



**CABA Connected Home Council (CHC)**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, November 29, 2022  
12 NOON – 1:30 PM (ET) via Webinar

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**CHC Executive:**

CHC Chair, Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)  
CHC Vice-Chair, Charles Hume (Southwire Company, LLC)

**Present:**

AML Encore Corp., Fred Leber  
Axis Communications, Inc., Josh Gerena  
Axis Lighting Inc., Jamal Carrington  
Bedrock Learning, Inc., Helen Heneveld  
CCG-nj, Ronald Chebra  
Civimetrix Telecom Inc., Marc Girard  
CommScope, Jason Austin  
CoolWaters Technology, Jim Beals  
Dokuz Eylül University, Selin Bicer  
e-Magic, Inc., Dale Kehler  
Enbridge Gas Inc., Brianna Shen  
ERG Energy Efficiency, Michael Dabbene  
exp. US Services, Inc., Chris Larry  
GridPlex Networks, LLC, Lawrence Silverman  
Home 6707 Conroe Cir Manvel Tx, Stephen E Williams  
Honeywell International, Inc., Sathish Nanjappa  
Infrastructure Ontario, Mandy Omrani  
Interpret, LLC, Stuart Sikes  
James Brehm & Associates, Angie Cronin  
James Brehm & Associates, Bob Newkirk  
Johnson Controls Inc., Salvador Landin  
Johnson Controls Inc., Arunkumar Vedhathiri  
Legrand North America, Adam Murano  
Legrand North America, Pete Horton  
Mecho, Stephen Hebeisen  
Multi-Tech, Sean Bellinger  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), Bryan Holland  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Xin Jin  
National Research Council Canada, Cal Koskovich  
Nice North America, Paul Williams

Nice North America, Bret Jacob  
Nice North America, Ehi Okoiron  
Parks Associates, Elizabeth Parks  
Picacity AI, Inc., Sumeet Johar  
Rheem Manufacturing Company, Christopher Freeman  
Shaw Communications Inc., Clarke Stevens  
Siemens Industry, Inc., Maria Marks  
Snap One, LLC., Eric Harper  
Sodexo Canada Ltd., Daniel Vander Veen  
Southwire Company, LLC, Elliott Gardy  
Syndesis LLC, Pat Treadway  
TELUS, Ian Cruickshank  
The Hartman Company, Thomas Hartman  
University of Waterloo, Dan Hergott

## **CHC Meeting AGENDA**

### **1. Agenda - Greg Walker (CABA)**

Greg Walker thanked everyone for attending, outlined the agenda, and alerted everyone that the meeting was being recorded and will be made available to the industry.

### **2. Appointment of New CHC Chair – Greg Walker (CABA)**

Greg Walker thanked Eric Harper, newly appointed to the executive CABA Board of Directors, for his work as the CHC Chair.

Greg welcomed newly appointed CHC Chair Ken Wacks of Ken Wacks Associates. Ken Wacks gave a brief overview of his experience and work in the connected home and intelligent building industry.

A motion to approve Ken Wacks as the CHC Chair was moved by Charles Hume (Southwire Company, LLC), and the motion was seconded by Pete Horton (Legrand North America). Unopposed motion carried.

### **3. Call to Order, Welcome and Introduction, about the CHC – Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)**

Ken Wacks welcomed everyone and outlined the role of the CHC.

#### 4. Administrative – Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks)

##### 4.1 Motion to approve Past CHC Minutes

Ken Wacks informed everyone that the August 16, 2022 CHC meeting minutes were circulated and posted on the CABA Website in the CHC section: [CLICK HERE](#).

The motion to approve the August 16, 2022, CHC minutes was moved by Chris Larry (exp. US Services, Inc.) and the motion was seconded by Pete Horton (Legrand North America). Unopposed motion carried.

##### 4.2 Call for CHC Vice Chairs

Ken Wacks made a call for volunteers as Vice-Chairs for the Connected Home Council. If there is any interest, please contact CABA to further discuss.

##### 4.3 Call for future CHC Keynote Speakers

Lastly, Ken Wacks made a call for keynote speakers for future CHC Meeting Webinars. If there is any interest, please contact CABA to further discuss.

#### 5. Research Update – Greg Walker (CABA)

##### 2022 CHC Landmark Research “[Smart Home Energy Management](#)” - Greg Walker (CABA)

Greg gave a brief overview of this 2022 CHC Landmark Research Project, “Smart Home Energy Management”. Only the funders will receive the full \$70,000 of research but the Executive Summary of the research will be available to CABA Members. The funders will be meeting, in the very near future, with the research firm that has submitted an RFP. Funding opportunities range from \$1K-\$10K depending on the benefits. To receive this research and become a funder, please contact Greg Walker (CABA) at [walker@caba.org](mailto:walker@caba.org). [CLICK HERE](#) for the research prospectus and other supporting documents.

Six (6) CABA members have already joined this research project:



## 6. **CABA Podcasts** – Marta Klopotoska (CABA)

Marta Klopotoska (CABA) outlined CABA’s recent Podcast series on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#). CABA recently released the premiere episode in October on Connected Homes, titled “Extending the Smart Grid to Consumers”. If you or someone that you know is interested in participating as a guest or host on a future episode, please contact Marta Klopotoska (CABA) at [klopotoska@caba.org](mailto:klopotoska@caba.org).

## 7. **CHC Webinar**

**“Looking to the Future: Context-Aware Connected Spaces” (30 min)** – Charles Hume (Southwire Company, LLC) (Moderator), Paul Williams (Nice North America)

Charles introduced Paul Williams who presented the keynote and participated in the Q&A.



Paul Williams  
Chief Product Officer



**Description:** Paul Williams, Chief Product Officer at Nice North America, explored Context Aware Spaces and what they mean for the custom install industry. The massive growth of IoT has produced an overwhelming flow of data and services, which has shifted the access control paradigm from a fixed desktop environment to dynamic cloud environments. This, combined with advances in sensor technology and artificial intelligence, has made complex deployments more feasible. Ultimately, by using these sensors, anyone from homeowners to enterprises can create context awareness that leverages device adaptive learning, with a building environment that learns our habits, behaviors, and preferences and operates autonomously to provide the optimal solution.

**Contact Information:** Paul Williams [p.williams@niceforyou.com](mailto:p.williams@niceforyou.com)

## 8. **White Paper Sub-Committee Update** - Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

An overview was given of the CHC White Paper review process, completed CHC White Papers, and papers in progress. CHC White Papers are secondary literature review articles that are approximately 10-20 pages in length. They are written and distributed free of charge to inform the industry. For a paper to be approved by the CHC White Paper Sub-Committee (WPSC), it must have significant technical material of relevance to CHC members, and it must not contain marketing material or promote an agenda. Any CABA member can and is encouraged to complete the new one (1) page White Paper proposal template and submit it to [klopotoska@caba.org](mailto:klopotoska@caba.org).

Published CABA White Papers are shared via the CABA Public Library, Members Library, CABA NewsBrief, CABA Twitter Feed, and CABA LinkedIn Group and promoted at industry events. To view the CHC White Paper terms of reference, previous CHC White Papers, and additional information, please go to: [www.caba.org/chc](http://www.caba.org/chc). All papers — completed and in progress — can be found at: [www.caba.org/whitepapers](http://www.caba.org/whitepapers).

If you or someone that you know would like to join one or more White Paper Working Groups or recommend a new White Paper, please contact Marta Klopotoska at [klopotoska@caba.org](mailto:klopotoska@caba.org).

CHC White Paper Sub-Committee (WPSC)

Ken Wacks Associates, Ken Wacks (CABA Whitepaper Chair)  
Frost & Sullivan, Konkana Khaund  
LumenCache, Inc., Derek Cowburn  
National Research Council Canada (NRC), Heather Knudsen

**9. New Business** - Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Ken Wacks made a call for new business related to future CHC Guest/Keynote presentation topics and speakers, new CHC White Papers, new research projects and meeting ideas, etc.

No new CHC business was brought forward.

**10. Announcements** – Charles Hume (Southwire Company, LLC)

**10.1 Past Events**

[Connections Virtual Sessions](#) (Parks Associates) – August – November ‘2022

[Connected Health Summit Virtual Sessions](#) (Parks Associates) – August – October ‘2022

[IES Annual Conference](#) – August 18-20, 2022 | New Orleans, LA

[Shanghai Smart Home Technology](#) – August 31-September 2, 2022 | Shanghai, China

[CEDIA EXPO](#) - September 29 - October 1, 2022 | Dallas, TX, USA

[Lightspec Midwest](#) – October 4-5, 2022 | Chicago, IL

[Greenbuild](#) – November 1-3, 2022 | San Francisco, CA

**10.2 Upcoming Events**

[CES](#) - January 5-8, 2023 | Las Vegas, NV

[Connections Summit at CES](#) (Parks Associates) - January 5, 2023 | Las Vegas NV

[IoT Evolution Conference & Expo](#) - February 14-17, 2023 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL

**11. Adjournment** (1:30 PM ET) – Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

The next CHC Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2022.

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CABA CHC meetings are open to CABA Members and invited guests, and everyone is encouraged to participate. [CLICK HERE](#) for more info on the CHC, past minutes, participants, and terms of reference. Any CABA Member that attended as a guest will be added to the CHC unless they notify the CABA office by December 13, 2022 that their name should not be added. Non-CABA members that attended this meeting as a guest, should contact Marta Klopotoska at [klopotoska@caba.org](mailto:klopotoska@caba.org), to indicate if they wish to join the CHC or CABA. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the CABA Benefits.

Greg Walker, CAE  
CEO  
Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA)  
Email: [walker@caba.org](mailto:walker@caba.org)  
Phone: 613.518-6742  
Web site: <http://www.caba.org>

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