

**Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board
Meeting, September 15, 2016**

Board Members Present:

Edward M Smith, Chairman
William Gehlhaus
Debbie Henderson
Albert Belmont
Lawrence Cohen
Christopher Leitner

DCA Staff Present:

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

Members of the Public:

Claudine Leone, ACA
Alicia Smith, Marshall Dennehey

A. The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am.

B. Approval of the Minutes of March 10, 2016 A motion was made by William Gehlhaus seconded by Albert Belmont to accept the minutes of the 3/10/16 meeting.

C. Old Business

1. RCMT Sub-committee – The committee has not met since the last Board meeting so no report was given.

2. Update of standards – staff supplied the Board with a draft of changes to the rules that would update the referenced standards in the rules. Staff is working to arrange a meeting of the working group prior to the next Board meeting. A Board member asked what the Department's position was with respect to manufacturers using standards that are of a later edition than the ones referenced in the rules. Staff responded that for the most part they are allowed to follow the later editions but that the use was not completely automatic and that there could be cases where things are included in the newer version of the standard that are not appropriate under New Jersey's rules. There was a follow up question about whether New Jersey is still committed to be in alignment with the National consensus standards. Staff responded that New Jersey is committed to being in alignment to the greatest extent possible but

cannot say that it will always automatically accept what is in the referenced standards sight unseen.

3. Annual Inspections – Staff presented a revised draft rule concerning annual inspections. The proposed draft would allow for the operation of rides on the previous permit with the discretion of the Department. Staff explained that the current rule should not be a blanket allowance for the practice and that the Department should have the ability to refuse to allow owners the ability to run on last year's permit when they feel that doing so might not be in the public's best interest. In addition, the current wording would allow the applicant to intentionally schedule an appointment well into the season, and allow them to operate for a significant period of time without inspection. While the Board agreed that there might be a need to amend the section so that it could prevent rides that are a concern from operating without an inspection, the Board thought the language was too subjective. The Board elected to not take action at this time but asked staff to summarize the conditions under which it would use its discretion to prevent a ride from operating on last year's permit in the hopes of making the rule more objective. Staff will distribute a memo to the Board.

D. New Business

1. Amended type certification – the proposed rule would eliminate an error in the rules which stated that an amended type certification could be issued for a ride with an individual approval that is undergoing a modification. A motion was made by Bill Gehlhaus seconded by Larry Cohen to approve the amendment with the inclusion of the word “or” after the words “supplemental modification certification” in the second line. The motion passed.

2. Change to definitions – the proposed rule would amend the definition of the term super ride by including the current value for “high speed” within the definition and stating that rides that use a class-5 restraint are included within the scope of a super ride. A Board member asked what the definition of a class-5 restraint is. Staff explained that typically it's an over the shoulder restraint that the rider cannot open and it's provided with some type of redundancy. A motion was made by Bill Gehlhaus seconded by Albert Belmont to approve the proposal as written. The motion passed.

3. Service proven documentation – the proposal would clarify what must be submitted when applying for a type certification or an individual approval for a service proven ride. A Board member questioned the inclusion of the need to submit environmental load design conditions for a ride seeking an individual approval as a time tested ride. Several members of the Board were concerned that this information would not be available and could require that expensive calculations be performed. Staff gave the example of a ride that had traditionally always been used indoors and questioned whether such a ride could be relocated to an amusement park on a pier on the shore without any documentation about its ability to withstand coastal winds.

Staff clarified that this was only an issue for fixed rides. Portable rides have to establish conditions under which a ride must cease operation but do not have to be designed to withstand maximum geographic wind loads because the assumption is that the ride can be dismantled and/or moved prior to exposure. Some Board members thought it might be appropriate to base the allowable environmental loads on locations where the ride had been set up before, while others thought that all that was needed was maximum environmental conditions under which the ride could operate. A motion was made by Bill Gehlhaus seconded by Al Belmont to table the issue and have the Department send a memo to the full Board outlining the issue and possible solutions. The motion passed.

E. Information:

1. The ride statistics were presented.

E. Public Comment:

1. There was no public comment.

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