

June 28-29, 1978

is not subject to excessive exposure to asbestos from vehicular brakes or clutches. A member commented that the basic area where asbestos is a problem is in the workplace and not in the general environment and he questioned whether asbestos-bearing brake linings could be considered a harmful consumer product, much less a hazardous substance.

Mr. Comins suggested that the Institute should ask for a hearing while the Consumer Product Safety Commission may be re-drafting rules on recall procedures. The Secretary advised that in 1977 Mr. Comins suggested that individuals write to the Consumer Product Safety Commission as regards recall procedures under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act. Mr. Comins was now asking that the Institute act as an organization to bring this question to the attention of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The Secretary quoted from the minutes of the January meeting of the Asbestos Study Committee where Mr. Ed Fenner of Johns-Manville stated that there was litigation underway concerning whether aluminum wiring in a house is a consumer product. Also it was noted that there was a survey being made for the Consumer Product Safety Commission by Kearney Associates concerning asbestos-bearing products which might emit respirable asbestos and be covered by regulations of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The Secretary indicated that he would check the status of the Kearney report and advise.

Mr. Comins stated that as regards individuals writing the CPSC, that to his knowledge no action had been taken by anyone, and that it would be necessary for the Institute to take an active role as regards Consumer Product Safety Commission recall procedures. One member indicated that his company was concerned about the possibility of Consumer Product Safety Commission action and had given serious consideration to the question of recall procedures. It was suggested that the Institute work through the Asbestos Information Association to call this problem to the Consumer Product Safety Commission's attention. In response to a question, the Secretary indicated that the Institute has good liaison with the Asbestos Information Association. Mr. Comins indicated that he was not satisfied with the Asbestos Study Committee's handling of the recall problem with the Consumer Product Safety Commission. After additional discussion Mr. Comins made a motion as follows:

RESOLVED: That the Friction Materials Standards Institute take an active role with the Consumer Product Safety Commission regarding the position of friction materials manufacturers as to recall procedures that could possibly affect asbestos-containing friction materials.

The motion was duly seconded. A count of the members indicated that there were 11 in attendance when this motion was put on the floor. Six members voted in favor of this resolution, with two opposed and three abstaining. According to the Constitution and By-Laws, the resolution passed with a majority of those in attendance voting in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Comins indicated concern about non-asbestos bearing friction materials, and noted that there may be federal funds available for a project such as joint research to develop non-asbestos friction materials because of the alleged hazards of asbestos in the work place and environment. Mr. Comins suggested that the Institute seek federal funding to establish such a joint research project. It was asked if a joint research project