**AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD**

March 11, 2020, 10:30 a.m.

Glennwood Library | Pindell Meeting Room

2350 Route 97

Cooksville, Maryland 21723

**Board Members Present DLI Staff Present**

Glenn Dale Fishack, Sr. Matthew Helminiak, Commissioner

Roy Shaw Steven Lakin, Deputy Commissioner

Karen C. Nicklas Jim Harper, Amusement Ride Supervisor

Gordon B. Trimper David Dearborn, Program Manager, Safety Inspections

Stephan Pastusak Mischelle VanReusel, Regulatory and Grants Coord.

Steven M. Rothenberg Jenny Baker, Asst. States Attorney

Pamela Torres, Board of Boiler Rules Coordinator

Tiffany Jones, Board of Boiler Rules Coordinator

**Board Members Absent**

Samantha LaMell

**Public Present**

R. Wayne Pierce

Ralph Shaw

In accordance with public notice requirements, a meeting of the Board of Boiler Rules was held on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**. Chairman Fishack, Sr. called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**Karen Crum Nicklas, Board Member, made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 8, 2019. Steve Rothenberg, Board Member, seconded the motion and Board Members agreed unanimously.**

Jim Harper, Amusement Ride Supervisor, provided a program update. Two trainees from the prior year passed their certification. There a currently seven inspectors who will assist the division minimizing the hectic pace of last year’s safety ride inspection schedule. Two safety inspectors are Level II and the remainders are Level I. Jim Harper circulated the 2019 safety inspections report.

Jim Harper then circulated the 2019 safety inspections report. Stephan Pastusak asked what portion of the report represented patron error versus attendant error. Commissioner Helminiak asked Mr. Harper to define the difference between an incident report and an accident report. Additionally, Mr. Harper noted that there is not a mechanism for reporting near misses and that the inspectors do not currently investigate complaints for activities that the division does not regulate.

Jim Harper reported on the ACCT conference in Raleigh North Carolina which dealt in part with zipline rides To date, 11 states have adopted ACCT standards in regard to zipline use and safety. Maryland is on target to adopt standards in line with the aforementioned 11 states.

Public attendee, Wayne Pierce initiated a discussion about the technical definition of zip lines as an amusement ride that yielded a general conversation about the how Maryland would approach amusement and mechanical rides in the future.

Under the topic of old business, Karen Chum Nicklas opened the discussion about the Board collectively supporting the Rider Responsibility Bill during the current General Assembly session. Jenny Baker, Asst. State Attorney referenced a prior meeting and communication detailing that circumstances and criteria that members could support the bill as individual amusement ride owners and operators.

R. Wayne Pierce asked attorney general Baker if he filed a Maryland Public Information (MPIA) request that referenced language from a 1994 brochure and corresponding data, would the request be satisfied. Attorney Baker informed him that a MPIA request would be explored.

Public member, Mr. Shaw initiated a robust conversation advocating for the Board to support the Rider Responsibility Bill.

**A motion was made by Stephan Pastusak for Commissioner Helminiak to share 3 years of Jim Harper’s 2019 Amusement Ride Safety Report data by accident and incident with Secretary Robinson and that the Commissioner also express support of the Rider Responsibility Act containing. The motion was seconded by Karen Crum Nicklas.**

Karen Crum Nicklas revisited future feasibility of speaking in support of the Rider Responsibility Bill before the General Assembly.

There was a conversation among the committee about clarifying for owners and operators what should and what should not be reported to the safety inspection team and possibly develop reporting guidelines.

Chairman, Fishack, Sr. reminded the Board and visitors of meeting protocol. There was further conversation surrounding an update the online and physical brochure to reflect the purpose of the Board and the Safety Division as it relates to amusement ride safety.

**The meeting ended at 11:53 p.m.**