

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

Board Members Present:

Edward M Smith, **Chairman**
William Gehlhaus
Len Turtora
Debbie Henderson
Albert Belmont
Lawrence Cohen
Geoff Rogers

DCA Staff Present:

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

Members of the Public:

Edward McGlynn, NJAA
Lary Zucker, Marshall Denehey
George Henderson

A. The meeting was called to order at 11:09 am.

B. Approval of the Minutes of September 15, 2016 A motion was made by William Gehlhaus seconded by Debbie Henderson to accept the minutes of the 9/15/16 meeting.

C. Old Business

1. RCMT Sub-committee – Ms. Henderson reported that the committee is meeting roughly twice a year. There was a meeting held during the second day at the Pennsylvania training session but attendance was limited. The conclusion was that there is not a problem with the RCMT program at this time.

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 reported that the working group had met and was satisfied with the proposal that is being presented to the Board. Ms. Henderson asked what happens when there is a later edition of a standard than what the Department had adopted. Staff responded that unless a change was made to the standard to address something that was a known life threatening hazard, the Department would enforce the adopted version of the standard. Ms. Henderson asked if a part of the standard would have to be removed if this were the case. Staff responded that the Department has not had a case where there was something in a later version of the standard that was critical for life safety.

Mr. Gehlhaus questioned whether ASTM F2960-15 entitled “Permanent Amusement Railway Ride Tracks and Related Devices” applied to rides like the Zamperla Rio Grande. It was the opinion of those present that the standard would not cover rides such as the Zamperla Rio Grande. A motion was made by Len Turtora seconded by Lary Cohen to approve the rule proposal with the proviso that it be conferment that ASTM F2960 does not cover portable rides like the Rio Grande. The motion passed unanimously.

(Note: This was checked after the meeting and staff confirmed that the scope of ASTM F2960 does not apply to portable rides.)

3. Annual Inspections – The Department presented a redraft of a rule which would put conditions on when an operator can run on last year’s permit without an annual inspection. Mr. Gehlhaus asked for clarification about the provision that allows the Department to prohibit someone from operating if there is an outstanding Manufacturers Bulletin. Staff responded that in some cases the bulletin will require that corrective modifications be made to the ride. In those cases, the Department would likely want to inspect the ride prior to use. Mr. Rogers asked whether people operate on last year’s permit because of staffing issues or because the Department is not notified. Staff responded that in the past it has been more of an issue for traveling shows, and that it has been a little of both. Staff pointed out that even though itineraries are submitted they do not identify the specific rides that will be set up. Itineraries only state the number of each type of ride that will be set up. That makes it difficult for the Department to manage resources. Al Belmont made a motion to approve, seconded by William Gehlhaus, all were in favor. Lary Zucker asked some questions about how the rule would work logistically. Staff responded that there would not be a need for the ride operator to call the Department to see if it was Ok to run on last year’s permit. Rather the Department would need to call the operator upon receipt of the permit application and tell the owner that they were not permitted to run on last year’s permit if there were an issue.

3. Service proven documentation – the Department provided a redraft of the proposal that was presented at the last meeting. The draft presented at the last meeting was not voted on because the Board had questions about how the environmental conditions affected the approval of service proven rides. The version presented would allow service proven rides to be approved based on the environmental conditions that they have been subjected to rather than requiring calculations. The proposal also contains language that would codify the practice of converting existing type certifications to individual approvals when the manufacturer does not renew the type certification. Because of the length and complexity of the proposal Mr. Rogers made a motion that the issue be tabled so that the Board members could look at the proposal more closely. The motion passed.

D. New Business

2. Accident, incident or mechanical breakdown reporting. Staff presented a proposal that would change the reporting requirements in the rules. Among the changes included is a change to the definition of serious injury or illness. The change is proposed to be consistent with the definition found in the ASTM standards.

The proposal would also allow email as a means of notification. The proposed changes would eliminate the need to submit a report for a patron who received first aid only, but would rather just require the operator to keep a record of it. Finally ride evacuations at designated emergency evacuation areas would not have to be reported but evacuations at locations other than the normal loading/unloading area or evacuation area would have to be. The Board agreed that first aid incidents should not have to be reported within 24 hours but had questions about the change to the definition of “serious injury/illness.” The Board approved the portion of the proposal that amended the reporting requirements for first aid but tabled the rest of the proposal for the next meeting.

E. Information:

1. The ride statistics were presented. Staff noted that the number of accidents were significantly lower and reported that a large factor were fewer accidents at Mountain Creek. Mr. Belmont asked if statistics for go karts could be shown separately. Staff will try to do this if possible.

2. 2017 meeting dates. The following proposed meeting dates were presented:

January 26, 2017

March 23, 2017

May 11, 2017

September 21, 2017

November 16, 2017

Some Board members reported that they will have difficulty making the meeting scheduled for January 26th. The Board also noted that the Nov 16th date was the same week as the IAPPA convention. Staff will look for alternative dates for these meetings.

E. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

F. Adjournment: A motion was made by William Gehlhaus seconded by Geoff Rogers to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.