

AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
**JANUARY 23, 2019**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
HARRISBURG, PA  
10:00 AM

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**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Fred Strathmeyer

Thomas Rebbie	w	Philadelphia Toboggan Coaster Inc.
Bradley Nesland		Dorney Park
Jim Houghton		PA State Showmen's Association
Stephen Gorman		Waldameer Park
John D. Blaney, Jr		PA State Assoc. of County Fairs
William B. Hall, III		Public Member
John C. Pittman <b>**Via phone</b>		Public Member
Kenneth Potter, Jr.		Special Advisor
John D. Makrias <b>**Absent</b>		Special Advisor
Stephen Swika, III		PA State Showmen's Association
Robert A. Di Domizio, Jr. PE <b>**Absent</b>		RAD Engineering Corporation

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**AGENDA**

**A. CALL TO ORDER – Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer**  
a. Sunshine Law Announcement

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
a. Approval of the minutes – **October 16, 2018**

**C. SECRETARY'S REMARKS:**

**D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**E. OLD BUSINESS:**

## NEW RIDE APPROVALS

### MANUFACTURER

DiEmidio Construction  
DiEmidio Construction  
Dragons Den Pittsburgh  
Vista International  
Vista International

### RIDE NAME

Bouldering Rock Wall  
Ninja Warrior Course  
Adventure Courses & Ziplines  
Mini Break Dance  
Mini Break Dance Trailer Model

- F. NEW BUSINESS: Knoebels Grove – Brian speaking on two new rides for 2019  
Downdraft by B  
Mini Break Dance (Tumberling Timbers) by Visa
- HersheyPark - Gary Chubb - Major Modification – CupFusion  
(formally Reese’s Xtreme Cup)

G) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

H) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

I) ADJOURNMENT:

**Upcoming Advisory Board meetings will be held at the Department of Agriculture  
at 10am in room 309**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2019  
Tuesday, August 20, 2019  
Wednesday, October 16, 2019**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF RIDE AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

\* \* \* \* \*

AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD

JANUARY 23, 2019 MEETING

\* \* \* \* \*

BEFORE: Walter Remmert, Chair  
Thomas Rebbie; Bradley Nesland; Jim  
Houghton, Stephen Swika, III; Stephen  
Gorman; Members  
William B. Hall, III; John C. Pittman  
(via phone); Public Members  
Kenneth Potter, Jr.; John D. Makrias;  
Special Advisors  
Fred Strathmeyer, Deputy Secretary, DOA  
Natalie Behe, Program Coordinator, DOA

HEARING: Wednesday, January 23, 2019  
10:02 a.m.

LOCATION: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
2301 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Reporter: Lindsey Deann Richardson

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ALSO PRESENT: Brian Knoebel, Brett Knoebel, Gary Chubb, Fred Liddle, Bill Petrucci, Giulia Petrucci, Dana Ziegler, Lucio Longhi

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NONE OFFERED

## P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIR: Good morning, everybody. My name is Walt Remmert. I'm the Bureau Director for Ride and Measurement Standards, overseeing the Division of Amusement Rides and Attractions, or Safety, which is apparently more apropos.

Some housekeeping items. I had to change the conference call last minute, so we might get some late people dialing in, because they might not have checked their e-mail. Skype for Business is new for the Commonwealth, and the person who set up the meeting, in this case was Yvonne, and if she's not here to sign in, then nobody can get in on that call. So I had to send out a new one.

This won't happen in the future. We'll get better at it. It's new technology for us, so I ask for your forbearance and forgiveness for the last minute change.

I do have Joe on the phone with us, which is always a good place for him. He will be doing the lion's share of discussion, any of your questions for the agenda items, especially in the absence of people who were unable to dial in, if they didn't get the new number. So we'll keep our

1 fingers crossed and we're very hopeful.

2 I have rearranged the agenda and I'll  
3 discuss that along the way. I would like to ask  
4 Board members to remember that you do have a  
5 stenographer here, as well as presenters. Please  
6 state your name clearly and slowly. Board members,  
7 you don't have to do that, but people who talk to us  
8 from the gallery or from the telephone, we ask you  
9 to introduce yourselves one by one and spell your  
10 last name, if it's not a common last name. I think  
11 we can handle Smith and Connor, but everything else  
12 you should probably spell it and we would appreciate  
13 that.

14 Those of you on the phone, if it's  
15 more than Joe, please keep your phone on mute, as we  
16 can hear an awful lot of background noise, and I'm  
17 sure everybody else can hear.

18 And Board members, when you're  
19 speaking, please make sure the green light is on  
20 your microphone, and share amongst yourselves.  
21 There is a push button that turns the light on and  
22 off. If you don't want to be heard, turn the light  
23 off. If you want to be heard, turn your light on.

24 And in the same respect, one at a  
25 time. That way the stenographer can keep track of



1 the discussion as it goes on.

2 I have moved a few agenda items  
3 around. And I want to recognize that Deputy Fred  
4 Strathmeyer is here, who will be chairing the  
5 meeting for us today. And I appreciate that. I  
6 know you have an awfully busy schedule with hemp and  
7 a bunch of other items.

8 So without further ado, we're at ten  
9 o'clock and would you like to open?

10 MR. STRATHMEYER: Sure.

11 So first of all, I want to thank  
12 everyone for being here today. I wish you all a  
13 Happy New Year. Hopefully this year will be as good  
14 as we had last year, nice and clean, no problems.

15 And at any rate, again, I appreciate  
16 what this industry has done for the state. And I  
17 really, really appreciate the time and effort that  
18 this Advisory Board has put into the last four years  
19 that I've been here, and obviously prior to me being  
20 here. What you do is beyond exemplary. So again, I  
21 appreciate what you offer to the citizens of the  
22 state and beyond, quite frankly, all those people  
23 that visit our parks and ride our rides.

24 Just a matter of Sunshine - yes?

25 MS. BEHE: Yes.

1                   CHAIR:   Correct.   Yes.

2                   MR. STRATHMEYER:   I need to do  
3   Sunshine.

4                   I hope everyone's had a chance to look  
5   at the minutes.   I would ask for a motion to approve  
6   the minutes from the past meeting.

7                   May I have a motion, please?

8                   MR. PITTMAN:   John Pittman, I make a  
9   motion to approve.

10                  CHAIR:   Thank you, Mr. Pittman.

11                  Is there a second?

12                  MR. STRATHMEYER:   Second, please?

13                  MR. REBBIE:   Aye.

14                  MR. STRATHMEYER:   Okay.

15                  It's been motioned and a second.   All  
16   in favor?

17   AYES RESPOND

18                  MR. STRATHMEYER:   Opposed?

19   NO RESPONSE

20                  MR. STRATHMEYER:   Thank you.   Okay.

21                  Mr. Remmert?

22                  CHAIR:   It's me?

23                  MR. STRATHMEYER:   It's up to you now.

24                  CHAIR:   Good morning, everybody.

25   Thank you, once again, for coming to our quarterly

1 Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board meeting.

2 I echo Mr. Strathmeyer's comments.  
3 There is nothing quite like this in the  
4 Commonwealth. There are others that try to do what  
5 this Board does do, and it has done since its  
6 inception; not nearly as well.

7 This is one of those rare occasions  
8 that every aspect of the industry is represented to  
9 the benefit of all. Never to the detriment, always  
10 the benefit.

11 And as I was reminded several times,  
12 speaking to the Showmen's Association, it's all  
13 about safety. Right? Not just safety, but public  
14 safety. And then the further betterment and  
15 improvement of our industries, you know,  
16 respectively. There is no better physical sign of  
17 that than this Board.

18 I'm going to lean on you heavily, as I  
19 introduce the next topic, which I think I sent out  
20 to you by e-mail. So for those of you who are not  
21 aware or on the phone, somewhere around September of  
22 last year, I got a notion.

23 I've been in the position for about  
24 seven-and-a-half years or so, and have been  
25 constantly running up against statutory language and

1 regulatory language, our Act. Our Act was  
2 envisioned and executed perfectly in 1984. So that  
3 was when it was signed into statute. And since that  
4 day, it has been the backbone of how we do business  
5 here.

6           As of late, in my last seven years  
7 tenure in shepherding this industry, as far as  
8 regulators is concerned, we've seen an explosion and  
9 variety of new ride types and times and what is  
10 considered entertainment, what is considered  
11 amusement ride and attraction.

12           And I commence to getting my cocktail  
13 napkin out and jotting down a bunch of ideas,  
14 brainstorming. And I culminated that cocktail  
15 napkin, all of those brainstorm ideas, and I field  
16 it to the Advisory Board members, hopefully in a  
17 succinct - you know, that you took it as that, just  
18 a foundation, a starting point.

19           All right. So somewhere so we can  
20 start a discussion to decide if there's an appetite  
21 within the industry to modernize, to update the Act  
22 - the law that governs amusement ride safety and  
23 inspections.

24           There was no sit down with my boss or  
25 his boss. So this did not get generated from inside

1 the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This  
2 did not get generated from interest outside of the  
3 Department of Agriculture. No legislature, no  
4 Senator, no Representative, nobody approached us and  
5 said hey, touch this.

6 This was truly my desire to ask the  
7 industry if we could go - touch this as proactive,  
8 what would that look like? And could we do good by  
9 doing so? And then I threw down a bunch of ideas,  
10 from a regulator standpoint, on what we've run up  
11 against.

12 In that draft, that cocktail napkin,  
13 that brainstorming session that I put on paper, was  
14 ideas that could wrap our arms completely around  
15 what they do today. So I just want to offer a  
16 couple of comments.

17 The law doesn't contemplate,  
18 specifically, but it's been inclusive since the  
19 inception of the inflatables.

20 The law does not touch or say anything  
21 about amusement ride registration. And we do that  
22 as a method or mode to make sure that inspections  
23 are done. It specifically calls out fairs,  
24 carnivals and amusement parks, but doesn't wrap our  
25 arms around anything that's outside a fair, carnival

1 or amusement park.

2                   And it was fantastic in 1984 and has  
3 been fantastic until today. And it will continue  
4 into the future, even if we don't touch the statute.  
5 But I want you to look at it, as the industry  
6 leaders, the Advisory Board, represent all various  
7 parts of the industry and say, in 34 years is it  
8 time to touch it again? And if so, can we make it  
9 better?

10                   Can we now learn our lessons from all  
11 the things that we've known over the years, exclude  
12 things that don't necessarily need us to be  
13 inspected, or capture and codify, put into law, all  
14 those things that we do. So we have a good idea  
15 moving forward, when we're not here, right, -  
16 because we're going to shepherd this for the future  
17 - that they understand what the expectation is from  
18 now moving forward.

19                   So we're getting a little far away  
20 from the inception of the law and what we do today.  
21 I promise you that.

22                   Our folks are within the - not the  
23 letter of the law, but the spirit of the law. And  
24 it's very difficult, as a regulatory body, to act in  
25 the spirit of the law when you have to have it in

1 writing in order to enforce it.

2 With everybody in the industry, nobody  
3 has driven this, no tragic event, no, you know,  
4 specification. But I'd like to give an answer to  
5 the Commonwealth Association.

6 I'd like to categorize extreme sports.  
7 I'd like to decide what the industry believes we  
8 should be overseeing and what we shouldn't.

9 But right now, the way the law is  
10 written and the way we interpret it, if it's an  
11 amusement ride or attraction - and that's a broad  
12 definition - we're doing an awful lot of things, way  
13 more than what amusement parks and carnivals and  
14 fairs expect us to be doing.

15 Is that what we should be doing?  
16 That's the questions that I come to the Board and  
17 your respective organizations to help us try and  
18 answer.

19 Now, one last piece, of this - two  
20 last pieces. This is a project, not a requirement.  
21 If we gather it all and we have great conversation,  
22 and we get everybody's ideas and the consensus is  
23 they don't want to move forward with this, then  
24 we're not going to move forward with this. It's an  
25 all or nothing proposition. Right?

1           It could be the industry who wrote it  
2 in the beginning is willing to stand behind their  
3 collective product that we're asking you to be  
4 involved in for the good of all or not. And then I  
5 put the file in the folder that says 2019, we sat  
6 down with the industry representatives. We all  
7 decided collectively that, you know, it's not time  
8 to move this, for whatever reasons.

9           Now, I have a couple questions about  
10 the fees. Let me offer you this. I'm a regulator,  
11 there's no specific line item in the budget anymore  
12 for fees that cover the Amusement Ride Safety  
13 Program.

14           Not saying that it'll ever not be  
15 funded. And matter of fact, I expect it to be  
16 funded forever, right, with no change to the law,  
17 with no additional fees. But as a regulator, it is  
18 my requirement to look out for what I shepherd. And  
19 this program doesn't have a specific, ask for money,  
20 that provides guaranteed oversight of the program.  
21 That's why that fee language was included in that  
22 cocktail napkin, that brainstorming.

23           Overall, do I care if it's in there,  
24 if that's the consensus? No. Because it's a  
25 consensus document that we're trying to get here.



1 If there's adamant opposition, then take a Sharpie,  
2 and line item 417 off of a piece of paper, or  
3 whatever it might turn out to be.

4 But as a responsible representative of  
5 the industry, I offer you this. This is a moment in  
6 time to discuss these and put it in the statute, and  
7 then maybe regulation, depending on how that works.  
8 And say, this is what we're willing and only what  
9 we're willing, and no more or less, and put specific  
10 language in. Rather than have somebody open it up  
11 and change it in the future and throw something in  
12 there that you have no say in it.

13 Either way, it's okay. This is a  
14 starting point. This document that I sent out was a  
15 beginning and hopefully brings people to the table  
16 to discuss all the various items in it and not get  
17 wrapped around the fee part.

18 Although, I'm very happy the fees  
19 brought people to the table. Perhaps we would be  
20 having a conversation relative to trade  
21 organizations, but I'm not wrapping my arms around a  
22 fee. Regardless, the program will continue.

23 That's - if it has the perpetuity, I  
24 don't expect that to change. So this is not a  
25 ransom to get you to a table or say, hey, it's going

1 to change in the future. That is not at all -.  
2 This is proactive regulatory with the Advisory Board  
3 that was given - and its respective organizations.

4 Did I get everything? Pretty good,  
5 right?

6 So I'll invite comments at this point  
7 or questions, but I'd like to keep them short, if  
8 possible. And I'm certainly happy to answer them  
9 further with individual organizations post meeting.  
10 But I was pretty much advised to get in front of  
11 this and try to explain or express myself.

12 So takeaways. Fees are not required,  
13 it's a discussion with industry. We're trying to do  
14 good here, right, and modernize a 34-year-old Act  
15 that doesn't contemplate what we do today. And we  
16 want consensus or else it doesn't go anywhere.

17 I think that covers it all. So can I  
18 field any specific question at this time? I'm happy  
19 to?

20 You have to turn your green light on.  
21 Right at the bottom. There you go.

22 MR. HOUGHTON: Does the Bill have to  
23 be open to do the fees?

24 CHAIR: Fees, yes.

25 MR. HOUGHTON: The Bill has to be -?

1            CHAIR: Yeah. The law - so a little  
2 bit about statutory construct, as far as I know it.  
3 Please go back and verify it, right. I'm not the  
4 expert. I did stay at a Holiday Inn Express, but  
5 not recently.

6            So laws give regulators general  
7 authority to write regulations that specify what the  
8 law allows. Right? So if it's not called out in  
9 the law, I can't add it by regulation. So if it  
10 doesn't exist in the law, in general terms, or even  
11 specific terms, then I can't do it in a regulation.

12            So specifically let me offer you this.  
13 I register people, because we put it in the  
14 regulations, but there's nothing to put - if you  
15 said, I don't want to register, nobody can do that,  
16 that's why I bring it up as an example.

17            But no, I'm not going to register.  
18 There's nothing in my law that I can't fall back and  
19 say, here's your fine or here's your suspension.

20            It was constructed with the assumption  
21 that something's automatically wrong with it, but  
22 that's statutory. That law language doesn't exist.  
23 So the framework doesn't exist in the law, I can't  
24 write it in the regulation, and it can't be upheld.

25            So general authorities, specific

1 requirements general authority, does that help?

2 MR. HOUGHTON: Yeah.

3 CHAIR: All right.

4 Mr. Potter?

5 MR. POTTER: What is your timeline for  
6 this project?

7 CHAIR: None. I don't plan on taking  
8 exceptions. It's really an appetite. I'm going to  
9 continue to chomp away at it and ask if there's  
10 information from each trade organization. Right?

11 So I'm not going to let it lie fallow.  
12 I want to make as much progress until I run into a  
13 wall where I can't get that particular industry to  
14 come to the table and want to discuss it, and then  
15 I'll move to the next item.

16 MR. POTTER: I could be wrong, but I  
17 thought we got into this a decade or so ago with  
18 Legal.

19 But anybody remember?

20 MR. HALL: Yeah, Mr. Wilson, wasn't he  
21 the attorney that counsel met?

22 MR. PITTMAN: That was the regulation  
23 ten years ago. Update it.

24 CHAIR: Yeah, I'll offer you this. In  
25 2008 and 2009, there was a moment that Mr.

1 Dillabaugh, along with Mr. Filoromo discussed  
2 changing regulations, which is a completely  
3 different process.

4 MR. POTTER: Did that happen?

5 CHAIR: It did, and it was -.

6 MR. POTTER: So that was more like a  
7 minor tweak in your - they changed licensing types  
8 for inspectors.

9 CHAIR: Right. So they came forward  
10 and they said they wanted to change -.

11 MR. POTTER: It wasn't a comprehensive  
12 look at - I remember talking conversations about  
13 major mods and minor mods and we have rides in two  
14 classes only. Right? Correct?

15 So every ride is either one class or  
16 another. There are like two classifications for all  
17 - for every possible ride.

18 So that was all about regulations.  
19 Regulatory change right now - and I thought we had a  
20 deeper drive at some point, but it might have been  
21 prior to that, it might have just been  
22 conversational, I don't think it - you know. It  
23 obviously didn't go far enough. But I don't want to  
24 besmirch my predecessors, but I'm better at it.

25 I know. I know. No, I've done it a

1 couple times here. Agriculture feels comfortable  
2 with the process and the support that we've been  
3 getting from all the departments.

4 But reality is if we don't have a  
5 consensus document to bring forward, as industry  
6 representatives and regulatory representatives,  
7 there's really - there's no further discussion to be  
8 had.

9 MR. SWIKA: Well, back then I was a  
10 field inspector for the Bureau here, and -.

11 MR. POTTER: And a damn fine one.

12 MR. SWIKA: Oh, yeah. Well, I was the  
13 best.

14 Anyway, we came in here, all of us  
15 field guys, with Mr. Filoromo. And we went line for  
16 line through the whole log and every regulation.  
17 And as a consensus, we sat around the table, how can  
18 we make it better?

19 At that time I think we had some  
20 different things coming in. What was coming in then  
21 was these haunted attractions and stuff. So we had  
22 to address that as an attraction.

23 So went through this whole - top to  
24 bottom of this. So we did put a lot of time and  
25 effort into it back then, and some of the

1 regulations were changed.

2                   So most of this stuff that you're  
3 proposing that we looked at and that proposal could  
4 be a regulation change, you know -. And you know,  
5 lest we get into the fee part, which all my  
6 organization - I just don't want it to get out of  
7 hand, if you know what I mean.

8                   CHAIR: I agree. That's why  
9 everybody's invited to the table. I was asked and  
10 I'm still awaiting an answer, it's a longer  
11 discussion on it, how much of the statutory, the law  
12 changes can be accomplished by a regulatory change?  
13 So that's the feedback I got back from Showmen's  
14 Organization, and I appreciate that.

15                   And I'll hopefully have that  
16 information - and it's a group discussion, so as we  
17 move through the different line items and discuss or  
18 not discuss them, we would include - this was an  
19 inclusive process. Right?

20                   But I would like to keep the inclusive  
21 process to a representative for the industries who  
22 can then share it with the respective organizations  
23 as to not have - like ASTM, some of these larger  
24 organizations - the more people you have, then it  
25 becomes a little bit cumbersome.

1           So I leave it to the representatives  
2 and their respective organizations and industries to  
3 invite the appropriate people to the discussions  
4 when appropriate.

5           Yes, Mr. Potter?

6           MR. POTTER: Have you taken a look at  
7 any other states' statutory framework, as part of a  
8 - just a - just for ideas?

9           CHAIR: Well, I'm going to offer -  
10 this is something in perspective. Pennsylvania  
11 really got it right in 1984. And Pennsylvania's  
12 really got it right in '84 stands today.

13           So this current version of the law is  
14 the model for a lot of newer jurisdictions on how  
15 they wrote their current laws. Oregon and Colorado  
16 come to mind. Most definitely the - really the  
17 concept was based on how that collective group did  
18 it then.

19           All I'm looking for is - your answer  
20 is, yes, there's no other statute that could look  
21 anything like ours, unless it looks like ours  
22 because they took ours. Right? This is a one-of-a-  
23 kind model, so to speak, on how to do business.

24           MR. POTTER: I figured it wouldn't be  
25 that long of a look, because at least that was based



1 on - a large number of states that have no framework  
2 whatsoever. Some are very minimal and then some  
3 are, perhaps New Jersey-ish, is heavy on the top.

4 CHAIR: I like that.

5 Mr. Hall?

6 MR. HALL: Well, to answer you, I  
7 remember when the safety law went into effect 34  
8 years ago, and I believe a lot of states then came  
9 to us as a model.

10 A lot of my political friends used to  
11 tell me go to New York State. They have a law for  
12 everything. In the amusement industry I think a lot  
13 of the states, especially New Jersey, when they had  
14 some fatalities, came here and modeled some of their  
15 laws after what we've done.

16 And I don't know all of the 50 states,  
17 but I would say that Walter's probably right when he  
18 says what we had 34 years ago is still top as of  
19 today.

20 CHAIR: I will add, because I should,  
21 Joe, has been blessedly silent for the moment. He  
22 and I don't agree. Right? Joe is a proponent of  
23 the way the law exists. And has, exactly what I  
24 hope he did, brought his expertise and experience to  
25 the table and calling out and questioning me on

1 every line item.

2                   So I have to convince Mr. Filoromo,  
3 along with everybody else. And it's not trying to  
4 convince, I'm trying to get a discussion with all of  
5 the participants on whether we had the appetite to  
6 make changes.

7                   And I offer you, in that document,  
8 changes and why. I think right now we have three  
9 field inspectors and quality insurance inspectors  
10 and one supervisor at the over 10,000 registered  
11 amusement rides and attractions, that the tens of  
12 thousands of itineraries that we have each year, are  
13 the QA inspectors doing what was originally  
14 envisioned.

15                   Or have we broadened our scopes so  
16 much that we're deluded to the point that we're not  
17 doing the business that the law was originally  
18 intended for us to do? And is that the Commission -  
19 there's nothing else to call it, you know, when you  
20 have almost half or little more than half of the  
21 registered items as inflatables. Right?

22                   And all of those things - and that  
23 takes some of our time. Is that where we should be  
24 focusing our time? It's an ask, not a requirement.  
25 Because right now the law says we do everything if

1 it meets the statutory definition of a ride or  
2 attraction. That included haunted attractions -  
3 right, with a temporary or permanent structure, not  
4 corn mazes.

5 As soon as ASTM would pass a hay ride  
6 model of rules, right, and once that is in ASTM,  
7 sure enough then somebody is going to ask us why  
8 we're not overseeing hay rides, the way it's - if  
9 it's an ASTM - Act 24 moments where it's considered  
10 an amusement ride or attraction, suddenly becomes  
11 something for us to provide oversight to.

12 Why we're here, I mean, the program  
13 can only grow as much as we allow it to and can only  
14 do as much as it's staffed to do. Right?

15 The 1,400 or so private inspectors  
16 make Pennsylvania what it is. But what's it  
17 supposed to be, what was the intent, that's what I'm  
18 looking for. But either way -.

19 MR. PITTMAN: Mr. Chairman?

20 CHAIR: Yes.

21 MR. PITTMAN: I don't want to  
22 interrupt. When you're done -.

23 CHAIR: No, no. By all means.  
24 Please, Mr. Pittman.

25 MR. PITTMAN: With the inflatables, in

1 the history of the inflatables in Pennsylvania, has  
2 there been any major accidents?

3 CHAIR: All right.

4 I'm going to speak for Joe. And Joe,  
5 if I don't have this right, let me know.

6 Mr. Pittman, there has not, because we  
7 regulate them so well. Right?

8 Look, the flyaway inflatables, these  
9 large 40 foot slide the block multi-piece with  
10 mechanical elements absolutely could get out of  
11 hand. But Pennsylvania treats the inflatables like  
12 we do every other amusement ride attraction. It  
13 goes through a rigorous oversight process. And we  
14 work with that particular industry, who tell us when  
15 there's unregistered folks, which means they're not  
16 compliant. Right?

17 And we spend some of our time going  
18 out and educating those folks and bringing them into  
19 compliance, like we would anything else.

20 Do I believe that if we did not  
21 provide oversight to them that we would be like some  
22 of these other Facebook posts or Twitter feeds that  
23 see kids on inflatables going away? Yes. Yes, I  
24 believe that. Does that mean that the legislature  
25 expects us to deal with inflatables? I don't know.

1 I don't know if that was the intent. But we do it.

2 MR. PITTMAN: Well, with the ever-  
3 evolving nature of, you know, amusements and  
4 whatever that encompasses, I think we have been  
5 proactive in policing some of these new things that  
6 came to market. And it's difficult to know what the  
7 future will hold. And we may have to morph and  
8 continue to, you know, be flexible as new stuff  
9 comes around the bend.

10 CHAIR: I offer you this, Mr. Pittman.  
11 I know that you had the opportunity to review it,  
12 but I have written my cocktail napkin notes with the  
13 understanding that getting a section that's all-  
14 inclusive. Right?

15 So I rewrote definitions to include  
16 climbing walls and things that are traversed. And  
17 added language to say forced air, you know, captured  
18 air, that would solidify our oversight of  
19 inflatables.

20 But we've also expanded a section that  
21 says, at any point the legislator or a group  
22 consensus says we should add that piece into the  
23 area that's not for oversight, that area is ready to  
24 receive that.

25 We've added language that says we've

1 added a middle ground, which some of you might be  
2 boggled at, but it's just ideas on a piece of paper  
3 for an insurance-only system.

4           So if - we should inspect them or put  
5 them through the Advisory Board, but we still need  
6 to keep tabs on them and make sure they're at least  
7 insured. There's a separate section for that.

8           This may or may not make sense to  
9 folks. And then there's the hundred percent  
10 regulated inspected. Right?

11           So this is just ideas on paper.  
12 They're binding, they're legal, they're valid. We  
13 could do it that way, if there was an appetite to.  
14 I just throw out suggestions.

15           Right now the language is written that  
16 that law that I provided to you, that piece of  
17 paper, that cocktail napkin, encompasses everything  
18 we do today and foreseeably in the future.

19           I would like the group to look at it  
20 and say, is that what we want to do? Do we want to  
21 pare it down? Is there anything we want to exclude?  
22 Is there a better way to do business? Is there a  
23 more logical way to do business?

24           Just make the most out of what it is  
25 we're supposed to be doing. Understanding ASTM is

1 going to keep throwing - virtual reality is just the  
2 next - the next iteration of the next best thing.  
3 The next greatest thing is yet to be invented, but  
4 it's coming. And how are we going to react to that?

5           With the last understanding - so we  
6 can move the agenda along - if we change the law, if  
7 that's what it turns out to be, we automatically  
8 have to update the regulations. So we get two bites  
9 from one apple. The law changes, regulations  
10 automatically change, because the law changed.  
11 Right? The regulations cannot differ from the law.  
12 So we had an opportunity to do both.

13           There is a process to do just  
14 regulatory changes. It is less fun. And it is less  
15 encompassing. But if that is the right way to do  
16 it, then we'll bring it to the group and say, here  
17 are the items that our statutory law required, here  
18 are the items we could probably do by regulatory  
19 change.

20           We would all have to be involved in  
21 that separate process also. So I'll bring all of  
22 that to the table, so we move through this  
23 discussion. Well enough?

24           Thank you for your indulgence right  
25 now. We'll get straight to the agenda.

1           MR. SWIKA: So the Pennsylvania Parks  
2 Association -.

3           CHAIR: I'll be there.

4           MR. SWIKA: We - yesterday I invited  
5 you to come to our meeting, our spring meeting,  
6 which we have a Board meeting on the 25th of  
7 February, so four weeks from now. You're invited to  
8 come even if we're not talking about this topic,  
9 you're invited to come.

10          CHAIR: I have it on my calendar. I  
11 appreciate the invite.

12          MR. SWIKA: I'd rather not get into  
13 the specifics of the line items that you've chosen  
14 to write about, but we'll have discussion before  
15 that and we'll be ready to discuss them with you, if  
16 you could come to that?

17          CHAIR: I would love to.

18          MR. SWIKA: Thank you.

19          MR. STRATHMEYER: So the only thing I  
20 would add - and again, I'll do it this way, this law  
21 was written 34 years ago or thereabouts. Obviously  
22 the people that did it, did a tremendous job, but I  
23 would question or put it out there to all of you as  
24 a fellow businessman.

25                   I don't do business the same way I did



1 it 34 years ago, for obvious reasons. So I just  
2 simply would ask that as you're entertaining your  
3 thoughts, just think about how can we do business  
4 better. And that's really what Walt has asked of  
5 you and presented to you as, he has, in essence,  
6 highlighted some areas that have been certainly  
7 subjects of conversation through the years.

8                   And they're simply asking you, as the  
9 people that are being regulated, to look at this  
10 moment as something not as a burden, but as  
11 something to make your industry that much better.

12                   And that, I would just add to what -  
13 as Walt said, I didn't ask him to do it. He saw  
14 this as an opportunity to, again, take an industry  
15 that he'd been part of for the last eight years or  
16 so and try to put that knowledge to work.

17                   And also, I will also point out to you  
18 again, is that - as Walt said, you have four  
19 inspectors. So think about 1,400 independent  
20 people. But think that this state has four  
21 inspectors and look at what is happening.

22                   Going forward, if we are to take  
23 another path, I would hope that you get behind the  
24 thought process that says that we may need your help  
25 in adding to our complement, adding to our employees

1 to, again, ensure that the work that the law would  
2 end up seeing, that we can actually do what it's  
3 asking us to do.

4           So again, this is kind of my outsider-  
5 insider moment, but, you know, for those of you have  
6 gotten to know me, I'm just appealing to you as  
7 somebody that has two grandchildren, as somebody  
8 that has been very proud to be part of your group,  
9 I'm just simply asking you to - as a business  
10 person, look at - look at what it says, look at what  
11 Walt is entertaining and think about it.

12           Like I said, you can decide, hey,  
13 we're good. Then that's okay, too. But again, I  
14 applaud Walt - and he didn't know I was saying all  
15 this. But I applaud Walt for taking this time,  
16 because again, in the four years I've been here,  
17 there's one thing that certainly I've tried to do  
18 with the Bureaus I worked with, was to make sure  
19 that all of the stakeholders were the first people  
20 speaking, because ultimately I was regulated, you're  
21 regulated.

22           Without having a voice in that  
23 conversation, sometimes it gets very - then it  
24 becomes burdensome for you and it did for me, when I  
25 got thrown into things. So I applaud Walt and his

1 team for putting it out there to you to get your  
2 input first.

3 I can tell you, for sure, there's not  
4 been a legislator approached. There's not been a  
5 conversation with legislators. That's another day,  
6 another time, if it becomes that moment.

7 So again, I would just appeal to you  
8 all as somebody that, again, quite frankly, has been  
9 very proud to work with you all and just take a  
10 quick moment, review it. And again, Walt put it out  
11 there, but maybe there's something he missed. Maybe  
12 there's a better way to word it.

13 And just remember, as he said, if it's  
14 not in the statute, then there's a moment that we  
15 are limited to what we can do. So yes, we can  
16 change regulations, but that doesn't always get you  
17 to the goal that maybe you want or place you want to  
18 be. So again, that's - that was a learning process  
19 for me, too. It's a structure thing. So you can't  
20 have one without the other.

21 So again, that's for everybody in the  
22 audience. Please - you know, as you're, you know,  
23 getting with your groups, please get involved. You  
24 know, you're here, had the opportunity to be here,  
25 Walt today. Please be involved in the

1 organizations. It's the best thing I can say to all  
2 of you.

3 That's it, Walt.

4 MR. FILOROMO: I would like to make a  
5 clarification. We do not - we do not have four  
6 inspectors, we have over 1,100 inspectors. The four  
7 people that work for the State are quality assurance  
8 to assure the credibility of those other  
9 inspections.

10 MR. STRATHMEYER: Thank you, Joe.

11 CHAIR: Thanks, Joe. All right.  
12 Thank you for enduring and your patience.

13 Taking over this - again, I'll be  
14 available at any point here to have discussions with  
15 the interested parties. I think you've heard my  
16 piece. I really take my job seriously and move  
17 forward.

18 MS. BEHE: Make sure they say their  
19 names.

20 CHAIR: I got it. Yep.

21 All right. I've asked to kind of  
22 adjust our manufacturer ride approvals and allow,  
23 please, Knoebels and then Hershey to go. So I would  
24 invite Brian up to my phone and his folks up with  
25 him.

1                   They're going to give you some insight  
2 into the 2019 season and what they plan at the  
3 grove. And I'm glad to have you here.

4                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Happy to be here.

5                   CHAIR: More fun than you thought.  
6 Right?

7                   So turn on the green light, please  
8 state your name and spell your last for the  
9 stenographer for us, and whoever else it might be.

10                  MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Brian Knoebel from  
11 Knoebels Amusement Resort. That's K-N-O-E-B-E-L.

12                  And thank you for being here - oh, and  
13 my brother.

14                  MR. BRETT KNOEBEL: Brett Knoebel,  
15 spelled the same way.

16                  MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: So we're here  
17 today to discuss two rides for Knoebels for 2019.  
18 One is simply trading a used Fabtech - at the time  
19 it was Darktron. Downdraft - Darktron no longer  
20 exists, it's now Fabtech out in Oregon. So we just  
21 simply traded it in, just like you would trade in  
22 your car on a newer model.

23                  Very minimal changes. Such things as  
24 they are now using LEDs. We are moving the location  
25 of the air compressor, so it's easier to work on for

1 our maintenance man. It's going to be under the  
2 tongue of trailer. And the hydraulic motor is going  
3 to be a little easier to work on than it currently  
4 is.

5 So other than that, it's - everything  
6 else is status quo.

7 CHAIR: Joe, do you want to touch it  
8 or do you want me?

9 MR. FILOROMO: Well, the only thing we  
10 still need information - that updated information  
11 and it should be no problem after that.

12 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Understood.

13 CHAIR: And for the Board members to  
14 understand. So we would present it here today if we  
15 had the information. But also understand that under  
16 the guise of a major modification, it's something  
17 that affects the nature of the ride, how it affects  
18 the riders.

19 In this particular instance it makes  
20 everything better. It affects it in a good way. So  
21 we're working closely with Knoebels to make sure all  
22 of the requisite paperwork are here.

23 What they're getting is an updated  
24 better, newer attraction ride.

25 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: The other topic is

1 the other ride coming to Knoebels in 2019 is a Visa  
2 manufacturer from Italy. It's what they call a Mini  
3 Break Dance. We are going to rename the ride  
4 Tumbling Timbers. So there's a few of them out  
5 there already. Some of them look like a taxicab-  
6 type tub. Ours is going to look more like a  
7 hollowed-out tree.

8 CHAIR: That would be on today's  
9 agenda. We have most of the documents for that, if  
10 not all, or they wouldn't be presented to you. So  
11 we'll be able to see that specific one probably  
12 first up. It'd be a good time.

13 Any questions of Mr. Knoebel and his  
14 brother? So the Knoebels.

15 All right. Go ahead, Steve.

16 MR. GORMAN: I have a comment. The  
17 summary sheet, is that something that is the very  
18 first - in your records, when you want to look up  
19 this ride, is that the main thing - the first thing  
20 you look at?

21 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: If we get it.

22 MR. GORMAN: The reason I'm asking is,  
23 the weight requirement is different than what's in  
24 the manual. So just for clarification purposes,  
25 that summary sheet should be correct?

1                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Summary sheets is  
2 - our checklist is something that we ask the folks  
3 who submitted it to us. Without - it's kind of a  
4 quick at-a-glance checklist. And then typically we  
5 have to go through it and then make sure that what  
6 was translated onto the checklist meets the  
7 requirement.

8                   Ultimately the manufacturer  
9 documentation stands, but I know that at a quick  
10 glance that's our cheat sheet, so to speak, so we  
11 have some of the specifics of the ride.

12                   MR. GORMAN: Other than that, I think  
13 that it's very good, and I'm ready to vote.

14                   CHAIR: Okay.

15                   Well, we'll get to it on our agenda  
16 and ask questions.

17                   MR. NESLAND: So I have a question.  
18 We have two of these models on the agenda, one's a  
19 trailer mount, one's a park - or a park model.

20                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Correct. So -.

21                   MR. NESLAND: They're both shown as  
22 going to your park?

23                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: No, there's only  
24 one coming, and it's the park model.

25                   The manual was just recently written



1 for the park model trailer and sent to Walt and his  
2 team. So they have that updated manual now.

3 Just, I guess, to help the process  
4 along, I have forwarded the manual of the - yes, I'm  
5 sorry, trailer model for them to just page through  
6 until the manufacturer has written the park model.

7 To my knowledge the - really the only  
8 difference is, one is higher, one is lower to the  
9 ground. So like less steps or a shorter ramp, so  
10 that's pretty much the only one I've seen.

11 MR. NESLAND: So then my question to  
12 Walt is, are we only - would be voting on a park  
13 model or are we going to vote on both?

14 CHAIR: Go ahead, Joe.

15 MR. FILOROMO: There are two separate  
16 ones. That typo putting Knoebels down, that was my  
17 fault, in a midnight fault here. But there's two  
18 models that went back and forth of different ways,  
19 where they do the one model with the option or two  
20 different models.

21 So we have two different engineer  
22 letters. We have two separate manuals for them, so  
23 we have two separate ride approvals.

24 CHAIR: Yes. And I will take the hit.  
25 So this Board and the staff that supports it, Joe

1 being the stall work that does all the work for  
2 this.

3                   Basically we try to wait three weeks  
4 out, you know what I'm saying, cuts off six weeks,  
5 and then we're at three weeks. And now we're the  
6 day before and hope to get as much information to  
7 the Board as we can.

8                   That's no different. We try to be  
9 inclusive, and we try to - we just try to keep stuff  
10 moving. Just understand we're going to work with  
11 the submitters through the time of the Board -. And  
12 if it's not here today, we'll continue to work with  
13 you and get this done and bring it back to the Board  
14 at its next meeting.

15                   But if we feel comfortable with  
16 allowing it to operate in the interim, we'll seek  
17 the Board's recommendation by e-mail or conference  
18 call and let them know what our intent is and then  
19 go through the full process at the next Board  
20 meeting.

21                   It's just some of these rides, you  
22 need one of a kind, dealing with overseas  
23 manufacturers, getting translations of - from other  
24 languages, you know. We need everything to be just  
25 right, or else it just can't come to the Board

1 meeting. So that's - we'll continue to do that as  
2 well as we can.

3 MR. NESLAND: Just to clarify, I see  
4 this positively. I agree, two-in-one shot here.

5 CHAIR: I see this positive, too, I  
6 just feel like explaining myself. I haven't been  
7 here in a while.

8 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: It's my  
9 understanding that the Bates Brothers Amusements are  
10 going to be purchasing a trailer mounted with - to  
11 get approval in Pennsylvania, so I think this just  
12 kind of expedites that process.

13 CHAIR: I believe that's what we're  
14 working towards. I'm positive. I believe that's  
15 what we're working on.

16 MR. PITTMAN: We'll have to wait -.

17 MR. SWIKA: Bates Brothers has theirs  
18 already. That was the one on display at IAAPA.  
19 That ride was operated in Ohio for a Christmas thing  
20 inside the I-X Center. So that ride has a little  
21 track record right now. And I think Majestic  
22 Midways has one coming also down the road here for  
23 Pennsylvania, a portable one.

24 CHAIR: A big thanks to Knoebels.

25 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: Trailblazers.

1                    CHAIR: Always.

2                    Are there any questions for Knoebels  
3 right now? We'll entertain their submission here  
4 shortly. I'm still going to let Hershey say their  
5 piece under new business.

6                    We'll see you in a few minutes.

7                    MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: All right.

8                    Thank you for your time.

9                    CHAIR: Gary?

10                   MR. CHUBB: I'll be happy to follow  
11 the trailblazers here.

12                   My name is Gary Chubb. I'm with  
13 Hersheypark, and I'm here to talk, briefly, about a  
14 major modification that we are requesting. With my  
15 - with me today is my shy engineer, Fred Liddle, in  
16 the back here. Fred's here to answer any of the  
17 engineering questions, should anybody have any.

18                   But basically, this major modification  
19 request is for our Reese's Extreme Cup Challenge  
20 Ride, which is a dark ride through type ride. We  
21 are changing the name to Reese's Cup Fusion.

22                   CHAIR: Is your microphone on?

23                   MR. CHUBB: Pardon me?

24                   CHAIR: Is your green light on?

25                   MR. CHUBB: It is now.

1                   Okay. Do I need to start over?

2                   Okay. All right. So the  
3 modifications of the ride basically involve a  
4 portion of the track that was previously elevated,  
5 roughly 10, 15 feet up in the air, is now being  
6 brought down to ground level. Okay? So by doing  
7 that essence, we are lowering the forces on the  
8 riders. Okay?

9                   The track section itself is being  
10 replaced by the original manufacturer or the  
11 manufacturer's subcontractor, it's EOS, out of  
12 Italy, who's a subcontractor for Sally, who we  
13 originally purchased the ride from.

14                   The operation procedure's the same,  
15 the vehicles are the same. The inspections are the  
16 same, and the maintenance procedures are basically  
17 the same.

18                   Inside the ride itself, what we're -  
19 we basically gutted the inside of the ride and  
20 instead of some of the animatronic-type figures that  
21 were in there before, we're now going to have - in  
22 the show portion of the attraction, there's going to  
23 be basically a series of large screens with  
24 projection systems. So we have a number of  
25 projectors that are going to be throughout the ride

1     itself.

2                     This is a type of ride that you go  
3 through and you have a little - what do we call them  
4 - amplifiers that are being used to aim at the  
5 different characters that you see on the screen.  
6 And the bad guys will be gone and the good guys will  
7 still stay, so -.

8                     Our engineer has certified that the  
9 changes do comply with the ATSM 24 standard, as well  
10 as Pennsylvania regulations under 7 Pa Code, Chapter  
11 139.

12                    Does anybody have any questions?

13                    CHAIR: There will be more information  
14 forthcoming to the Board to review as we receive it.  
15 But as you well know, our parks and large  
16 organizations like to come in and keep you well  
17 informed and well ahead of schedule, as the work is  
18 scheduled to commence or proposed to commence.

19                    So once again, thank you Hershey and  
20 Knoebels, Dornan and Waldameer and the rest of the  
21 participants here using the Board the way it's  
22 intended.

23                    MR. POTTER: Do they keep score? Are  
24 people scoring in these cars?

25                    MR. CHUBB: Yes, they are, Butch.

1                   MR. POTTER: All right.

2                   I'll be there.

3                   MR. CHUBB: In fact, participants will  
4 be able to get a wristband at no cost to them and  
5 wear that wristband. And their score will be not  
6 only registered in the vehicle, but inside, but also  
7 on a large video screen outside the ride. Little  
8 value added there.

9                   CHAIR: Will they put a headshot of  
10 the person, too? Can you see who it is?

11                   MR. CHUBB: I'm not sure on that one.

12                   CHAIR: Any other questions for Gary?  
13 Thank you, sir. You can stick around.

14                   MR. CHUBB: I will.

15                   CHAIR: Are there any issues if we  
16 move the Mini Break Dance - Mini Break Dance to the  
17 top of the list so Mr. Knoebel and Mr. Knoebel can  
18 defend those questions?

19                   I'll put the stuff on the Board. I'm  
20 doing dual duty today, so please forgive.

21                   I invite Brian and Brett back up to  
22 the microphone to answer questions, and I'll bring  
23 up the Mini Break Dance.

24                   All right. I'm going to go back and  
25 forth. And Fred, if you feel up to it to help out

1 to keep things moving, are there any questions or  
2 comments from Board members concerning the  
3 submission of the Mini Break Dance, as the picture I  
4 showed just a moment ago was themed specifically as  
5 Brian alluded to just a few moments ago, but in  
6 essence, it is the same just with different teaming.

7 So I'm ready to move the submission  
8 around to those who have questions. So questions,  
9 comments?

10 MR. STRATHMEYER: Getting my steps in  
11 today.

12 Where did you get the model for that?

13 CHAIR: So this is, in essence,  
14 similar to a tea cup?

15 MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: It is. So the  
16 picture that shows the solid green colors of  
17 turntable, slightly angled. And each tub - which  
18 spins - and then each tub will spin as well. About  
19 halfway through the ride, it'll stop and then it'll  
20 go in the opposite direction.

21 So then there's - there'll be a garden  
22 hose for cleanup afterward.

23 CHAIR: Specific questions that can be  
24 addressed by the Board members?

25 Go ahead.



1                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: In addition to  
2 that, you know, the tubs are not free-spinning,  
3 they're motorized.

4                   This picture doesn't show it, but the  
5 operator is going to sit between where the two  
6 stairs will be.

7                   CHAIR: So the patron will have no  
8 control over the spinning of the tubs?

9                   MR. BRIAN KNOEBEL: That's correct.

10                  CHAIR: I'm always ready to entertain  
11 a motion.

12                  MR. NESLAND: Motion to approve.

13                  CHAIR: Mr. Nesland has made a motion  
14 to approve. Do I have a second?

15                  MR. GORMAN: I'll second it.

16                  CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Gorman.

17                                 Is there any discussion?

18                                 All right. All those in favor,  
19 signify by saying aye?

20 AYES RESPOND

21                  CHAIR: Are there any opposed?

22 NO RESPONSE

23                  CHAIR: Thank you very much.

24                                 Now, I'll ask the Board members, that  
25 was the Mini Break Dance, are we going to take - do

1 you want to take a separate vote for the trailer-  
2 mounted version, or does this cover both?

3 MR. NESLAND: I'm fine with it being  
4 both.

5 CHAIR: Is there anybody opposed to it  
6 being for both?

7 MR. GORMAN: I'm not opposed to it,  
8 but I want to make sure the records are showing that  
9 it's not a Knoebels' ride.

10 CHAIR: Understood.

11 It is specifically Visa International  
12 Mini Break Dance, both the park version and the  
13 trailer version. It's no reference to where it's  
14 purchased.

15 MR. GORMAN: I'll make a motion to  
16 approve that.

17 CHAIR: Okay.

18 Is there a second to Mr. Gorman's  
19 motion?

20 MR. NESLAND: I'll second it.

21 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

22 Is there any discussion?

23 All those in favor, please signify by  
24 saying aye.

25 AYES RESPOND

1                    CHAIR: Any opposed?

2 NO RESPONSE

3                    CHAIR: Thank you again.

4                    Let me query the crowd. Do we have  
5 representatives here from Dragons Den Pittsburgh?  
6 Do we have anybody here from the DiEmidio  
7 Construction?

8                    Dragons Den win. So if you're  
9 representing Dragons Den, please come up to the  
10 microphone while I switch out.

11                    This is Adventure Course Zipline  
12 Dragons Den Pittsburgh.

13                    MS. BEHE: You didn't send in a  
14 registration form yet for your company.

15                    Right?

16                    MR. PETRUCCI: I did send it in.

17                    MS. BEHE: Okay.

18                    MR. PETRUCCI: I sent it to Joe  
19 Jardine.

20                    MS. BEHE: John Jardine.

21                    MR. PETRUCCI: I mean, John Jardine,  
22 last week.

23                    CHAIR: We'll get it.

24                    MR. PETRUCCI: I can resend it,  
25 because I just looked at it about two minutes ago.

1                   MS. BEHE: Can you send it to me?

2                   MR. PETRUCCI: You're Natalie?

3                   MS. BEHE: Yes.

4                   MR. PETRUCCI: Okay.

5                   CHAIR: All right.

6                   The floor is yours. Please introduce  
7 yourselves, spell your last name, if you'd be so  
8 kind, each of you, as you take turns speaking. Thank  
9 you.

10                   MR. PETRUCCI: My name is Bill  
11 Petrucci.

12                   CHAIR: Make sure the green light is  
13 on.

14                   MR. PETRUCCI: It's on.

15                   CHAIR: Thank you.

16                   MR. PETRUCCI: Spelled B-I-L-L and  
17 then Petrucci is P-E-T-R-U-C-C-I.

18                   MRS. PETRUCCI: My name is Giulia -.

19                   CHAIR: It's not on.

20                   MRS. PETRUCCI: Push.

21                   CHAIR: There you go.

22                   MRS. PETRUCCI: My name is Giulia  
23 Petrucci. Giulia is spelled Italian name - the  
24 Italian way. G-I-U-L-I-A. Petrucci is  
25 P-E-T-R-U-C-C-I.

1                   MR. ZIEGLER: Dana Ziegler,  
2 Z-I-E-G-L-E-R, from Providence Engineering  
3 Corporation. We're the engineering for the company.

4                   MR. PETRUCCI: And we also have with  
5 us the person that actually did the physical design  
6 of the ropes course. And that's Lucio Longhi, and  
7 it's L-U-C-I-O, L-O-N-G-H-I.

8                   CHAIR: Thank you very much.

9                   If you wouldn't mind too much, a brief  
10 summary of where, what, how long and when?

11                   MR. PETRUCCI: Okay.

12                   CHAIR: Just to talk up your  
13 attraction.

14                   MR. PETRUCCI: Okay.

15                   So basically, what we - what we're  
16 doing is putting in an indoors ropes course in an  
17 abandoned church in Homestead.

18                   Homestead, as you all probably know  
19 from many years ago, was the steel capital of the  
20 world. Bethlehem may have - disagree with that,  
21 folks in Bethlehem.

22                   But since the steel mill closed, it's  
23 been on a steady decline. This church closed in -  
24 about ten years ago. My wife and I purchased it  
25 with no idea what to do with it. But we were tired

1 of seeing historic beautiful buildings being tore  
2 down in Pittsburgh.

3                   So we decided to buy this church. And  
4 we got the idea after visiting Lucio's Park in Italy  
5 from my wife's hometown Lake Como. And decided to  
6 put a ropes course inside the church.

7                   So we kind of solved a couple  
8 problems. We were able to save this building and  
9 have the kids in the area have something to help  
10 them get off the street. We're going to offer  
11 after-school programs for the kids and different  
12 mentoring programs to help them out.

13                   And also, we are going to be open to  
14 the general public on - what we're planning on right  
15 now, Friday, Saturdays and Sundays, to kind of  
16 sustain ourselves.

17                   So - and we did get our 501(c)(3)  
18 status as a certified nonprofit. We also did get  
19 the church historic - got the historic designation  
20 for the church through the HMC, so we've done a lot  
21 of leg work trying to get to this point.

22                   So we're finally at the point where we  
23 have a - the design. We're actually in the process  
24 of - that's why we're here.

25                   So we have two ropes courses. One is

1 just about three feet off the ground. It's 25, what  
2 we call stations. And there's various - we have  
3 towers that we're building that are made out of  
4 basically four-by-fours. And then there's other  
5 ones that are going to be attached to - we have  
6 16-inch diameter, nontapered southern pine poles  
7 that are 25 feet long, that weigh every bit of 1,500  
8 pounds each.

9                   And that's the main structure that's  
10 going to hold up the little kids course and the  
11 upper - what we're calling the adult course.

12                   Like I said, that's 25 rides for the  
13 little kids. The upper kids, there's 21. They're -  
14 and basically each one of those upper rides are  
15 going to be attached to that, that 16-inch pole. So  
16 that's really the structure that's holding  
17 everything up.

18                   Dana and Providence Engineering were  
19 the engineers that designed the - the armoring  
20 system, the steel that attaches to the existing  
21 brick and stone walls that are in the church, which  
22 are about 20 inches wide.

23                   So it's a pretty massive stone  
24 structure. And that's pretty much the overview.

25                   Do you want to say anything?

1                   MRS. PETRUCCI: I just wanted to make  
2 sure that the rendering is an artistic rendering.  
3 It's not the one that's in use -.

4                   MR. PETRUCCI: Right.

5                   It just kind of gives you the concept  
6 of what we're trying to do. So you know, we opted -  
7 instead of square poles, we're using round  
8 nontapered 16-inch poles.

9                   So that's basically some of the  
10 stationing that we have. Some of that has been -  
11 we're going to probably move some of those around a  
12 little bit. And I don't think that really matters  
13 to you all, but the basic concept - and that's  
14 showing the little kids' course, what we're calling  
15 the ten and under.

16                   And the weight limit on that is 130  
17 pounds. In the upper course we used 280 as the  
18 maximum weight for that.

19                   There will also be a zipline from the  
20 former loft to the former altar. That's about  
21 160-feet long.

22                   Oh, and we also have one of our safety  
23 systems that we're using that we're implementing it  
24 from Italy that Lucio has on his park, is a - what's  
25 called a continuous - it's a continuous safety line.



1 And the way the continuous safety line works is we  
2 actually brought a - we did a mock-up of how that  
3 works.

4                   It's basically a C-clamp. We use a  
5 half-inch cable that runs throughout the whole  
6 course. And about mid height, say around, you know,  
7 between your waist and your chest will be a  
8 continuous safety line that runs the whole  
9 perimeter. And the idea behind that safety line is  
10 that this gets attached to each participant.

11                   They can't get off of that cable. So  
12 - and to get the way they move, if you show you it  
13 moves from station to station, so each one of these  
14 placards here are attached to holes. And they have  
15 to - and that's part of the fun of the game, is they  
16 have to figure out a way to kind of maneuver this  
17 thing through. But the good thing is that they  
18 can't unlatch themselves.

19                   Some of the other lanyards, they have  
20 a tendency to break. And you can actually unhook  
21 both sides of it, and that gets really dangerous.  
22 And we've talked to numerous places in Europe, and  
23 they're all going away from the double - or the  
24 safety lanyards, because if they drop, they don't  
25 work.

1                   So you have the possibility of  
2 unattaching both sides of that, which is certainly  
3 something that we don't want to have happen. So  
4 this avoids that from happening.

5                   MRS. PETRUCCI: And in case somebody  
6 gets -.

7                   MR. PETRUCCI: Oh, yeah. And if  
8 somebody gets a little too scared to move along,  
9 there is a key that the person in charge has that  
10 can open that up and you can rescue the people off  
11 the course.

12                   So it does open, but you have to have  
13 a special key to be able to open that up.

14                   CHAIR: Well, I hate to tell you this,  
15 I don't mean this in a bad way. But we're really  
16 good at this, you've got a lot. It's almost quiz  
17 time.

18                   MR. PETRUCCI: That's fine.

19                   CHAIR: You ready? Because there's  
20 some specifics that Pennsylvania has learned over  
21 its time dealing with these type of obstacles.

22                   I'm pretty sure you're going to  
23 entertain almost all of those questions, and it's  
24 going to deal with safety equipment and rescue  
25 procedures. And how you're going to harness all of

1 that and all the like. So if not, I'll be the  
2 leader of that.

3 But I'll open it to Board members for  
4 specific questions on this particular attraction.  
5 With the understanding that Joe and the submission  
6 cover anchoring design and specifics of the building  
7 itself and how the course is designed and built,  
8 right, so all of that specifications in there.

9 If you have specific questions of  
10 that, these are the right people here to answer it.  
11 We're a little particular-wise, but I agree with you  
12 that as long as you update your course design, once  
13 it's approved, it's approved not only equipment-  
14 specific, but site-specific.

15 Any changes, modifications to either  
16 equipment or the course design needs to come to us  
17 before. And I'm not saying it will need another  
18 approval, but it may, depending on how much change -  
19 if you change out safety equipment, more than likely  
20 we're going to have to have another conversation.

21 MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah. The only thing I  
22 think we're going to do is move the way the stations  
23 are.

24 CHAIR: That's fine.

25 MR. PETRUCCI: We had some issues with

1 some emergency exits, so -.

2 CHAIR: For Building Code purposes?

3 MR. PETRUCCI: Building Code issues  
4 that we had to deal with. So that's really what  
5 came up. So some of the rides had to be -  
6 especially little kids' rides.

7 We're going to more evenly distribute  
8 them on both sides of the aisle, as opposed to  
9 having them all stacked on one side.

10 CHAIR: And I'm sure that what you've  
11 submitted was in strict compliance. I have not -  
12 I've looked at it, I just don't recollect, but  
13 though we appreciate European standards -.

14 MR. PETRUCCI: They don't actually -  
15 we're going by PRCA, ACT and ATSM, and -

16 CHAIR: Us, too.

17 MR. PETRUCCI: - and trying to take  
18 the highest standard of any of those, because, you  
19 know, we have a 14 and a 10-year-old. So even  
20 though, you know, we certainly don't want - that's  
21 the least, you know, thing that we want to happen.

22 So we want to make sure that we're  
23 safe, so we're actually taking everything to the  
24 highest levels within reason.

25 CHAIR: I understand.

1 Board members, questions?

2 MR. HOUGHTON: What's the rescue -  
3 what's the rescue procedure when you unlatch? Is  
4 that -?

5 MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah, we have -  
6 basically what we're going to have is a rescue bag,  
7 pretty much a standard rescue bag. And the person  
8 would be - they would have two options, it's either  
9 to walk them back, depending upon where they are in  
10 the ride, or basically lower them from there, from  
11 where they're stuck, in essence.

12 So again, we're - you know, a lot of  
13 that we've tried to outline. We've spent many -  
14 hundreds of hours on our manual, trying to get this  
15 thing fine-tuned as well as we can. But I think  
16 once we get everything built and open, that's  
17 something we're going to certainly have to fine-  
18 tune.

19 The height of the upper course is  
20 about 16 feet, just to give you an idea of where we  
21 are height-wise.

22 MRS. PETRUCCI: And the way we have  
23 seen it, the way I've seen this manual developing,  
24 it's like a living manual. So while we build it,  
25 we'll adjust.

1                   But by the time we see, you know, new  
2 challenges and so on, we keep updating. And we'll  
3 keep updating you, if we decide to make  
4 modifications.

5                   CHAIR: Technical difficulties.  
6 Please continue Board members while I dial back into  
7 the phone conference.

8                   MR. NESLAND: I have one question for  
9 you. And actually I have a comment first.

10                   Are you private? You're not  
11 affiliated with any other companies that do this?  
12 This is just your private - you're doing this  
13 yourselves.

14                   Correct?

15                   MR. PETRUCCI: Well, not - no. No, we  
16 have, obviously, Providence Engineering. We're also  
17 working with the Adventure Network. They're the  
18 ones are going to certify the course when we're  
19 done.

20                   Lucio has built many courses in  
21 Europe. So it's not like, you know, we just decided  
22 to look up one day and say, let's build a rope  
23 course.

24                   And so - and we spent a better part of  
25 three years getting to this point. So we've done an

1 awful lot of research trying to figure out, you  
2 know, the best way to go about this. We've gone to  
3 the PRCA's conventions. We're going to the ACCT  
4 convention here in a few weeks. And we're also  
5 going to take a training through the State at the  
6 end of February.

7 MR. NESLAND: The only reason I ask is  
8 I think the manual reflects you've done a lot of  
9 work on this, and very comprehensive.

10 The one thing I don't think I saw in  
11 there is there weather restrictions? At certain  
12 wind we have to shut down or lightning storm we have  
13 to shut down?

14 MR. PETRUCCI: We're inside, so -.

15 MR. NESLAND: I saw some pictures with  
16 trees and -.

17 MR. PETRUCCI: That was just to kind  
18 of show what the rides were in between, but we're a  
19 hundred percent inside the building.

20 MR. NESLAND: Okay. So all right.

21 MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah. So that's the  
22 kind of beauty of it. So when - Western  
23 Pennsylvania, if you're familiar with Western  
24 Pennsylvania, our weather stinks most of the time.  
25 So -.

1                   MR. HOUGHTON:   So does ours.

2                   MR. PETRUCCI:   So you know, it's kind  
3 of an advantage - we're open. We have heat - we  
4 have a brand new heating system inside. Eventually  
5 we might even be able to put air conditioning in it  
6 if it goes really well.

7                   So we, you know, don't really need to  
8 have any weather restrictions inside unless  
9 something - you know, there's issues outside.

10                  MR. NESLAND:   So you would never be  
11 attaching to a tree or anything that wasn't an  
12 engineered structure?

13                  All right. That takes care of my  
14 other question I was -. That's it for me.

15                  MR. PETRUCCI:   And I know one of the  
16 Board members had a couple of questions about how we  
17 were going to clean the house.

18                  One of the things that we decided a  
19 long time ago to do, and that's I know - I'm sure  
20 that's another - that we're actually going to - wire  
21 hairnets.

22                  So everyone's going to have to wear a  
23 hairnet, which would prevent any lice infestation.  
24 And we're trying to come up with a system for a  
25 cleaning - or lean towards more of a - like a



1 vinegar solution type of thing.

2           Because we certainly don't want - I  
3 mean, our goal, you know, we're going to be dealing  
4 with at-risk kids. And some of those sprays have a  
5 tendency to have some harsh chemicals in there. So  
6 we're trying to find a balance of something that  
7 will clean it and provide a more natural - a more  
8 natural way of cleaning it, put it that way, as  
9 opposed to spraying some kind of Lysol, which we  
10 don't know what the heck is even in that stuff.

11           So we're hoping that combination -. I  
12 think there was another question about one of the -  
13 one of the columns that we're - that volunteer or  
14 volt. And really, that was really meant for a new  
15 employee. So it was like a new employee checklist.

16           So you would have - the new employee  
17 would go through, do you understand this? And then  
18 it would be backed up by somebody who knows - or  
19 it's on page 25 of the appendix G.

20           So I think - Mr. Gorman, I think you  
21 had that question.

22           MR. GORMAN: Yeah, that was my  
23 question. I didn't understand the world volt.

24           MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah, that should have  
25 been - that was a typo. I think we - the intent was

1 it should have been new employee.

2 MRS. PETRUCCI: New employees that  
3 volunteer. Initially they're - it's like a self-  
4 assessment. But you know, since I come from Italy,  
5 and they translate it directly from Italy, in my  
6 head, so that's how -.

7 So thank you so much for, you know,  
8 bringing it up, because once I talk to everybody,  
9 they say, no, it's not there.

10 MR. GORMAN: Well, thank you, I just  
11 like to learn, because I sometimes apply things that  
12 are better for my own business, okay, so that's why  
13 I ask that question.

14 And then in - you mentioned the weight  
15 restriction you have, but it's - what you stated was  
16 different than what you have in your very good  
17 manual. So you need to make sure that you - oh,  
18 it -.

19 MR. PETRUCCI: I'm sorry, it's 300.

20 MR. GORMAN: You said 130 pounds for  
21 the young ones, but it's stated 280 pounds.

22 MR. PETRUCCI: About 285.

23 MR. GORMAN: Okay.

24 It should be 285. Hopefully there are  
25 no ten-year-olds that are that much, but -.

1                   MR. PETRUCCI: On little kids it's  
2 130.

3                   MR. GORMAN: Okay.

4                   In the manual it says 285. That's why  
5 I'm -.

6                   MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah, and then for some  
7 reason on the first page it should say 285, to be  
8 consistent.

9                   CHAIR: Thank you.

10                   Mr. Hall?

11                   MR. HALL: Mr. Petrucci, I believe I  
12 heard you say you were a 501(c)(3) organization.

13                   Will you charge participants or entry  
14 people for your attraction?

15                   MRS. PETRUCCI: So we are, right now,  
16 working with local schools. The location of the  
17 Dragons Den is walking distance to three major  
18 schools.

19                   What we want to do is offer a - free  
20 programs for them during the week. And then during  
21 the weekend, on Thursday and Friday night, open to  
22 the general public, to try to raise funds to pay for  
23 these programs.

24                   Also, during the week we are getting  
25 in contact with the local schools in the area to see

1 if they would be interested in coming for field  
2 trips.

3                   But that's how we got our 501(c)(3),  
4 to offer at-risk children and - in Homestead we have  
5 a very high percentage of poverty. Poverty-level  
6 children like - I don't want to tell you an exact  
7 number, because I can't really recollect right now.  
8 But most of the children, they do not pay for their  
9 meals.

10                   So with the superintendent, the  
11 principal of these schools, we are coming up with,  
12 initially, a pilot group, who would have like 15, 20  
13 kids. And we'll use the rope course as a center  
14 activity to give physical exercise.

15                   But also we want to have a facilitator  
16 that after they navigate the rope course, that will  
17 sit down and help them translate what they've  
18 learned while they were doing the rope course into  
19 everyday life.

20                   To give you an example, there would be  
21 a moment where we ask, you were on that platform and  
22 you took the time to make a plan, how to navigate  
23 from platform A to a platform B. And then you put  
24 your foot there. And you realize that a little  
25 piece of log suddenly spin on you, then what happen?

1 How did you feel? How did you come up with a  
2 different - how did you overcome your fear?  
3 How - what was happening inside of you and how did  
4 you take charge of that?

5 We want basically to help these  
6 children to realize that there is a moment that they  
7 are in charge. You are in charge on the rope  
8 course, but you are in charge also in your life.

9 So there is a moment where it doesn't  
10 matter what's happening around you. You can make  
11 your decision. And it can be a decision that is  
12 different than anybody else.

13 And this is - we are working with  
14 psychologists and to be - way we look at self. It's  
15 self-confidence, but more than anything is the self-  
16 efficacy.

17 The fact that we want to empower these  
18 children. They can be different. Their parents,  
19 their family, their friends, because after all it's  
20 their own life, and they can shape it the way they  
21 want.

22 MR. PETRUCCI: Do you mean like a -  
23 the amount of money we're going to charge for,  
24 like, for participants?

25 MR. HALL: Yes. Your 501(c)(3), which

1 is a charitable organization, according to the IRS.

2 MR. PETRUCCI: Correct.

3 MR. HALL: Now you say you're going to  
4 bring like people in on the weekends and you're  
5 going to charge them a fee.

6 I'm curious, what is your proposed  
7 fee, or haven't you established that yet?

8 MRR. PETRUCCI: We have a range right  
9 now, because it all depends about our fund - we are  
10 in the fundraising phase right now. And once the  
11 other principal and the superintendent are saying is  
12 that we want to co-write, basically to - for a  
13 grant, to apply for a grant.

14 If we get that grant, that cover most  
15 of the cost for the children, they cannot pay for  
16 those - for their tickets, it's going to be one -  
17 one ticket for the general public.

18 But we were thinking something between  
19 \$25 to \$45, depending which section they are going  
20 to use. If they're going to use them all, for how  
21 long? But it's not definite yet, because we are  
22 working on our budget, as we speak.

23 MR. HALL: Are you close to the  
24 library?

25 MRS. PETRUCCI: Yes.

1                   MR. HALL: Right in the Homestead  
2 Munhall -?

3                   MRS. PETRUCCI: Yes.

4                   MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah, we're right  
5 across from Frick Park.

6                   MR. HALL: Okay.

7 I know the area.

8                   MR. PETRUCCI: Yeah.

9                   MR. HALL: Thank you.

10                   MR. PETRUCCI: We're probably six  
11 blocks from the library.

12                   MRS. PETRUCCI: Actually, the Carnegie  
13 Library was very nice, because they suggest since we  
14 have different activities besides a rope course,  
15 that we'll also have acting and singing and opera  
16 singing, and poem and poetry writing that they will  
17 put into -.

18                   The library was suggesting to use  
19 their beautiful stage. They have a beautiful  
20 theatre. I'm not sure if you are aware of it.

21                   MR. HALL: I am.

22                   MRS. PETRUCCI: So our kids would go  
23 there to perform.

24                   MR. HALL: Thank you.

25                   MRS. PETRUCCI: Thank you.

1           CHAIR: Any other questions?

2           Sorry for the back and forth, but  
3 playing a tech guy on top of this, the phone dropped  
4 out a few minutes ago. I think we're back on with  
5 most of the folks. Some of them might try to dial  
6 back in. It shouldn't stop the discussion.

7           So Rebbie? Rebbie? I apologize, I  
8 always get it wrong, every time.

9           MR. REBBIE: Is this your first  
10 adventure into amusement?

11          MRS. PETRUCCI: Yes.

12          MR. REBBIE: Mind if I ask what your  
13 backgrounds are? Did you come from amusement  
14 industry or are you just coming in?

15          MR. PETRUCCI: I'm an engineer and my  
16 wife's an -.

17          MRS. PETRUCCI: When I - I'm the one  
18 actually - my children went to Lucio's Park and they  
19 came home and they were so enthusiastic and they  
20 were talking - they went with my 81 years old aunt.

21                 So when they came home, they talked so  
22 much about what it meant to float in the air for  
23 them. And so I didn't know anything about rope  
24 courses at the time, and I decided to go and visit.

25                 Then this is when I realized there a



1 lot of school buses with a lot of children. There  
2 were autistic children, too. I talked to the  
3 teachers. Because in Italy, we do not have like  
4 Kennywood, amusement days that during school, so it  
5 didn't make any sense there were all these schools  
6 on a field trip.

7                   And when I talked to the teachers,  
8 they explain the benefits that these children were  
9 having using the rope courses. And they could see  
10 better grades, better behavior in school. So I got  
11 intrigued and I started studying exactly what that  
12 meant.

13                   And I studied for several months. And  
14 I talked to some friends that are psychologists,  
15 teachers. Then I decided to reach to the owner of  
16 that park and ask them if they could come here, look  
17 at our place and see if it was feasible to have a  
18 rope course built inside that would also - would  
19 also allow the participant to admire the  
20 architectural detail very close.

21                   Because the church is part of the  
22 building. The architecture is magnificent.

23                   So he came here three years ago. He  
24 started at the church and came up with the design of  
25 our rope course. And after that, I went and I

1 worked at his park during the summer, my daughter  
2 and I, because I wanted to see exactly what it meant  
3 to have a rope course and how to put harnesses on  
4 and how to talk to the participant to see the  
5 challenges, to see the maintenance part, what you do  
6 before, during and after.

7 And after that summer we came back and  
8 we decided that was what we wanted to do.

9 MR. REBBIE: It's very commendable.

10 MRS. PETRUCCI: Thank you.

11 MR. REBBIE: Good luck with  
12 everything. It's going to be a challenge, more so  
13 than a rope course.

14 MRS. PETRUCCI: Thanks.

15 MR. STRATHMEYER: So a quick question  
16 I had was, so as far as staffing when you talked  
17 about teachers and you talked about volunteers.  
18 Again, my background is not this ride, it's in  
19 another industry.

20 But having been here for a couple  
21 years, I've listened to some questions that came up.  
22 And some of the things are related to how many  
23 people would be on the course versus how many people  
24 are actually able to be in attendance and watching.

25 And when I hear that, you know, you're

1 trying to be working with children with, you know,  
2 special needs - so that's obviously -. And I'm  
3 going to say obviously for me. Obviously been taken  
4 into account as you've putting this whole thought  
5 process together, as to how many people you need,  
6 basically on the course close to the children and so  
7 on.

8                   How are you - how are you hoping to  
9 get that type of, you know, volunteer per child, per  
10 how many - my grandson's autistic, so I understand a  
11 little bit of this.

12                   So you know, I realize how important  
13 it is to have a very - you know, a - very few  
14 students and at least a person, and that  
15 relationship, as you're trying to build these  
16 children, I suspect is - has been something you've  
17 looked at as well.

18                   So not only for safety - and that's  
19 where I'm coming from for this group, is there's  
20 this safety factor. I realize that you're - you're  
21 working with the teachers and psychologists and all  
22 that. But from a safety standpoint and then their  
23 training, because again, this is a different type of  
24 training that these individuals have taught me in  
25 the years I've been here.

1           There's specific things that need to  
2 fall in place, so there will be a different type of  
3 training for people watching the course versus those  
4 people that are working with the children on the  
5 ground. So has - that's all been taken into  
6 consideration?

7           MRS. PETRUCCI: You are very correct,  
8 so what the safety we would have employees that will  
9 be trained for the rope course itself.

10           We have already, with Lucio, and he's  
11 experienced - he already told us, you have to have  
12 one person here - here all the time. So we already  
13 knows - we already know exactly where to put these  
14 people.

15           But this has - as you said, it doesn't  
16 cover when you have like autistic kids or kids with  
17 other physical or mental challenges. And so because  
18 we want to do things - we are learning in the  
19 process, so initially our idea is to do a soft  
20 opening.

21           What that means, we will not be open  
22 to the general public. We'll be open to single  
23 school that will give us - will send us like ten  
24 kids at a time. And we know ahead of time that  
25 there will be ten kids. So we can prepare for those

1 kids. We can make a customized experience for them,  
2 depending who those kids are.

3 And when we - once we are very  
4 comfortable with that, then we will decide to  
5 challenge ourself a little bit more. And we are  
6 working with the single teacher - these teachers  
7 know exactly about the challenges of these children.

8 And we will have - another thing I  
9 wanted to make sure, we will never have volunteers  
10 that we take - that will be our instructor for the  
11 challenge course. This is against the - what we  
12 think that we need to - professionally we need to  
13 know exactly what to do and so for safety, those  
14 will not be volunteers.

15 Then the volunteers will be on the  
16 ground for what I was discussing before, when we  
17 need to help the children to understand how they can  
18 translate the experience on the rope course and the  
19 other activities in their daily life.

20 For autistic children and children  
21 that have more challenges, we will request the  
22 support teachers and other teachers or the parents,  
23 because we need somebody that knows exactly what  
24 kind of challenge that kid have.

25 MR. STRATHMEYER: And I mean, that's

1 where I was going. You know, it's one thing to have  
2 employees that might be at a - at this type of  
3 facility where it's as Mr. Hall said they charged.  
4 And they come through and their expectations are X.

5 And you know, again, if this Board's  
6 taught me something, it's all about the safety. And  
7 you have an elevated moment where I just wondered,  
8 you know, what your expectations are going to be  
9 moving forward to how well-trained a person is.

10 Because you're not dealing with  
11 necessarily a normal child that might be there. So  
12 I'd just throw it out there as your - you know, you  
13 have an extra added challenge when it comes to the  
14 safety of the individuals.

15 MRS. PETRUCCI: Very true.

16 MR. PETRUCCI: And the other thing,  
17 too, is that we're probably going to concentrate the  
18 kids that are more challenged on the lower course.

19 MR. STRATHMEYER: Yeah, sure. I  
20 understand.

21 MR. PETRUCCI: You know what I mean?  
22 So that makes our -.

23 MR. STRATHMEYER: I guess what I'm  
24 getting at, is your employees are going to have -  
25 have to be trained at a different level, as compared

1 to somebody else that's out in these types of  
2 amusement rides?

3 MR. PETRUCCI: Correct.

4 MR. STRATHMEYER: And as long as  
5 that's being addressed. Because again this is a  
6 little - this is definitely unique to certainly the  
7 first time I've heard of this experience and maybe  
8 other Board members as well, but I'm extremely happy  
9 to see this happening.

10 But I realize it brings on that added  
11 moment where we're going to be actually faced with a  
12 - so how do they train - you know, how do they train  
13 their employees? What requirements might this Board  
14 ask of those employees that you're asking to train?  
15 Because it's going to be a different moment for that  
16 type of employee, in my mind.

17 Again, I'm not sure what the other  
18 Board members think, but that's what's going through  
19 my mind.

20 CHAIR: Just to be clear, they're -  
21 across the industry there are parks and carnivals  
22 and fairs and other operators who take into the same  
23 consideration and already have programs in place at  
24 their locations or on the road for special needs  
25 consideration.

1           So there's - the industry is well-  
2 aware and appreciates everybody who takes that into  
3 consideration. But there are lots of models out  
4 there you can glean and get information from and get  
5 information from and assistance.

6           The large established parks brochure  
7 and many of the carnivals and operators who operate  
8 around that - you know, that's what they do, is for  
9 those kind of assistance. So yes, our industry has  
10 collectively gone that direction for a long time  
11 now, and received some notoriety for it across the  
12 Board, essentially a place being one most recently.

13           Is there a question part of that, or  
14 just discussion?

15           MR. STRATHMEYER: No. I just wanted,  
16 again, just as long as they're aware that, and I'm  
17 sure they are, that there is going to be a need for  
18 additional training when it comes to those  
19 employees, that's all.

20           MRS. PETRUCCI: Absolutely.

21           CHAIR: Have we answered all of the  
22 questions of the Board members?

23           As always, I'm searching for a motion?  
24 Is there an appetite?

25           MR. REBBIE: So moved.



1           CHAIR: Is there a second?

2           MR. NESLAND: Second.

3           CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

4           Is there any discussion?

5           All right. All those in favor, please  
6 signify by saying aye.

7 AYES RESPOND

8           CHAIR: Are there any opposed?

9 NO RESPONSE

10          CHAIR: We'll be in touch in a few  
11 days with the follow-up paperwork. And if there are  
12 modifications, please let us know. And we thank you  
13 very much for the hearing today.

14          We'll probably have some specific  
15 questions about your submission. That's just  
16 housekeeping. We can do that after the meeting.  
17 Thank you very much for your time.

18          MRS. PETRUCCI: Thank you so much.

19          MR. PETRUCCI: Thank you for your  
20 time. We really appreciate it. Thank you.

21          CHAIR: All right.

22          I've been reticent to ask this past,  
23 did anybody need a moment's break? A five-minute -?  
24 We have two left, they're all both from the same  
25 book. Do we need to take five? I think I got all

1 the technical issues addressed.

2 All right. So we're going to go and  
3 take five minutes. We'll reconvene here at 11:40  
4 and we'll knock out the last two, the Bouldering  
5 Rock Wall and the Ninja Warrior Challenge, the rest  
6 of the agenda.

7 ---

8 (WHEREUPON, A SHORT BREAK WAS TAKEN.)

9 ---

10 CHAIR: We're back at it.

11 Behind me is companion, so there's one  
12 location, two separate submissions, because they are  
13 two separate activities.

14 One is a Ninja course. Let me tell  
15 you, as Fred reminded me, per our discussion before,  
16 we do all kinds of things that just were never  
17 contemplated in the beginning. This is - that  
18 zipline challenge course was one, climbing wall in  
19 general, bouldering walls, call them what you will,  
20 ninja courses, companion trampoline parks  
21 everywhere.

22 You know, just zipping outside the  
23 scope of what 1984 originally contemplated. Another  
24 reason why I have a lot of angst. And as we move  
25 forward and do good business on behalf of

1 Pennsylvania, we want to be righteous and have the  
2 wherewithal to do what we're doing.

3           So I just - Fred brought that up to  
4 me. I want to remind us, not in our scope under the  
5 current law. It's not a fair, it's not a carnival.  
6 It's not amusement park activity.

7           In the general sense it's an amusement  
8 attraction, but arguably, depending on what  
9 organization you belong to, they could call it a gym  
10 activity and we could be in a fight with this. But  
11 99.9 percent of the time the owners and operators  
12 want to do the right thing and choose to not argue  
13 with us and participate in this process and continue  
14 through that process.

15           But as you all well know, Pennsylvania  
16 is an expensive place to operate by virtue that you  
17 provide your own inspectors and that continuing  
18 education requirement, which is really the bulk of  
19 the effort and time spent on top of it all.

20           So set the stage, so Mr. Kelley or  
21 Joe, I don't know if you want to do the  
22 introduction, but I think we should entertain - who  
23 do I have first?

24           The Boulderling Rock Wall under  
25 DiEmidio Construction, so - so if either one of you

1 would like to do the introduction to the Bouldering  
2 Rock Wall, it would be greatly appreciated?

3 MR. PITTMAN: I don't have all the  
4 specifics in front of me. Do you have that, Joe?  
5 How high the wall is and things?

6 CHAIR: We do. I guess you can give a  
7 summary and we can let the Board ask questions and  
8 I'll go through the documents as necessary.

9 MR. PITTMAN: Okay.

10 Well, good. I'd rather you did it,  
11 because I just don't remember right off the top of  
12 my head.

13 CHAIR: That's fine. And we'll take  
14 you as an expert.

15 Joe, do you want to touch it or do you  
16 want me -?

17 MR. FILOROMO: Okay.

18 Yes, this facility is, as we see - as  
19 Walt said, it's under the definition of amusement  
20 attraction. One of their attractions was a climbing  
21 wall, but at the time they didn't have any fall  
22 protection.

23 We worked together for them to use a  
24 fall protector included in this manual. And we've  
25 got to where we felt a safe operation here. They

1 can't fall and get hurt.

2 CHAIR: All right.

3 Then I'll touch it some more, because  
4 I can.

5 Wow, trampoline parks, gym ninja  
6 obstacle courses. I'll call it the next thing. We  
7 would call it a fad, because we've been around long  
8 enough, but there are many, and the construction and  
9 operation is unique to each location. Right?

10 You can fabricate steel and put up,  
11 you know, preordered obstacles, but every variation  
12 in the manner in which you design and implement and  
13 install them is new to us. And we call them site-  
14 specific and obstacle-specific. So any time an  
15 operator submits a challenge course or a wall to us  
16 or changes the manner in which they operate comes  
17 back to us to make sure they're in compliance with  
18 the standards, both our law, ASTM requirements.

19 There's been a change in dynamics.  
20 Before you used to want to hook up to an auto-belay  
21 system, right, and allow people to free climb. Now  
22 climbing is part and parcel integrated into these  
23 challenges courses as one of the elements. A  
24 completely separate element and they want to call it  
25 bouldering. Call it whatever you will. You're

1 traversing a climbing element.

2                   And bouldering, specifically, they  
3 want to be free-climbing. Now, belay really does  
4 not hamper a climber, and traversing means now  
5 instead of going up all the way, they're going left  
6 and right and up to a certain height. So they want  
7 the option or opportunity to free climb minus the  
8 belay and fall into padding or foam.

9                   All right. This is just been a  
10 challenge for ASTM, as you take what were also  
11 antiquated standards, based on a specific ideal or  
12 idea of how things are due (sic), and try to adapt  
13 it to what climbers do outdoors bouldering, free-  
14 climbing and make it an amusement attraction,  
15 because you're inviting novices in for the pure  
16 thrill of it. That's our linchpin. Right?

17                   We're charging them come in to use  
18 this equipment. They're not there in the gym  
19 environment and they're working on their craft, or  
20 their sport. They're just - it's a birthday party  
21 and they're free-climbing. We have to provide  
22 oversight and protection.

23                   Well, how do we - how do you adapt  
24 that model of standard and get to us and still meet  
25 the requirement of the business owner/operator that

1 believes they have customers while protecting the  
2 public safety?

3                   Again, this is why I want to bring  
4 your attention well outside the scope of what 1984's  
5 law version typically intended us to do or gave us  
6 the authority and oversight to do, but we do it to  
7 the best of our ability.

8                   So in this particular case, we go,  
9 take the most applicable standard. And I'll jump to  
10 2291 of ASTM, which basically says there's no  
11 standard for climbing at all, because it's being  
12 modernized, as far as fabricated climbing walls,  
13 which I found to my complete horror, for lack of a  
14 better word.

15                   So now you go to a standard in Act 24  
16 that says, when you don't have a specific standard  
17 for something, you adopt all the other general  
18 standards that apply. Fall protection, belay,  
19 climbing in general, nonskid surfaces. And there  
20 are some specifics the foam hits and whether they're  
21 applicable or not.

22                   And that's our conversation that we've  
23 had with our Pennsylvania engineers as they try to  
24 certify these unique, one-of-a-kind attractions  
25 coming to us. Hence our conundrum, right?

1                   So we're just trying to do things  
2 better. And in this instance, Mr. Kelley was not  
3 new to this, by any means. He's come through our  
4 gauntlet on many occasions. And on this particular  
5 submission meets all of the applicable ASTM  
6 requirements and Pennsylvania law in general, with  
7 both fall protection and manufacture, construction,  
8 installation and operation of the climbers.

9                   I think I've covered it all. So we'll  
10 open it to questions now, both general and specific  
11 for either Mr. Kelley or the program.

12                   MR. KELLEY: Climbing walls is  
13 included on 2959, the aerial course. It says it  
14 covers 29-inch climbing walls, but it really doesn't  
15 say anything specific to climbing wall.

16                   CHAIR: That's my reference to the -  
17 as Joe educated me, ASTM was moving their old  
18 standard to the new standard, put it in that area,  
19 but never fleshed out any content or is in the  
20 process in a subcommittee working on content.

21                   So I agree, it does apply to it, but  
22 there's nothing in there.

23                   MR. KELLEY: Right.

24                   Except for the fall protection, the  
25 belay, the harness and all, which is the most



1 important thing in this, that is in there.

2 CHAIR: Right.

3 That's why we can say it's applicable  
4 to at least the standards that currently exist.

5 Thank you for the clarification. Now  
6 to the questions.

7 MR. GORMAN: So Joe, did you say that  
8 you've been to the site?

9 MR. FILOROMO: I sent Randall.

10 MR. GORMAN: Okay. So Randall.

11 Did you also say that they do require  
12 harnesses?

13 CHAIR: Yes.

14 MR. GORMAN: Because the manual does  
15 not say that.

16 MR. FILOROMO: There's a belay in this  
17 attachment here. Oh, geez, I don't know what page  
18 it is, but it's in here.

19 MR. GORMAN: All right.

20 So when I did the review, the manual  
21 says you don't need a harness on the bouldering  
22 wall. And their website shows someone climbing  
23 without a harness. So that's why I was - that's why  
24 I - now I'm confused.

25 So you guys got to tell me what's

1 right.

2 CHAIR: Yes. They have recently added  
3 the requirement and the belay system, which is the  
4 belay system we've seen previously is a true belay.

5 MR. GORMAN: So they must correct the  
6 manual then?

7 CHAIR: Well, he has a different  
8 piece, whether we have or not.

9 I agree, we may not vote on this today  
10 until we get it all, but we're actually letting you  
11 know that they have complied with our requirement  
12 for belay.

13 MR. GORMAN: Okay.

14 Another question, maybe Randall knows  
15 it, but they - I know I talked to you, Bill, by  
16 e-mail maybe, but their engineers report said that  
17 they recommended some structural changes to the  
18 design. And I want to know if they did. And Bill  
19 thinks they did, but I'd like to get confirmation.

20 MR. KELLEY: Yeah. I went back and  
21 looked at these. And they sent me pictures and  
22 stuff, and everybody's got them.

23 MR. GORMAN: Thank you, Bill.

24 MR. FILOROMO: Page 20 through 23  
25 cover the true belay on the attachment you should

1 have.

2 CHAIR: I'm changing jobs. I'm going  
3 to go look.

4 MR. FILOROMO: I don't know where it  
5 is.

6 CHAIR: I'm looking.

7 ---

8 (WHEREUPON, A PAUSE IN THE RECORD WAS HELD.)

9 ---

10 CHAIR: Yep, it's all here.  
11 You got lucky, Joe. I found it.

12 MR. FILOROMO: Okay.

13 Now, I might have missed a part.

14 MR. GORMAN: Do you want to see where  
15 it says in the manual? I can tell you what page  
16 it's on.

17 CHAIR: Just tell me. Tell me what  
18 page they added all the requirements for the  
19 harness.

20 MR. GORMAN: Page 16 of our pdf. Back  
21 up. Keep going, next page. Right there, that  
22 Boulderling Rock Wall paragraph, middle of it.

23 MR. FILOROMO: What page are you  
24 talking about? Now what?

25 MR. GORMAN: Page 16 of the pdf. It

1 had the description of the attraction and it talks  
2 about the Boulderling Rock Wall. It's says  
3 boulderling with no harness.

4 MR. FILOROMO: That should have been  
5 taken out, but the owner himself had the intent that  
6 they - a whole bunch of other things to use in the  
7 harness and belay.

8 Let's use this moment as an  
9 opportunity. We'll address the - we'll go back  
10 through the submission to clean it up. So I will -  
11 if there's a desire to make a motion, then that will  
12 be contingent on that. If it does not, we  
13 absolutely understand, but the original submission  
14 was minus any kind of belay.

15 Currently now the owner/operator  
16 understands that they're going to operate solely  
17 with harness and belay. That's the only way they're  
18 going to operate.

19 Are there any questions concerning  
20 this particular submission that we can answer,  
21 hopefully?

22 All right. Because of the nature of  
23 the submission, is there any entertainment for a  
24 motion?

25 MR. GORMAN: I'll make a motion to

1 approve it, with the condition that the manual is  
2 corrected for the issuance, as required on the  
3 bouldering wall, and to verify that structural  
4 changes recommended by the engineer were complete.

5 CHAIR: Is there any modification -  
6 well, let's do this.

7 Is there a second for that particular  
8 motion?

9 MR. REBBIE: I'll second.

10 CHAIR: Thank you.

11 Is there any discussion about that?

12 MR. FILOROMO: Randall has already  
13 clarified those things, but we'll buckle down on it.

14 CHAIR: Well, the point is the  
15 documents have to reflect it, Joe.

16 MR. FILOROMO: Right.

17 CHAIR: Yeah, that's all he's talking  
18 about.

19 All right. So motioned and seconded.  
20 Any other discussion?

21 All those in favor, please signify  
22 with an aye.

23 AYES RESPOND

24 CHAIR: Are there any opposed?

25 NO RESPONSE

1           CHAIR:   Okay.

2           Let's move on to the ninja challenge  
3 course version of this.  Joe, do you want to give an  
4 overview while I bring up the documents?

5           MR. FILOROMO:  Just basically it's an  
6 obstacle course type of thing.  We've had several  
7 before.  It's pretty self-explanatory.

8           CHAIR:  He's super helpful sometimes.

9           MR. FILOROMO:  Well, when they wrote  
10 this law, they kind of talked about, we don't know  
11 what's going to come along on it, everybody made an  
12 issue of rides and attractions broad.

13           Now, what you consider as an amusement  
14 park of a carnival or a fair, that's another story.  
15 Now, I don't know how that - but anyhow, this stuff  
16 is amusement attraction.  We have all - still worked  
17 out all the structural information, so on and its  
18 supervisor and operators and so on.

19           CHAIR:  So I'll add a little meat to  
20 the discussion.  So when we get these - and we're  
21 much better at them today than we were a year and a  
22 half or two years ago - we want the manufacturer  
23 certification for the structure.  The manufacturer  
24 certification for all of the elements involved, and  
25 in what order the elements are going to be installed

1 and how. Right?

2                   So that's all under structural design.  
3 What fall protection is required based on what  
4 element they're navigating, padding required. All  
5 that is covered in ASTM.

6                   What Pennsylvania does and does well  
7 today, more better, better than it did previously,  
8 was that we're doing these site-specific. Because  
9 each unique installation where the equipment could  
10 be the same, the elements may not be in the same  
11 order, and operational concerns are part of what we  
12 approve.

13                   So we approve the element, the pieces,  
14 how it's installed, right, to make sure the building  
15 meets the requirements and is capable, especially  
16 when it's being affixed to a permanent structure.  
17 And also how that individual operator is going to  
18 operate. So those are all three elements.

19                   By the way, let me go back to the law  
20 that we talked about. I added that language in  
21 there, because none of that was in there. It was  
22 just the manufacturer piece and not the other two.

23                   So we are as equally concerned about  
24 installation and operation as we are about the  
25 manufacturers, right, and the design elements. We

1 just are. It's what we've been doing. So in this  
2 particular case, all of that is inclusive.

3 Are there questions from Board members  
4 concerning this specific submission?

5 MR. NESLAND: So Steve's question  
6 about the recommendations, recommendations were also  
7 made for the ninja course, were they also performed?

8 CHAIR: Mr. Kelley?

9 MR. KELLEY: Yes.

10 CHAIR: There you go.

11 MR. NESLAND: Okay.

12 Now, one of the things in their  
13 structural engineers letter said they wanted  
14 non-destructive testing done on a six-month basis  
15 and a 12-month basis. I'd like to see that moved  
16 into the manual. That way when somebody reviews the  
17 manual, they know it's not just in the letter.

18 MR. KELLEY: Okay. That's good.

19 CHAIR: Are there any other questions?  
20 Okay. Is there an appetite for a  
21 motion?

22 MR. REBBIE: I'll make a motion to  
23 approve.

24 CHAIR: Is there a second?

25 MR. NESLAND: I'll second.



1                   CHAIR: Will you state the conditions  
2 of the motion, if there are any?

3                   MR. REBBIE: What Brad said.

4                   CHAIR: That's perfectly fine. What  
5 Brad said is that the submission clarifies that the  
6 work that was requested to be done was done and that  
7 non-destructive testing actually appears in the  
8 manual

9                   MR. REBBIE: Correct.

10                  CHAIR: So for the record, it's been  
11 moved and seconded. Is there any discussion?

12                   All right. Then I ask for a vote.  
13 All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

14 AYES RESPOND

15                  CHAIR: Are there any opposed?

16 NO RESPONSE

17                  CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Kelley.

18                  MR. KELLEY: Thank you.

19                  CHAIR: That currently concludes the  
20 approval portion of the agenda. This is, obviously,  
21 the opportunity for Board members to have a moment  
22 or several moments, if that is your will.

23                   So at this point I open it up to Board  
24 members who have comments, questions and concerns.

25 I know you're going to, just who's going to go

1 first?

2 MR. HOUGHTON: Has there been any  
3 consideration given to - this is how - the other  
4 side of the regulation we're trying to get. Has  
5 there been any consideration given to what yourself  
6 and the members of the Association spoke about a  
7 couple weeks ago with you?

8 CHAIR: Yeah. That's - let's - to  
9 absolutely be clear, I have taken all of our  
10 conversation and wonderfully drafted a proposed  
11 letter of the points to legal counsel, to determine  
12 how much we can do by regulation. And that answer  
13 will be provided not only to the Showmen's  
14 Association, but also PAPA and the other industry  
15 folks as transparency. Right?

16 That's what it said. As a proactive  
17 project, I want to provide all of the information to  
18 all the people involved all the time, so everybody  
19 is operating on the same premise. Right?

20 So we have all current information. I  
21 have not got a response back. I suspect much of it  
22 can be accomplished by regulation. As discussed in  
23 the meeting, I'm not sure of that. And then the  
24 appetite will be, is it worthwhile to move forward  
25 in this way than that way?

1 All right. So this just creates a  
2 larger conversation, which I'm all - that's what I'm  
3 looking for.

4 MR. HALL: I believe at one of our  
5 recent meetings some comment was made about cell  
6 phones flying out of the pockets or containers or  
7 whatever of people on amusement rides. And I think  
8 we were instructed to come back with suggestions at  
9 a subsequent meeting as to how cell phone  
10 maintenance should be handled.

11 And it seems to me the most obvious  
12 way would be to check them before you get on the  
13 ride or the attraction, turn them in, and I don't  
14 know if I'm wrong or right, or there's a better way  
15 to do that.

16 CHAIR: You're right, because that's  
17 currently the model that is expected at parks, fairs  
18 and carnivals. That says, hey, when you come here,  
19 the individual ballistic or the ride would cause you  
20 to go ballistic, which means you're moving at not of  
21 your own control and anything that's not secured to  
22 your person should be removed, as it could create a  
23 hazard.

24 If people choose not to comply, the  
25 question always becomes, as a ride operator, ensure

1 that that person's compliant, not just for their own  
2 safety or that item becomes admissible to those  
3 outside the exclusionary of the ride.

4 MR. HALL: Well, that could create an  
5 added manpower or woman power problem for the ride  
6 operator, but what other better ways to do it?

7 CHAIR: It continues to be the ongoing  
8 question on the best way to do that and not infringe  
9 on peoples' rights, and also not to slow down the  
10 cycle of a ride operation. They're already hindered  
11 by how many they can - how quickly they can move  
12 that ride through.

13 MR. HALL: Second point - were you  
14 finished with that?

15 CHAIR: We could be.

16 MR. HALL: Second point, I got a flyer  
17 or magazine from Northampton Township Parks and  
18 Recreation, which is in Lower Bucks County,  
19 Pennsylvania. And they were talking about some of  
20 their summertime attractions. And they had pictures  
21 of Camp Explorer, which shows people on ziplines,  
22 wall climbing, and going through obstacle courses.

23 I don't know whether they bring this  
24 in, in a temporary basis or whether they go  
25 somewhere, but from the pictures, I get the idea

1 it's done on a temporary basis.

2 Do we ever get notified about these  
3 municipal groups surrounding recreation programs and  
4 bringing in some of the attractions or devices we  
5 should be maintaining or observing or policing?

6 CHAIR: Do we get notified? This  
7 particular place we can look up, because it would be  
8 registered with us, whether it's under this -.

9 MR. HALL: Well, I'm sure there are  
10 other ones, because I know they have meetings and  
11 they exchange ideas on what to do for their summer  
12 programs.

13 CHAIR: So we do - with the  
14 understanding that the programs first and foremost  
15 is public safety. But hand in hand with that is  
16 education. Right?

17 So there are companies that exist that  
18 we run across by happenstance or if reported to us  
19 by other registered entities, and that's most of the  
20 time, where some observant person will look in the  
21 local newspaper. Because all of these are ride  
22 attraction locations and we need people to come to  
23 them, so they're advertising locally somewhere.

24 We often check that advertisement. So  
25 I would say yes, if they've operated in Pennsylvania

1 before, that we've interacted with them and they're  
2 complaint. If this is something new with a new  
3 provider who hasn't ventured into Pennsylvania  
4 before, it's 50/50 whether they're aware that the  
5 program exists and they have to register.

6 But you bringing it to our attention  
7 will create that moment. And we'll interact with  
8 Northampton, their parks and recreation. And  
9 furthermore they'll be on notice that any activity  
10 similar to this - we deal with an awful lot of  
11 municipalities that register their pool slides and  
12 other related activity. I would not be surprised if  
13 we're aware of this.

14 Northampton County, Bucks area are  
15 very diligent about making sure they're compliant  
16 across the spectrum. So in this particular  
17 instance, I feel confident that they're compliant or  
18 they will be when the time comes.

19 Some of the outliers up towards the  
20 New York border, Ohio border, you just don't know if  
21 the municipalities are aware that there are these  
22 additional requirements. And then it becomes a  
23 moment of education.

24 MR. HALL: Well, it might be a good  
25 idea that the Department of Agriculture or this

1 Bureau maybe sends out a press release prior to the  
2 start of the summer programs.

3 CHAIR: Have you been talking to Fred,  
4 or -

5 MR. HALL: No.

6 CHAIR: - has Fred been talking to  
7 you?

8 MR. HALL: No, I wasn't talking to  
9 Fred.

10 CHAIR: I'll offer that Fred is  
11 tasked, is probably the best way - there's the  
12 things you want to accomplish in a given year. And  
13 one of the things that this program and many others  
14 in the Department of Agriculture don't do well  
15 enough is to tell our story, both to the legislator  
16 and to the public on what we do, how well we do it,  
17 the expectations of the public, so they're aware.

18 And I mean, we're good in the  
19 microcosm around our parks and fairs and carnivals.  
20 But you know, the public at large, tourism in  
21 general, I don't know that we do a good enough job  
22 getting the word out, so people will know to contact  
23 us before it becomes a moment where they're not in  
24 compliance or there's an accident or concern, and it  
25 should have been, you know, a moment where people

1 would know who to call that have an issue.

2 So we agree with you. That's  
3 something we hope to remedy this year, at least get  
4 better at.

5 MR. HALL: Another point, the  
6 Philadelphia Press had big features within the past  
7 week or so, of the new Comcast high-rise building in  
8 Center City Philadelphia. And I remember there were  
9 two occasions within the past year where Comcast  
10 representatives and their suppliers or builders came  
11 in here about the Comcast Universal sphere, or  
12 whatever they're calling that attraction.

13 And when I asked about it before, I  
14 think Joe said that they had some problems and were  
15 unable to complete it within the required time.

16 They're not here today. Is that still  
17 a work in progress?

18 CHAIR: I have to jump back prior to  
19 October, since I was not here. But the last  
20 discussion -.

21 MR. HALL: It wasn't discussed in  
22 October.

23 CHAIR: The last discussion in October  
24 they were here, and this is my recollection, and  
25 I'll go back to confirm that for you to make sure.



1 Is that they were waiting for media contents.

2 Right? Everything else was complete.

3 We had issued them a tentative  
4 operation approval, and we were going to go down and  
5 ensure that the functionality of this sphere, access  
6 and egress minus the experience that people were  
7 would get, operated properly.

8 You know, we don't care what movie  
9 they show in 360 or 270 round, it's just a matter of  
10 how they're going to operate.

11 And they were willing to allow us to  
12 go down there. I don't know if we've gotten there,  
13 because they were waiting for holiday content.

14 So Joe?

15 MR. FILOROMO: Yeah, we did get there  
16 during - the holidays are still a work in progress,  
17 they're still not ready.

18 MR. HALL: All right.

19 CHAIR: There you go.

20 MR. HALL: Going back to your  
21 cocktail -.

22 CHAIR: Napkin.

23 MR. HALL: I read it twice and I think  
24 there's a lot of positives in there. One thing that  
25 I would object to, I see you wanted to increase the

1 membership of this group from 9 to 14, if I read it  
2 correctly.

3           CHAIR: I did offer an opportunity  
4 that I'm happy to explain in a moment. That if the  
5 industry collectively decided that we were to  
6 regulate inflatables, and we were positively to  
7 regulate extreme sports ziplines. And that we were  
8 to regulate trampoline establishments, that those  
9 could - they don't have to - those could be viable  
10 members that should be represented as members on the  
11 Board.

12           A suggestion of mine only that -  
13 remember I said I wrote it to be all-inclusive or  
14 any variety thereof? It's a moment of conversation  
15 that I didn't want to overlook, that if the industry  
16 was to give a nod to these other aspects of the  
17 amusement industry that weren't on the original  
18 Board makeup, that perhaps that's the opportunity to  
19 add seats to represent those specific industries

20           So that's - that's why that number was  
21 there. It doesn't have to be. Like anything else,  
22 a brainstorming session could be a good idea or it  
23 could be a really poor idea.

24           So I appreciate you bringing that up.

25           MR. HALL: Personally I felt it was

1 too many. I think it would just prolong meetings  
2 and you see what we go through here sometimes. And  
3 I just felt - just my personal view, you've made  
4 some good points yourself.

5 CHAIR: That's what I want, is  
6 discussion. Thank you very much.

7 MR. HALL: That's it for me. Thanks.

8 CHAIR: Gary? I don't know why you  
9 laugh, that's why you're here.

10 He's not. I think we might have  
11 somebody else.

12 MR. CHUBB: We'll make this very  
13 short.

14 CHAIR: You're average. It's fine.

15 MR. CHUBB: Okay.

16 The 2018 paid seminar was held in  
17 York, Pennsylvania at the end of October and the  
18 first day in November. It was attended by 70  
19 students, and we did our hands-on instruction out at  
20 the Majestic Midways Winter Quarters.

21 And a special shout-out. Thank you to  
22 Scott Inners and the entire Inners family for  
23 hosting these at their Winter Quarters.

24 Because the first time this particular  
25 seminar that they actually bring a field trip out to

1 working winter quarters for a traveling show that  
2 was very well-received.

3 So tentative dates for 2019 paid  
4 seminar are going to be October 28 through the 31st  
5 in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Looking for a facility  
6 out there right now. And we'll probably have a  
7 visit to DelGrosso's Park during the seminar.

8 CHAIR: I absolutely know a location,  
9 if you're hard up for a location to have people. I  
10 know somebody puts you in touch with a location out  
11 there, if you're interested.

12 MR. CHUBB: Okay.

13 CHAIR: We were there on behalf of  
14 another place, and it turned out to be a good  
15 location.

16 MR. CHUBB: All right.

17 I'll be happy to talk to you offline  
18 about it.

19 And that is all I have. Thank you.

20 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

21 Are there any questions for Gary while  
22 he's on the hot seat? You lucked out.

23 This is the time for folks who don't  
24 normally attend meetings. As your representatives  
25 here, do you have anything for the Board for the

1 program in general? You have an opportunity to come  
2 up and say your piece if you have anything for us.

3 And I look for that ever-faithful  
4 motion to adjourn. Is there a motion to adjourn?

5 MR. HALL: So moved.

6 CHAIR: Is there a second.

7 MR. NESLAND: Second.

8 CHAIR: All those in favor?

9 AYES RESPOND

10 CHAIR: We're adjourned.

11 Thank you very much.

12 \* \* \* \* \*

13 HEARING CONCLUDED AT 12:17 P.M.

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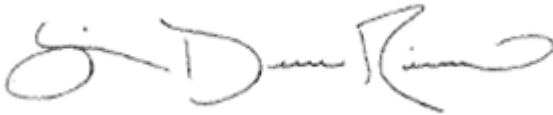
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings was reported by me on 01-23-19 and that I, Lindsey Deann Richardson, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Dated the 1st day of February, 2019



Lindsey Deann Richardson,  
Court Reporter