



Division of Labor and Industry
Matthew Helminiak, Commissioner
1100 North Eutaw Street, Room 600
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 10, 2020
Great Frederick Fairgrounds
797 E. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present

Glenn Dale Fishack, Sr. Chair
Karen C. Nicklas
Roy Shaw
Steve Rothenberg
Steve Pastusak

Board Members Absent

Samantha La Mell
Gordon B. Trimper

DLI Staff Present

Commissioner Matt Helminiak
Steven S. Lakin
David Dearborn
Jim Harper
Mischelle VanReusel
Jenny Baker
Sarah Harlan
Robbie Finecey
Pam Torres
Tiffany Jones

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Board chair, Glenn Fishack, Sr. Roll call was taken.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Fishack, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 26, 2020. The motion was seconded by Karen Nicklaus and approved the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved without change.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Jim Harper provided program updates and said there were no new developments as the Board met one month prior.

REGULATIONS

Mischelle VanReusel discussed the process and thinking behind upgrading the standards as well as the inclusion of guidance surrounding inflatables and challenge courses. Additionally, standards were revised to include general provisions applicable to everyone and then chapter breakout sections for the other industries.

The revised standard also addressed how to process accidents by creating two categories; recordable and reportable, and clearly defines the parameters for each.

Commissioner Helminiak asked if there were any negative comments and if the greater concern was surrounding the recording and reporting requirements. Jim Harper responded to say that there were no unaddressed negative comments but that the ride owners originally believed reporting minor incidents like scrapes and bruising would close a ride until reinspected.

Commissioner Helminiak then asked for clarification and factual references for what criteria would trigger shutting down a ride. Jim read the laws stating amusement ride owners should contact the safety division within 24 hours if any of the following occurred during the use of an amusement attraction; death, in-patient hospitalization, compound fracture, amputation, broken tooth, or the loss of an eye. Inspection investigation would start within 24 hours.

Commissioner Helminiak stated that more people would be subject to the new regulations. The updated language and guidance would allow anyone the ability to understand the regulations starting with general application and easily move to more specific laws and regulations.

Mr. Steve Pastusak asked if the committee would be kept abreast of the changes.

Karen Nicklas made a motion to approve the proposed revision to the amusement ride regulations. The motion was seconded by Roy Shaw. The motion was carried unanimously.

Steve Pastusak made a motion to apply the same change to the inflatables section as were made to the other sections in terms of reporting structure and requirements. The motion was seconded by Steve Rothenburg. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Rothenburg asked if there would be COVID -19 related cleaning requirements or recommendations implemented. Jim Harper noted that those recommendations would come from the Department of Health. Commissioner Helminiak further reiterated that best practices would be to follow the recommendation from both the Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Commissioner Helminiak responded to a request from a prior board meeting with information about the Layoff Aversion Fund Grant available from the Workforce Development Office as a possible resource for park owners.

Before the meeting ended, Commissioner Helminiak presented Roy Shaw, a Governor's Citation for his family's 75 years in the carnival business.

OLD BUSINESS

Karen Nicklas asked what measures the Board should take to acquire a letter of support from the Commissioner in advance of the next legislative session. Jenny Baker clarified that the Commissioner can only share the Board's position with the Secretary.

Commissioner agreed to keep the Board abreast of opportunities to share the Board's support of a particular bill.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.