

**Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board
Meeting, March 10, 2016**

Board Members Present:

Edward M Smith, Chairman
William Gehlhaus
Debbie Henderson
Geoff Rogers
Lawrence Cohen
Christopher Leitner

DCA Staff Present:

Michael Baier, Acting Chief, Bureau of Code Services
Michael Triplett, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit
Thomas Murtha, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit
Don VanHouten, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit

Members of the Public:

Lary Zucker, ACA

A. The meeting was called to order at 11:10 am.

B. Approval of the Minutes of December 10, 2015: A motion was made by William Gehlhaus, seconded by Geoff Rogers to accept the minutes of the 12/10/15 meeting.

C. Old Business

1. RCMT Sub-committee – Debbie Henderson reported that she felt there was a training gap for inflatable rides. Though there is training in place it is not being offered as a State sponsored ride training course because those working on inflatables do not need an RCMT certification. Staff stated that they are willing to offer training that is required by the rules; but that training that is not contemplated by the rules should be performed by the industry. If the industry feels that the training is necessary for all operators, then the rules should be changed to mandate it. A Board member suggested issuing a best practices sheet, to be included when inflatable permits are issued.

There were also questions about training that is currently offered that is not specifically identified as being for amusement rides, such as the Uniform Construction Code course on water damaged electrical equipment. Staff responded that if there is training that is not specifically designated as a course offered for “ride” credit, the attendee should notify the Department and if the Department feels the course is relevant, credit will be given.

D. New Business

1. Update of standards – staff supplied the Board with the proposed action on all of the referenced standards listed in the amusement ride rules. The actions are based on a meeting that the subcommittee held on February 11, 2016. For standards that are only referenced in ASTM F2291, the Department is proposing to eliminate them from section 1.3 of the rules. For standards that are referenced in the rules but not ASTM F2291, the agreement was to review the standards, and if acceptable incorporate the newer version into the standard. For standards that are both referenced in ASTM F2291 and the rules, the proposed action is to update the standards in the rules to match the version referenced in the ASTM F2291 adoption. There are a number of standards that are included in section 1.3 of the rules that are neither referenced in the rules nor ASTM F2291. The proposed actions for these standards are to either eliminate them from section 1.3 of the rules or do rule proposal to scope them into the regulations.

2. Annual Inspections – Staff presented a draft rule concerning annual inspections. There are conflicting sections in the rules. One section allows for operators to operate on last year's permits provided that the owner has applied for the current year permit, that there are no outstanding violations and provided that the annual inspection has been scheduled. Another section of the rules states that the ride cannot be operated without an annual inspection. In order to reconcile the differences, the Department presented a proposal to eliminate the section that allows owners to operate on last year's permit. Several Board members stated that they felt that the existing provision, allowing owners to operate on last year's permit, should be retained because of concerns about the Department's ability to perform inspections due to staffing and workload issues. They suggested that with proper documentation that the owner is allowed to operate on the previous year's permit. The Department stated that they would take the Board's comments under advisement. No action was taken on the proposal.

E. Information:

1. The ride statistics were presented. There was discussion that the year to year comparison is not always accurate due to delays in data entry. Several of the Board members suggested that having statistics that were less up-to-date but more accurate might be better.

2. ASTM F2291 proposal – staff reported that there was an adoption date set for the proposal and that it would be provided to the Board members.

E. Public Comment:

1. Lary Zucker asked if the Department intended to have additional working group meetings to discuss updating standards. Staff reported that additional meetings will be needed.
2. Mr. Zucker asked about the possibility of submitting plans electronically. Staff responded that the Department is planning to do this but is not ready to implement it yet.
3. There were questions about the current staffing levels of the program. Director Smith responded that we are currently staffed well enough to accomplish the goals of the unit.

F. Adjournment: A motion was made by William Gehlhaus, seconded by Christopher Leitner to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.