**Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board Meeting**

**November 8, 2019 - 10 a.m.**

**Mt Airy Library**

**705 Ridge Road**

**Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771**

**Board Members Present DLI Staff Present**

Glenn Fishack Sr. Matthew Helminiak, Commissioner

Steve Rothenberg David Dearborn, Program Manager, Safety Inspections

Samantha Lamell James Harper, Amusement Ride Supervisor

Stephan Pastusak Sarah Harlan, Assistant Attorney General

Karen Crum Nicklas Pamela Torres, Amusement Ride Board Coordinator

Roy Shaw Robbie Finecey, Amusement Ride Inspector

Steve Lakin, Deputy Commissioner

Mischelle Vanreusel, Regulatory and Grants Coordinator

**Board Member via Conference Call** **Public Present**

Steve Rothenberg Roy Shaw Shaw and Sons

Rebecca Fishack

Craig Meredith Shore Party Rentals

Donna Shore Party Rentals

Wayne Pierce

In accordance with applicable public notice requirements, a meeting of the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board was held on Friday, November, 8, 2019. Mr. Glenn Fishak, Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Amusement Ride Advisory Board honored Christopher Trimper, previous board member, with a moment of silence.

**Mr. Glenn Fishak, Board Chairman, made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 15, 2019. Mr. Roy Shaw, Board Member, approved the motion, Mr. Stephan Pastusak, Board Member, seconded the motion and remaining Board Members agreed unanimously.**

Mr. James Harper, Supervisor of the Amusement Ride Safety Department, provided a program update (please see report attached). Roy Shaw asked for the States definition of accident verses incident. Mr. Harper explained the State of Maryland defines an accident as anything that requires medical attention after first aide. He further explained if the potential victim goes to the hospital it does not necessarily qualify as an accident, only if they are treated at the hospital for injuries that extend past first aide, and require further treatment which does not include xrays.. Commissioner Helminiak asked Jim Harper to explain what owners are responsible for reporting to the State of Maryland other then accidents. Mr. Harper shared that owners are also required to report any major malfunction of an amusement ride. Mrs.Mischelle Vanreusel, Regulatory and Grants Coordinator, read the exact definition from COMAR. Mr. Pastusak,brought up the issue the owners are having with the HIPPA law and getting information after the customer leaves the location. .Mrs.Vanreusel explained, when in doubt the owners should report to the State for further investigation, the State’s medical officers will find out further medical information.

Jim Harper stated that the board approved moving forward with regulating ropes courses and zip line amusements to be held to ACCT standards. Mr. Harper requested the Chairman assign a sub-committee to work together on regulations desired to be added to hold companies to the ACCT standard.. Mr.Fishack assigned Stephan Pastusak and Karen Crum Nicklas to the sub-committee and they will be joined by non-board members Jim Harper, Supervisor of Amusement Ride Safety and Matt Baker, owner of Terrapin Attractions. Mr. Fishack requested the sub-committee report updates back to the board as they become available.

In other business, Wayne Pierce, Lawyer from Annapolis requested the board to support a bill regarding rider responsibility. After much discussion, Sarah Harlan, Assistant Attorney General explained that without an approval from the Governor’s office it was unethical for any member of the board to take a position as a member of the Amusement Ride Advisory board. Mrs. Harlan explained any interested party could testify in a personal capacity. Chairman Fishack, reminded the members of the board the copy of the bill passed out to them was considered reading material only and at this time they were not to take a position about this bill as a member of the Amusement Ride Advisory Board.

Commissioner Helminiak presented a Secretary’s Citation to Ralph Shaw and Michael Jones for their years of service and contributions to the Amusement Ride Advisory Board.

In new business, Craig Meredith, owner of Shore Party rentals shared that there are several companies along the Eastern Shore operating without complying with COMAR or the inflatable regulations. Mr. Meredith shared his frustration with losing clients to companies that are not compliant. After some discussion, which included Mr. Harper’s solution, planned to implement next season, Mr. David Dearborn, Program Manager of the Safety Inspection unit stated the issues would be addressed and addressed promptly.

Mr.Wayne Pierce shared with the board some updates as pertains to Amusement Ride Safety nationally such as ASTM F24 having a mostly new committee and their goal of clarifying definitions, New Association Inspection programs, and Trampoline Park Standards. Mrs. Vanreusel asked Mr. Pierce if one of the definitions they would be working to clarify would be the Public vs Private definition. Karen Crum-Nicklas asked what the public vs private definition is currently in Maryland. Mrs. Vanreusel explained the Department is currently working on a more specific defintion. Pamela Torres, Administrative Officer for Amusement Ride Safety informed the board, at the present time, the Department is informing the amusment owners and operators that any event not located on residential property is considered public and owners are required to send in an inspection request form to the Safety Inspection Unit.

Roy Shaw and Karen Crum-Nicklas revisited, their desire to understand the steps in order for the board to make a position on the rider responsibility bill. Commissioner Helminiak and Attorney General Sarah Harlan stated they would contact the Secretary’s office and be in contact with them on the exact process they would be required to follow.

**Roy Shaw made a motion that the board adjourn. Stephan Pastusak seconded the motion and Board members agreed unanimously.**

**(See attached documents)**

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.