



ASHB

Connected Home Council

ASHB Connected Home Council (CHC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
12 PM – 1:30 PM (ET) via Webinar

CHC Executive:

CHC Chair, Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

CHC Vice-Chair, Charlie Derk (Legrand)

CHC Vice-Chair, Josh Gerena (2N/Axis Communications)

Present:

Resideo Technologies, Inc., Blake Kozak

Fire Avert, Chasen Tolbert

Sustainable Resource Management, David Katz

Resideo Technologies, Inc., David Kaufman

Parks Associates, Elizabeth parks

Trane Technologies, Glenn Gasmen

Connectivity Standards Alliance (CSA), Kim Vaupen

Southwire Company, LLC, Maegan Sherrill

Snap One, LLC., Patrick Dunlavey

Knoll Engineering Inc., Raul Knoll

Honeywell International, Inc., Scott Lang

Feit Electric, Shane Igo

Home Connectivity Alliance, Yoon Ho Choi

CHC Meeting AGENDA

1. **Agenda** – Greg Walker (ASHB)

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

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

Ken Wacks welcomed everyone and gave a short introduction to the CHC and what the council does.

3. **Administrative** – Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Motion to Approve Past CHC Minutes

Ken Wacks informed everyone that the August 15, 2024 CHC meeting minutes were circulated and posted on the ASHB Website in the CHC section: [CLICK HERE](#).

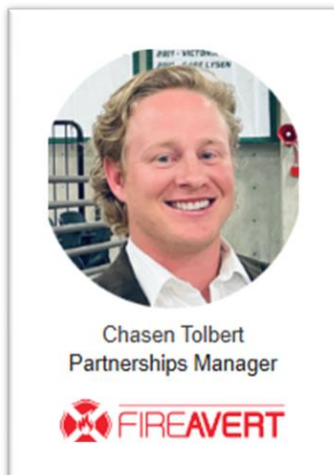
The motion to approve the August 15, 2024 CHC minutes was moved by David Katz (Sustainable Resources Management Inc.), and the motion was seconded by Charlie Derk (Legrand North America). Unopposed motion carried.

4. **Research Update** – Greg Walker (ASHB)

2024 CHC Landmark Research – [Smart Home Trends & Technology Adoption](#)



Greg Walker (ASHB) gave a brief overview of the recently completed Landmark Research Project titled Smart Home Trends & Technology Adoption led by Harbor Research and valued at \$50,000, with all deliverables now finalized. Results have been shared with the five funding organizations, with special thanks to these supporters for their instrumental role. Deliverables include a comprehensive Consumer Smart Home Survey with raw data, topic-specific infographics, and a 30+ page Research Brief covering Smart Home Hubs, Interaction Trends, and Privacy & Data Sharing. The final package also features a 1.5-hour recorded webinar and slide presentation summarizing key findings. An executive summary is available for download. Research findings will be made available for non-funding organizations to purchase following a four-month embargo. For purchasing inquiries or interest in future research, please contact ASHB at admin@ashb.com.



5. **CHC Webinar**

“Fire Detection, Suppression, and Prevention via Connectivity: Revolutionizing Residential Fire Safety” (30 min) – Charlie Derk (Legrand), Chasen Tolbert (FireAvert)

Charlie Derk introduced Chasen Tolbert who presented the keynote and participated in the Q&A.

Description: Kitchen fires remain the leading cause of home fires in the United States, posing a significant threat to residential safety. While smoke alarms have been a staple in homes for over a century, their evolution has been slow, with only incremental improvements. Modern advancements have introduced smoke alarms capable of

notifying homeowners of incidents, but without immediate intervention, the risk of disaster persists. Traditional flame suppression products can help, but if the power source—gas or electric—remains active, the fire can reignite. Today, we have the technology for devices to communicate and coordinate actions, such as shutting off stoves automatically, to prevent fires from escalating into tragedies.

Chasen Tolbert, Partnerships Manager at FireAvert, explored how these innovations are reshaping the future of residential fire safety.

6. **ASHB Podcasts** – Josh Gerena (2N/Axis Communications)

Josh Gerena outlined ASHB's Podcast series on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#). If you or someone that you know is interested in participating as a guest or host on a future episode, please contact ASHB at admin@ashb.com.

7. **ASHB Whitepapers** - 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. These papers are written and distributed free of charge to inform the industry. For the papers to be approved by the CHC White Paper Sub-Committee (WPSC), they must have significant technical material of relevance to CHC members. They must not contain marketing material or promote an agenda. Any ASHB member can and is encouraged to complete the [white paper proposal](#) on the ASHB website.

All completed and approved ASHB White Papers are placed in the ASHB Public Library, Members Library, ASHB NewsBrief, ASHB Twitter Feed, and ASHB 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.ashb.com/whitepapers.

CHC White Paper Sub-Committee:

- Ken Wacks Associates, Kenneth Wacks
- Consultant, Steve Samson
- Frost & Sullivan, Dilip Sarangan
- National Research Council Canada (NRC), Heather Knudsen
- Sustainable Resources Management Inc., David Katz

8. **ASHB Journal** – Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates) presented the ASHB Journal and urged all attendees to contribute their articles for consideration. If you're interested in submitting a proposal or an article, you can reach out to klopotowska@ashb.com or kenn@alum.mit.edu.

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.

David Katz (Sustainable Resources Management Inc.) introduced a potential presentation on energy-saving and noise-reduction technologies for existing windows was discussed. David mentioned Magnetite, a U.S.-based company also operating in Canada, which offers acrylic panels that enhance the energy efficiency and soundproofing of single-pane windows without needing full window replacements. This technology is particularly beneficial for homes near rail tracks, reducing noise without altering window frames. The proposed presentation would cover the technology's features, including the noise reduction in decibels (DB), energy efficiency improvements, and comparisons with competing products.

10. Announcements – Marta Klopotowska (ASHB)

Upcoming Events

[Smart Living Expo](#) - November 13-15 | Toronto, ON – ASHB is attending and has a booth at the show.

[Connections | Smart Spaces \(Parks Associates\)](#) - December 12 | Virtual

[CES](#) - January 7-10 | Las Vegas, NV – ASHB is attending and has a booth at the show.

[IoT Evolution](#) - February 11-13 | Ft. Lauderdale, FL

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

The next CHC Meeting will be held in February 2025.

=====

ASHB CHC meetings are open to ASHB 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 ASHB Member who attended as a guest will be added to the CHC unless they notify the ASHB office by November 20, 2024, that their name should not be added. Non-ASHB members that attended this meeting as a guest, should contact Marta Klopotowska at klopotowska@ashb.com, to indicate if they wish to join the CHC or ASHB. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the ASHB Benefits.

Greg Walker, CAE

CEO

Association for Smarter Homes & Buildings (ASHB)

Email: walker@ashb.com

Phone: 613.518-6742 | Web site: <http://www.ashb.com>

Connect to what's next™