

AUTO COLLISION REPAIR LICENSING ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 28, 2007

Members present:

David Reynolds, New Century Auto Inc
Jeanne McCarthy, DBR
Charles M. Nystedt, Metropolitan Property & Casualty Ins.
Paul Kiernan, Dealerships
Dan Coleman
David Doucet
Dennis Gamba
Richard Berstein, DBR
Gerald Galleshaw, Public

Others Present:

Randy Bottella, Reliable Collision Center
Larry Alan, Nationwide
Peter Olsen, Payless Auto Glass
Stephen Zubiago, Nixon Peabody
Bruce Nash, Colorall Technologies
John Wisniewski, Payless
Keo Kong, Kong Enterprises
Joseph O'Keefe, Colorall

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:35 am

Reviewed July minutes Motion DR seconded RB Unanimous

RB: Gave Board an update on hearings pending before Department resulting from renewal applications with deficient fire safety approvals

DC: Discussed that after renewal there are only 29-licensed glass installers. And stated that some insurers are hiring unlicensed glass installers to repair windshields

SZ: Requested a list of the licensed companies and offered to distribute the list to PCI affiliated companies

JW: Stated he would forward the draft from the glass subcommittee and hopefully get comments

JMC: Requested that the subcommittee include a definition for adverse conditions

SZ: Discussed Colorall's attempts to qualify for a special use license – claimed they want to franchise a mobile auto body license for mostly fleet work. He further explained that he had gone to the State fire marshal office and was told that they would not okay the process for the tent. But that erection of a tent this size is under the city or town control. The City of Providence wanted a fee for each location were the tent was erected and a fee to conduct a fire inspection of the tent. The initial plan submitted to the Board is now changed. They now they intend to spray/paint outdoors without a tent/enclosure.

DR: Stated that by looking at the informational package supplied to the Board the pictures indicate that you would have to paint a whole quarter panel of the truck - Rhode Island has minimum standards

SZ: Their niche is quick and simple jobs

DC: If you owned a body shop you would be upset. Are there any franchises currently in RI?

BN: Yes, one, but he is not working without a license

DC: Questioned what effect the spraying without a tent would have on the environment since initially Mr. Nash had indicated that the EPA had looked at the tent that was one of the selling points.

JMC: Stated she has received calls complaining of the smell of paint near licensed auto body shops with spray booths. How will this work without a spray booth and what control do the city or towns have on where bodywork is being done?

GG: Stated that his son has life threatening asthma, recently the body shop down the street had a problem with their filters and he had several bouts until they figured it out.

SZ: We will comply with all applicable regulations

JMC: You have not brought, as the Board requested, either an okay by the fire marshal or DEM Approval.

SZ: Reiterated that he believes he doesn't need fire approval and that he cannot get DEM approval because Ted Burns at DEM said it was all right then refused to put it in writing

RB: Submitted that we should table this until you get DEM approval

DG: Send a letter to each city and town and inform them that this matter is before the Department

RB: Asked Steve to send out a letter with an advocacy standpoint to get an idea of the reaction.

SZ: Stated they would never answer him

JMC: Offered to send out the letter along with the info packet and cc the Board

SZ: Questioned whether the Department has the authority to send a letter to city and towns.

Certification of Technicians

Rbot: Compiling information with NE Tech – looking for definitive course descriptions. If other schools want to participate they can come to the board and be renewed and accepted

GG: Did you check if financial aid is available?

DR: There are tax concessions, grants available

RB: Gave information on a request for a declaratory ruling concerning auto body rates. The Department is soliciting comments

DR: Thought the Declaratory ruling was to enforce the findings from summaries sent by insurance companies

DR: Motion to adjourn 11:41 am seconded RB unanimous