood and duct cooking facilities, an approved fixed extinguishing system in accordance with N.F.P.A. Standard 96, 1987 edition, shall be provided to cover hood, duct, fry kettles, and broilers with automatic shutoffs for energy supply to these units.

- 6) The fire alarm system needs to be tested.

STATE FIRE CODE SECTION 7 CHAPTER 8-10.9.2 MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM – Owners of buildings where systems are installed shall provide written evidence to the authority having jurisdiction that there is a maintenance and testing program in force for the fire alarm system providing for periodic testing of the system. A system as described in § 8-10.4.1 with twenty-four (24) or fewer initiating devices shall be tested at least once every six (6) months with fifty percent (50%) of all manual fire alarm boxes, heat detectors, smoke detectors and other devices operated with each test. A different fifty percent (50%) of the above-mentioned devices will be operated at each inspection so that the entire system will have been tested at the end of each year. All other systems shall be tested at least once every three (3) months with twenty-five percent (25%) of all manual fire alarm boxes, heat detectors, smoke detectors and other devices operated with each test. A different twenty-five percent (25%) of the above-mentioned devices will be operated at each inspection so that the entire system will have been tested at the end of each year. In addition to the initiating devices to be tested above, during each test, the fire alarm panel and every zone shall be tested. It is the intent of this section to reduce the cost and paperwork of testing smaller fire alarm systems while maintaining the integrity of those systems.

- 7) The ceiling in the boiler room fire is not fire rated.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.9-2(b) ENCLOSURES FOR NEW AND EXISTING BUILDINGS -- In existing buildings other than one, two (2), and three (3) family houses, boarding homes, child day care centers, community residences II, schools, and health care facilities, central heating plants above 160,000 BTU input, and all floor mounted units requiring a non-combustible floor by their listing, shall be in a segregated room, and installed in accordance with their listing. The walls, floor, and ceiling shall be constructed of material having a one-hour fire resistance rating.

- 8) The exit doors leading to the outside and into the stairwells need panic hardware.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-9(d) EGRESS DOORS – All egress doors leading from a place of assembly with a possible occupancy of seventy-five (75) or more persons, and all door in all new places of assembly shall be equipped with panic hardware which will release when normal pressure is applied to the releasing device in the direction of travel. The releasing device may be a bar or panel extending not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the width of the doors and placed not less than thirty inches (30") nor more than forty-four inches (44") above the floor. Provided, however, that interior doors not required to have a fire-resistance rating and without locking/latching device(s), shall not be require to have panic hardware.

- 9) There are insufficient handrails in the stairways.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-10(a) STAIRS AND STAIRWAYS – All stairways in places of assembly and in passages leading therefrom shall have suitable handrails on both sides, except such stairs as are only three feet (3') in width, which stairs shall have one handrail.

- 10) Additional emergency lighting is required.

STATE FIRE CODE 23-28.6-13(a) EMERGENCY LIGHTING – All places of assembly and their means of egress shall be provided with emergency lighting in accordance with chapter 28.24 of this title.



Alan T. Adams
Assistant Deputy State Fire Marshal

**CAPACITY OF THIS ROOM
IS NOT TO EXCEED**

152 PERSONS

PER ORDER STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**CAPACITY OF THIS ROOM
IS NOT TO EXCEED**

136 PERSONS

PER ORDER STATE FIRE MARSHAL
