



AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

10:00 a.m., December 05, 2023

Room 309

PA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2301 North Cameron Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Russell Redding, Chairman	PA Department of Agriculture Secretary
Bradley Nesland	B&N Consulting
Jim Houghton	PA State Showmen's Association
James Spang Jr	PA State Assoc of County Fairs
John D. Makrias	Special Advisor
John C. Pittman	Public Member
Kenneth Potter, Jr	Special Advisor
Robert A. Di Domizio, Jr. P.E.	RAD Engineering Corporation
Stephen Gorman	Waldameer Park
Stephen Swika, III	PA State Showmen's Association
Thomas Rebbie	Philadelphia Toboggan Coaster Inc
William B. Hall, III	Public Member

Bureau Director, Walter Remmert

AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER – Bureau Director Walter Remmert, Chairman (on behalf of Secretary Redding)
- a. Sunshine Law Announcement
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- a. Approval of the minutes –June 20, 2023
- C. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:
- a. Welcome James Spang Jr
- D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:
- a. Next year's meetings- 10:00 AM, PDA, Room 309 (for all dates)
 - March 11, 2024
 - June 11, 2024
 - September 12, 2024
 - December 10, 2024

E. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. None

F. NEW BUSINESS:

Angel Playground	Ninja Course
Angel Playground	Ropes Course
Bittler Train	Train
Bojux.com	Extreme
Proslide	Cannonball 40
Sakanac Rock	Climbing Wall
Urban Air Attractions	Wipeout- Safety Alert

- a. Waldameer

- Ravine Flyer 1 Wooden Coaster Control System
- Thunder River Log Flume Control System

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

H. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

I. ADJOURNMENT:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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IN RE: AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

* * * * *

BEFORE: WALTER REMMERT, Chair
Bradley Nesland, Member
Jim Houghton, Member
John D. Makrias, Member
John C. Pittman, Member
Kenneth Potter, Jr., Member
Robert A. Di Domizio, Jr., P.E., Member
Stephen Gorman, Member
Stephen Swika, III, Member
Thomas Rebbie, Member
William B. Hall, III, Member

HEARING: Tuesday, December 5, 2023
9:35 a.m.

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

WITNESSES: None offered

Reporter: Bernadette M. Black
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ALSO PRESENT:

- WILLIAM SAMS
- JACOB GRAFFIER
- YVONNE BROWN
- JOSEPH FILOROMO
- TONY CATALNO
- RANDALL ARNDT
- FRED STRATHMEYER
- TIM HORN
- JESSE ZHANG
- GARY CHUBB
- DEREK WALTER SHAW

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NONE OFFERED

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CHAIR: Good morning, everyone. My name is Walt Remmert. I'm the Bureau Director for the Bureau of Ride Measurement Standards, which the Amusement Ride Safety Division is part of. Today is the date and time for the Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board meeting. Published in Sunshine?

MS. BROWN: Yes.

CHAIR: I had an affirmation from Ms. Yvonne Brown.

I'll remind you that this is being recorded by a stenographer. So before you speak, if you would announce yourself by name and spell your last name and who you're affiliated with, that would be greatly appreciated for the stenographer and to keep the record straight. This is a working session for the Board, so public comments are not invited unless you have matters before the Board since this a you - you watch, we talk, although some of you are here to participate.

So at this time, I'm going to ask for clarification of who's on the phone. I'll tell you who I know, and then I'll ask by phone number who you are. So when I get to your phone number, please

1 identify yourself. 8685, last four 8685, would you
2 please take yourself off with mute, identify
3 yourself, spell your last name, and tell us who
4 you're with. Okay. We'll actually test to make sure
5 folks online are hearing us.

6 Tony or Dennis, would you please
7 respond to me if you're hearing what we're saying
8 here today, please? Any of the other participants
9 that have phoned in or Teams in, if you can hear me,
10 please come off of mute and respond.

11 Is our mic muted so they can't hear
12 us? I don't know, so let's try. Yeah, that's what
13 we'll do.

14 Is there anybody online that can hear
15 us now? It worked perfectly yesterday. We're giving
16 Fred a chance to come in. Those folks that have
17 signed in online, please one of you come off of mute
18 if you can hear me? It's a game we play. We
19 shouldn't be surprised. All right, well that's
20 muted, right? I'm going to try this mic first, and
21 if not. Can you hear me now?

22 Is there anybody online that can hear
23 me? Yeah, I'm muted here. We're signed in at the
24 conference, so they should be able to hear us.

25 BOARD MEMBER: Right, and that's the

1 cannot get on.

2 CHAIR: Yeah, we're signed in as this,
3 but we've also signed in as individuals. We'll have.

4 MS. BROWN: I hear everybody. Try to
5 talk again louder. I hear the other people for sure.

6 CHAIR: I hear them too, because I'm
7 logged in here. So this is what I'll do. I would
8 suggest calling back in again on the big one, Yvonne.
9 Good morning all. This is Walt Remmert, and we're
10 having a minor difficulty here, so we're logging back
11 -. No, no, I thought we were signing out, signing
12 in, but. Let's see if you can hear me.

13 Can you hear me online now? Tony or
14 Dennis, can you hear me? And if you can, please
15 respond.

16 MS. BROWN: I can hear you with the
17 mic on now. I didn't before.

18 CHAIR: You can hear?

19 BOARD MEMBER: I can hear you.

20 BOARD MEMBER: What was that?

21 CHAIR: That's false.

22 BOARD MEMBER: I can hear.

23 CHAIR: We appreciate that. We've
24 been echoing in an empty cavern for a few moments.
25 Appreciate you responding. If the person who's

1 called in at last four six - 8685, would you please
2 identify yourself and who you're with? Individual
3 who was signed in at 1975, if you would identify
4 yourself, please.

5 MR. HORN: This is Tim Horn. I'm at
6 1975.

7 CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Horn. That
8 person or group of people that were signed in as
9 fireflies, if you can identify yourself, please.
10 Because the folks online don't know how to use it
11 versus technology? True. All right, done with them.

12 MR. FILOROMO: We should make it more
13 user friendly, I guess.

14 CHAIR: Here to observe or here for
15 rides, folks in the front row?

16 PUBLIC MEMBER: Observe.

17 CHAIR: Observe? I know what you're
18 here for, gentlemen in the jacket in the second room?

19 MR. SAMS: I'm here for a ride, the
20 Cannonball 40.

21 CHAIR: Okay.

22 And we know who's in the background.
23 All right, it's only 11 minutes later. We're better.
24 going to come on the record.

25 CHAIR: We're Sunshined?

1 MS. BROWN: Yes.

2 CHAIR: Ready to go. Fair enough.

3 Again, introductions. My name is Walt Remmert,
4 Bureau Director for Ride Measurement Standards. I am
5 the Acting Chairman of the Advisory Board in place of
6 Secretary Russell Redding. You may see Fred
7 Strathmeyer, who is double booked today, so he will
8 stop in to say hello to everyone. We may have a few
9 comments for you all. Please feel free Board Members
10 to ask him whatever questions when he shows up here.
11 He loves when you give him homework.

12 As identified just a little bit ago,
13 we have Sunshined this properly with the Sunshine
14 Law. All the notices are out properly, and the
15 minutes for our June 20th meeting were distributed to
16 the members for their review and consideration.

17 Is there any comments from Board
18 Members concerning the minutes from June 20th? I
19 have to wait to pause. It's fine. All right, no
20 comments.

21 All the corrections and changes that
22 we did receive were made, and hearing no comments
23 from Board Members, I'll act for - ask for a motion
24 to approve the minutes from the June 20th, 2023
25 meeting.

1 MR. GORMAN: I'll make a motion to
2 approve the minutes.

3 CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Gorman.
4 Is there a second for that motion?

5 BOARD MEMBER: Second.

6 CHAIR: Thank you, sir. Is there any
7 discussion? All right, all those in favor of
8 approving the minutes from the June 20th meeting,
9 please say aye.

10 (AYES RESPOND)

11 CHAIR: Are - are there any opposed?

12 (NO RESPONSE)

13 CHAIR: Thank you. All right.

14 Moving on to item C on our agenda is
15 to formally welcome our newest member, Mr. James
16 Spang, Junior. We circulated an introduction packet
17 to the Board Members in September when we finally got
18 Mr. Spang on the Board. He brings to us a wealth of
19 background and knowledge in security and policing and
20 crowd interaction. He spends the majority of his
21 time now at?

22 BOARD MEMBER: Allentown Fair.

23 CHAIR: Allentown Fair, which I think
24 is awesome. He was already planning to be somewhere.
25 He is likely to call in at some point during this on

1 his trip, but he is not in the States at the moment.
2 And we were aware of this at this time. So if he
3 can, we'll actually have him say a few words if he
4 jumps on with us. But for now, know that Mr. Spang
5 is on Board. He is with us, S-P-A-N-G, Junior. And
6 if he's available, we'll expect comments from him
7 later in the meeting.

8 Move on to item D on director's
9 report. We have selected dates for the next meetings
10 in 2024?

11 MS. BROWN: Sure.

12 CHAIR: And they are posted. They
13 will be Sunshined shortly after the first of the
14 year?

15 MS. BROWN: Yeah.

16 CHAIR: And then all dates will be
17 Sunshined. We are required to Sunshine those dates.
18 Once they're Sunshined, they're set in stone. The
19 only way for us to change those dates is to retract
20 the Sunshine and issue a new Sunshine notice. So as
21 far as we're concerned, these are the dates on the
22 calendar. If you are unable to attend or going to
23 attend virtually, and you know that ahead of time,
24 that would be fantastic for us. We appreciate that.

25 Contrary to what we're seeing here

1 today, this actually works really well, we promise.
2 Maybe we might have to do a little exercise with
3 folks that are not familiar with it or use it very
4 often to make sure that they're familiar with the
5 different functionality. At one point, we had used
6 Zoom, but now the Commonwealth uses Teams as a matter
7 of course, because that's what we're licensed to use
8 and that may provide some conflict in some cases.

9 I know that Mr. Horn is available. I
10 saw Mr. Schwa (phonetic) was on there, both of our
11 wayward inspectors, Mr. Catalano (phonetic) and Mr.
12 Bukowski (phonetic). Mr. Adams may or may not be
13 joining us today, and we also have one or two other
14 folks that hopefully we'll convince to talk to us.
15 We'll see.

16 I see no old business to address and
17 new business on the agenda. Let me offer you some
18 insight on how we selected the items to come before
19 the Board today with the expectation that Mr. Spang
20 may be in attendance, may not be in attendance, and
21 to remind Board Members how the Bureau, the Division
22 has been operating in the recent past and to identify
23 changes in how we're doing business.

24 We accept new ride application packets
25 throughout the year, right? So there is no window

1 that says you have to submit them by this date or
2 this date. Based on the variety of rides or
3 attractions that are submitted to us, it may be
4 rather easy to review and get prepared to before the
5 board. More likely than not, it's not. It's a
6 little more difficult and cumbersome. So we have a
7 pretty thorough process. We have a letter, it has
8 some expectations. We have many professional
9 engineers, Pennsylvania professional engineers that
10 we deal with, who understand our process and the
11 items that we require to see. We take into account
12 what our Board Members have asked us in the past to
13 provide, such as electrical diagrams and such for our
14 professional engineer on the Board. And we try to
15 get all that information condensed to a usable
16 product for the Board Members to review, ideally six
17 weeks out from a Board date, more likely six days out
18 from a Board date, but not for lack of trying.

19 And we have a constant line of
20 communication with applicants when we are flummoxed
21 in that we don't have all the documents we need or
22 the engineering letter doesn't provide the details
23 we're looking for and so on. And then we get to a
24 day like today where we have a number of rides that
25 we have spent months having conversations with the

1 submitter, and feel that we're very comfortable that
2 the Board actually has a reasonably final product for
3 them to review and spend their time on and offer
4 their opinions.

5 So today we wanted to show you a
6 variety of what we're working on, but not the
7 totality in Joe's working file because that's what we
8 call it. We have just under 30 rides that are being
9 worked on, and they have been submitted to us from as
10 far back as midsummer of '22, all the way up until
11 just this summer. And for a variety of reasons that
12 I just went over, they're just not ready to be
13 reviewed by the Board yet. We're still lacking some
14 piece of information that deems their application
15 incomplete. And sometimes, as we know with some of
16 our favorite carnival folks, you have a European ride
17 and it's by a set of European engineers and
18 manufacturers. And just that conundrum of
19 transitioning all of that information into our
20 standard causes some bit of consternation for us and
21 our engineer.

22 So there are quite a few that you will
23 likely see the next Board meeting. So if I was going
24 to foreshadow our March meeting, weather willing,
25 it's going to be a busy one, right? Because we have

1 many pieces that are on the cusp that we're
2 interacting with the applicants, and hopefully we'll
3 get them to the finish line for you. So I said we
4 have just under 30, which is 29, and we would like to
5 move as many of those pieces to the Board for next
6 Board meeting.

7 We obviously will not provide so many
8 to the Board that will make the day unreasonable.
9 But you can expect us to hopefully move at least a
10 dozen pieces next time if we're capable. Just to
11 kind of foreshadow a little bit.

12 In the applicant file working, but not
13 a complete application, we have another 22 runs, or
14 attractions. This includes a variety of inflatables,
15 some pie in the sky slides that may never come to
16 fruition, some playboards that we're still
17 questioning whether it rises to the point where we
18 have to approve them. Some intentional major
19 modifications, and some notifications from some parks
20 that they plan on building things, but they're not
21 ready to reveal it to us yet. So overall, we have
22 just under 50 pieces that we're aware of today that
23 need some kind of action by the Department. So your
24 patience is appreciated.

25 With that being said, what do we have

1 up first? Angels? So, dual submission to kind of
2 remind the Board Members that we deal with all kinds
3 of submissions. In this case, Angel's Playground,
4 one off. They purchase pieces and parts. They have
5 a wonderfully astute engineer put those pieces and
6 parts together, meet all the parameters of an
7 application in Pennsylvania, and then it's a site
8 specific.

9 So as a reminder, not only do we do
10 the engineering piece, we deal with the installation
11 at a specific location and then the overall
12 operation. Those are all pieces of approval process.
13 And there isn't another one like us. There just
14 isn't. The closest I can think of is California. I
15 don't want to be compared to California. California
16 doesn't want to be compared to me. So, but we do the
17 same amount of business, and we appreciate. Good
18 timing, Fred.

19 MR. STRATHMEYER: Thank you.

20 CHAIR: Just about to get into the
21 first one. So as I described, our wayward and double
22 booked, Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer, who
23 typically chairs these meetings on our behalf, will
24 offer you to have a few comments and say hello. Mr.
25 Spang is not able to attend today, but.

1 MR. STRATHMEYER: Okay.

2 CHAIR: He may be on the phone later.

3 BOARD MEMBER: He's been trying.

4 MR. STRATHMEYER: Pardon me?

5 BOARD MEMBER: He's been trying.

6 MR. STRATHMEYER: Okay, no worries.

7 Well, again, welcome, everyone. Sorry
8 for - for the lateness. I've - I have another
9 commitment that I'm already running a meeting
10 downstairs, so now I'm running a second meeting up
11 here. It's the way it goes, right? Not so much.
12 Anyway, welcome. Again, happy holidays to you all.
13 Again, appreciate the significance of this advisory
14 group. It echoes constantly in - in the news every
15 day. There are other states that don't have the
16 luxury of having your expertise, all of you that sit
17 around this advisory group.

18 And - and I can't tell you how proud
19 we are of - of this state, and your contribution to
20 what you add as we go and look at new devices and new
21 rides and - and, you know, just new opportunities for
22 recreation here in the State of Pennsylvania, which
23 obviously adds to the economy. And I really
24 compliment all of you for what you do. And to the
25 industry in the back, really appreciate what you guys

1 do. You just, again, just elevate the whole process,
2 so.

3 CHAIR: Are you sticking around?

4 BOARD MEMBER: For a little bit.

5 CHAIR: Very good. I love it when we
6 can get on the secretary's or deputy secretary's
7 calendar. The Commonwealth, surprisingly enough,
8 especially the Department of Agriculture, we added
9 conference rooms. We don't usually do that. You
10 don't usually add additional meeting space. But in
11 this particular case, we are now so ingrained with
12 industry in all aspects that we are kind of the hub
13 of meeting all these variety of organizations. On
14 any given day, you could come into agriculture on any
15 one of our floors that has meeting rooms, and you'll
16 see anything from evasive species, Hardwood
17 Development Council, beef excellence, dairy
18 excellence, mushroom growers, ag growers,
19 agritourism, fish, game. You wouldn't expect us to
20 have that, but we do have animal health upstairs and
21 we do live baiting on top of all that. So you name
22 it, it actually flows through here, which is
23 extremely surprising. So this is one of many.

24 Agriculture is not coined the phrase,
25 but used often, blue ribbon. There is no other

1 mechanism like this. I've heard the secretary speak
2 at length and call out this advisory board as one of
3 the preeminent boards that sits here because of the
4 members that are on it. He may know a few of you by
5 name, but just having folks from the industry, the
6 public sector, the length of time and commitment that
7 we've had, some of our members on this Board. I
8 won't say Mr. Hall's name, but some folks have been
9 here since the beginning, and that's 1992, if we're
10 all being clear about it. So this has been around
11 for a few minutes, and it really sets a precedence
12 for us.

13 Jumping back to Angel's playground,
14 the ninja course and rope course. What the Board
15 Members will likely have seen and demonstrated by
16 pictures is the engineer is required to tell us all
17 of the details, the manufacturer of the pieces, the
18 pieces themselves, the interaction with the pieces of
19 the customers, the fall protections, and all of the
20 mechanisms for installation, maintenance, and all -
21 all that, really, are you wearing any safety gear and
22 all that like. And then the owner or operator is
23 required to provide an in depth oversight of how
24 they're going to operate this madness. How many are
25 allowed on it? Who is, what are the restrictions?

1 How do you go in and clean them? And then the safety
2 related around it should there be an accident. Not
3 just a reporting mechanism, but if there is a
4 particular hazard.

5 We've identified over the years, all
6 kinds of hazards, like the spider climbs, where
7 people when you don't have somebody in there to catch
8 people who might get hung up in there, small children
9 or small people slip through. They don't go all the
10 way through. Or you have a cargo net, general term,
11 and people get hung up in those because there's
12 nobody watching them. So attendants for us, not
13 attendance, but attendants. People watching who are
14 part of the business are an important safety factor,
15 and often what we find lacking when we go out to
16 these locations.

17 You should never go in anywhere in
18 Pennsylvania where it's a free play area and there's
19 no oversight. There's no such thing. It's not
20 approved by us. It'll never be approved by us. So
21 if you happen to run across a few, which Joe recently
22 has, you pay to get in the door, and then they let
23 you into an area, younger children have an
24 opportunity to interact with a variety of pieces with
25 no supervision. They won't be operating much longer

1 if we can help it. Hopefully, they'll figure out
2 that attendants are a vital safety requirement.

3 So in this particular case, we have a
4 modifiable ninja course, obstacle course called many
5 names with a variety of obstacles, and they are in a
6 set pattern, and they have a set requirement. They
7 are a frame structure. In this particular case, they
8 have elected for ball pits. Yes, sir.

9 MR. FILOROMO: Sorry to -.

10 CHAIR: Nope, by all means.

11 MR. FILOROMO: Sorry to interrupt you.
12 I'm getting emails from Mr. Pittman and Mr. Di
13 Domizio saying they're waiting to be admitted.

14 MS. BROWN: I don't see anybody. Can
15 they try again?

16 CHAIR: Go - go to people, click up on
17 people. See if there's anybody in the lobby. Nope.

18 MS. BROWN: And I did let in Makrias,
19 but he's the only one that I saw get through.

20 CHAIR: Were there any other meeting
21 invites that were sent out that were different?

22 MS. BROWN: I only have one notice.

23 CHAIR: Okay.

24 MS. BROWN: I can send it to them
25 again?

1 CHAIR: Yeah.

2 MS. BROWN: I can email them. I don't
3 have the email.

4 CHAIR: Okay.

5 We'll - we'll attempt to. Taking a
6 brief pause. She doesn't have email, but I do, so I
7 will send them an invite.

8 MR. FILOROMO: Just call them in.

9 CHAIR: They could call - they could
10 dial in themselves, Joe. It's part of the meeting
11 notice. Did you say Makrias too? Tom?

12 MR. ARNDT: It's John Pittman and
13 Domizio.

14 MR. MAKRIAS: No, I'm right here.

15 CHAIR: Oh, he's here. Di Domizio.
16 I'll - I'll - I'm going to send it to. Told you it's
17 always fun.

18 BOARD MEMBER: Like selling Christmas
19 trees.

20 CHAIR: Right? All right.

21 Yvonne is working on that. I will
22 continue on our way. I will remind the folks that
23 are in attendance to include my man, Mr. Filoromo,
24 that 95 percent of the people are successfully on and
25 listening. So it's not the technology. It's not the

1 technology. It's the user.

2 MR. FILOROMO: Oh, yeah. It's just
3 not user friendly. That's all.

4 MS. BROWN: Tom, who are the two
5 people?

6 CHAIR: Mr. Pittman.

7 MS. BROWN: Pittman and who?

8 MR. FILOROMO: Makrias.

9 MS. BROWN: Makrias is on.

10 MR. ARNDT: Yeah, it's - yeah.

11 MS. BROWN: Okay, thank you. I just
12 want to make sure. Okay.

13 MR. FILOROMO: Yeah, I don't know why
14 they don't just call it.

15 CHAIR: I don't know either.

16 MR. FILOROMO: They can just call in.

17 CHAIR: So now I'm going to offer,
18 since I did the overview, we know that at this point,
19 both Angel's Playground, the ninja course, and the
20 ropes course that you'll see subsequent have been
21 given conditional approval as we went through it, and
22 I wanted to bring it to the Board for your attention.
23 It's been a while since we've had one where you've
24 asked questions and provided insight. And we have no
25 issue with going back to ride operators and ask them

1 to do things differently or increase what we've asked
2 them to do initially during their conditional
3 approval. What the Bureau has done says, if I issue
4 on behalf of the Bureau, this is one of the changes
5 that we've made, conditional approval. In that
6 approval, it says, this conditional approval will be
7 - go to an actual approval within six months unless
8 we interact with you. That gives us enough time to
9 hear before the Board, but I don't have to generate
10 three separate letters to them, and they know what -
11 what's expected of them.

12 So they're in their six month period
13 where Board Members can comment on this, or we can
14 take a step back from our approval while they are
15 allowed to operate because we had no reason to stop
16 them from operating waiting for a Board date.
17 Housekeeping.

18 So are there any comments for the
19 Board Members on the ninja course as provided?

20 MR. GORMAN: Sure. I'll go.

21 CHAIR: For the sake of the folks on
22 the phone, just introduce yourself.

23 MR. GORMAN: This is - this is Steve
24 Gorman, and I wanted to point out that they spelled
25 your name wrong on their engineer's letter. But more

1 - I think it's not acceptable to have a manual that
2 doesn't have a name of who made the manual. The
3 manufacturer's name is not anywhere in the document
4 or their contact information. If I was the owner of
5 this attraction, I would want a manual that has the,
6 you know, the manufacturer's name and how to contact
7 them on it. I think that's not acceptable for your
8 records and for the owner.

9 MR. CATALANO: Yes, this is Tony
10 Catalano. I've been in touch with the owner. Now
11 he's actually trying - I just sent him a link to try
12 and get into the meeting, and maybe he can get in and
13 explain any of this to you.

14 MR. GORMAN: I just think for the
15 record, I think they need to reissue the manual with
16 their name on it and contact information. The only
17 inspection I see is basically cleaning and then
18 looking for - looking for - I wondered if there's a
19 more extensive checklist to do their maintenance.
20 That's my - that's my only comments.

21 CHAIR: I'm taking notes. Give me a
22 second. Any other comments from Board Members
23 concerning this submission? I appreciate the -.

24 MR. PITTMAN: John Pittman signing on.

25 CHAIR: Good morning, Mr. Pittman.

1 Always a pleasure. How are you?

2 MR. PITTMAN: Good morning. Thank you
3 very much. I had a little trouble with the code.

4 CHAIR: I understand. That's usually
5 my demise also. We're actually on our first item
6 today, so if you have any comments or questions for
7 the ninja course under angel playground, now is the
8 appropriate time. Thank you.

9 MR. PITTMAN: I have none.

10 CHAIR: Seeing no additional comments
11 and having the discussion that this has already been
12 conditionally approved, I will not ask for the
13 opinion of the Board on this item. Noting Mr.
14 Gorman's concerns that we will always work to update
15 and improve our record. We'll interact with the
16 manufacturer and the submitter and get those items
17 addressed.

18 Moving on to Angel Playground's rope
19 course, part and parcel. You may see some of the
20 same concerns in this one, and you may not. So as an
21 aside, just because I can, is there any feeling from
22 a Board Member for comment? Is this an item that
23 should be regulated by the Division? Ninja courses,
24 ropes courses? Should, yeah. Should this be
25 something that we are approving as a ride or an

1 attraction? Just getting your feeling. You're
2 allowed to have an opinion or no opinion.

3 BOARD MEMBER: I agree with Mr.
4 Gorman. If we don't have a manual, I've dealt with
5 Chinese government or anything that we placed over
6 there. Everything has to have a manual, right down
7 to the last pole. It's probably okay though.

8 BOARD MEMBER: What are you asking?

9 CHAIR: Thank you. Is there any other
10 Board Members with comments concerning the Angel's
11 Playground rope course? Yep, go ahead, Mr. Warman
12 (phonetic).

13 MR. WARMAN: My name's Steve Warman.
14 Again, I have the same comments because it's the same
15 manufacturer, but it is mandatory, so.
16 Manufacturer's name line or contact information. And
17 I wonder if there's a - we have a better picture of
18 this. Is there a way to constrict observers to get
19 in - get into the course? Is there a fence around
20 it?

21 MS. BROWN: I tried to pick up the
22 best picture that they had.

23 MR. FILOROMO: It's hardly the one I
24 saw. I asked.

25 CHAIR: There - there is.

1 MR. ARNDT: Well, I just emailed you a
2 picture from before I was there. They have to put a
3 fence up now, but.

4 MS. BROWN: Okay.

5 I didn't expect anything else. Hold
6 on.

7 CHAIR: Really like when you keep us
8 on our toes. The answer is always yes, whether we've
9 addressed it or not, or we have the pictures for it.
10 But as - as you had heard from Mr. Arndt down there,
11 and Mr. Catalano was on the phone, part and parcel of
12 these things, some of which we're very good at, is
13 oversight, operation, and access. Though the
14 documentation might not always be in the packets,
15 we're always very conscious of how they're operating
16 their businesses. So this is one that was already
17 addressed concerning bystanders being able to access
18 it without having to go through whatever the
19 requirements are to get on this particular
20 attraction.

21 MS. BROWN: Is that - sorry, I'm
22 talking. Was it just one picture, Randall?

23 MR. ARNDT: Yeah.

24 MS. BROWN: Okay.

25 MR. ARNDT: Yeah, this is a picture.

1 Tony's given - him and I were there back in July, and
2 then and we had him put fence up. Tony verified the
3 fence is up. I personally had a picture of that. At
4 the time, the net inside the attraction there. I
5 instructed them not to use it because I was afraid of
6 the kids going in there and not being harnessed and
7 then going on the attraction, so.

8 CHAIR: Right, but would you say that
9 they're willing and making the changes as required to
10 ensure that they're meeting the requirements?

11 MR. ARNDT: Yeah, yes. They've - they
12 made a prior statement to make changes as we've
13 suggested. And Tony verified, and I did get a
14 picture from him earlier to show that. But this is
15 what it looked like prior to the fence. It's a
16 better picture than what's in the manual.

17 CHAIR: Thank you, Randall.

18 MR. STRATHMEYER: How does someone go
19 around this course? Just jump on there and just?

20 CHAIR: You have to ask a question so
21 it can be recorded.

22 MR. STRATHMEYER: So how does an
23 occupant of the ride, how do they actually move
24 through that course? And the reason I'm asking is,
25 is when I look at metal poles and knowing these ninja

1 courses and watching some of this stuff, I could see
2 somebody knocking their noggin into those metal
3 poles. And those round, yellow pieces are all metal,
4 too. What's to prevent people from falling off of
5 this obstacle course and breaking a limb and what
6 have you? Ed.

7 CHAIR: Go ahead, Randall.

8 MR. ARNDT: Okay.

9 On - on this attraction, you actually
10 have a harness. And there's a lander attached to
11 their harness. And it goes into a puck.

12 CHAIR: Slides through the black.

13 MR. ARNDT: Look at the, up here. The
14 puck will slide, slots up in here around so if they
15 fall, they're caught. And once they're in, they're
16 in all the time. They can't fall, but they can't
17 fall more than a certain amount of depth. So when
18 they're up here, they're only going to fall down a
19 foot or so. And then they can kind of traverse
20 around the track.

21 MR. STRATHMEYER: So it's a harness -
22 so it's a harness aided attraction?

23 MR. ARNDT: Yes, harness aided
24 attraction.

25 MR. STRATHMEYER: Okay, okay.

1 CHAIR: That was a great question.
2 This - this is pretty typical for indoor and outdoor,
3 right? Five point harness, redundant harness, or
4 they're caught in a track that they can't get out of
5 unless they're let out of, for the most part.

6 MR. STRATHMEYER: Okay.

7 CHAIR: So, great question. Ninja
8 course is different, right? You navigate obstacles.
9 It has four fall mediation by the balls underneath
10 each obstacle.

11 MR. ARNDT: Correct.

12 CHAIR: So they're going to be leaping
13 or interacting, which is why they have a fall
14 protection. But this has harness system, as they all
15 do.

16 MR. STRATHMEYER: And - and as those,
17 in the ninja. As those areas are separated, that
18 separation is all padded?

19 CHAIR: It is. And operationally,
20 they're only allowing so many participants. So the
21 operator will observe a participant start to navigate
22 the course, and the next participant will not be
23 allowed to start the course until the first one is
24 moved past a certain threshold. And part of their
25 safety brief in almost all cases says you will not

1 catch up to or pass the person. So no two people on
2 the same obstacle.

3 MR. STRATHMEYER: So going back to
4 your requirement and or necessity for an attendant to
5 be present at all times?

6 CHAIR: True.

7 MR. STRATHMEYER: Okay.

8 CHAIR: Any other questions on rope or
9 ninja course or comments on it? Absolutely, Mr.
10 Gorman.

11 MR. GORMAN: This is Steve Gorman
12 again. One more comment on the manual. On their
13 page 16, our PDF page 20, in the manual, it says to
14 contact RCI for information when you have questions,
15 and I don't know who that is and how do you contact
16 them. So the manual's not complete enough to have
17 the owner know what to do.

18 MR. FILOROMO: Steve's brought up two
19 very good points that we have problems with.

20 CHAIR: You have to turn this on.

21 MR. FILOROMO: Turn what on?

22 CHAIR: The microphone so everybody
23 can hear you.

24 MR. FILOROMO: It's good. It's good
25 there. It's good.

1 Steve's brought up a couple of points
2 that is a common problem we've got with these
3 approvals overall, and it's uniformity. They - we -
4 they leave out name and manufacturer. They - they
5 use different names of manufacturers, different names
6 of rides. They need to pick a name and stick with
7 it. They need to, you know, not refer to somebody
8 mysteriously like, mysterious like that RCI.

9 We're trying more and more to do this
10 in a 100 percent type of pass, fail. And if - and if
11 everything isn't together, everything isn't uniform,
12 it's rejected, and they need to resubmit the whole
13 thing. Because once they send us a missing piece of
14 information, it shouldn't be up to us to guess that
15 that's what the engineer was intending. The engineer
16 is certified, and so everything needs to become
17 complete and acceptable from the engineer. And
18 uniformly named as far as the manufacturer and the
19 ride name.

20 The other part of this is, we're now
21 concentrating more on the data plates. So everything
22 is, since this law started, required to have a
23 manufacturer's data plate that identifies the ride
24 properly. And this whole approval should be uniform
25 with what that data plate identifies the ride as. So

1 that's what we're working towards, and this is one we
2 will definitely have. We'll follow up with. That is
3 all.

4 CHAIR: That's our little cue. He
5 says that's all, I know he's getting off the phone
6 with me. I like that when he says that, by the way.
7 Makes me happy.

8 Any other comments to Angel's rope
9 course? Just as an aside, is there any guess on how
10 many we have? How many of these type of attractions,
11 indoor type attractions that we have in Pennsylvania?
12 Come on. Anybody in the back wan to offer? Dozens?
13 Hundreds?

14 PUBLIC MEMBER: Hundreds.

15 CHAIR: Yeah, we have more than 75,
16 for sure. Yeah. There's just shy of 200. Ever
17 changing. Just to get a kind of a litmus test of, we
18 get inundated with these. Right? So went from zero
19 trampoline parks in 2007 to.

20 MR. ARNDT: We're up to 40 now.

21 CHAIR: Yeah, dozens and dozens and
22 dozens and dozens. It's, you know. As people's
23 entertainment issues change. Another side because
24 it's fun, laser tag. Amusement attraction or not
25 amusement attraction?

1 MR. FILOROMO: It depends.

2 CHAIR: That's a no, that's a no,
3 that's a no, that's a no. Anybody else? It's a yes.
4 Fixed course interaction, up and down through
5 obstacles. Absolutely. We don't do it, but
6 absolutely it meets the general requirements of the
7 law. Just for fun. Now you know why we want our law
8 to be looked at and clarified.

9 MR. FILOROMO: I think it's clear.

10 CHAIR: How about skiing, right? No,
11 but snow tubing, yes. Right? Go karts, yes.
12 Segways, no. Excursion railroads with, pedals, yes,
13 no? Yes. Yes, yes. Full size trains? No, not us,
14 FRA, but it could be us if it was an excursion line
15 only. We just don't have the expertise to do full
16 size. But we do everything other than full size.
17 Yes. Okay.

18 Buckle your belts. Speaking of trains
19 and excursion railroads, Joe is going to give us a
20 brief overview of Bittler Train and why it's here and
21 why it's grandfathered. Turn on your mic. There you
22 go.

23 MR. FILOROMO: This Bittler Train was
24 at Harvey's Lake Amusement Park, and the park closed
25 in the '80s. And the train kind of went underground

1 ever since then. Somebody's bought it, and they want
2 - they're using it publicly now. And I guess the
3 ride was never registered, or at least we never found
4 it registered under Bittler Train. But it's
5 definitely, according to our regulations, a
6 grandfathered ride.

7 So with that, we did grandfather the
8 ride in, but we did go through the new amusement
9 railroad standard in ASTM and tried to review the
10 whole thing. And - and Dennis helped him put
11 together a pretty good manual and bring the thing up,
12 pretty much up to modern standards. There's no issue
13 that's a problem with it. So I did a good job of
14 documenting it and putting some rules of how to
15 operate, maintain, and inspect it into a manual for
16 it to go by now, according to current standards.
17 That is all.

18 CHAIR: Any other comments or
19 questions from Board Members concerning this
20 submission or trains in general? Tracked trains?

21 MR. GORMAN: So - so, the Department
22 has had an inspector seeing this train, right?
23 That's what you said, right?

24 MR. FILOROMO: Yeah.

25 MR. GORMAN: So my only comment on the

1 whole submission is, I don't need an engineer's
2 letter and will we require it?

3 MR. FILOROMO: No, we don't need.

4 CHAIR: No. There won't - there won't
5 be one.

6 MR. GORMAN: Okay.

7 MR. FILOROMO: We don't need that with
8 a grandfather.

9 MR. GORMAN: Okay, okay. That's all
10 I'm asking, yeah.

11 CHAIR: Don't worry, Mr. Gorman, same
12 question I had of Joe since this is unusual, to say
13 the least, that we find something that hasn't already
14 gone through a process or that we don't have hands
15 on. But I would guess if I had asked, and I'm not
16 asking Tim Horn to comment because I'm not opening
17 that box, but he would - we - we have a discussion of
18 what grandfathered isn't and there is ASTM
19 expectation of what that is and how it's used and
20 what continuous operation means and the like.

21 But in this case, I think I am in
22 agreement with Mr. Filoromo's assessment. We went
23 out there, we ran it through all its paces. The only
24 thing we're not looking for is that engineer letter
25 as it's been in existence and operational since at

1 least the mid-'80s.

2 How many trains do we have like this
3 one, do you think? I love this game.

4 MR. FILOROMO: Old ones like that?

5 CHAIR: Well, I'm saying that size,
6 maybe that.

7 MR. FILOROMO: There's lots of them.

8 CHAIR: Lots of them. Lots. And
9 there's probably, only probably know about three
10 quarters of them, right? Because we are ever
11 evolving in asking folks to interact with people just
12 because you think it's amusement rider attraction, it
13 probably is. We may not know about it. So as a
14 reminder to most folks and those on the line and the
15 Board Members, as of recently, when Mr. Bukowski was
16 hired, we added one additional inspector to what was
17 otherwise a vacancy or lack thereof.

18 So now we have a total of four
19 amusement ride quality assurance safety inspectors,
20 and a supervisor. Before there was three. They
21 cover all of Pennsylvania, like 840 something owners
22 and more than 12,000 registered rides overall, though
23 half of those are Inflatables. There's the other
24 half are not. Right? And that's not counting the
25 ones we're not aware of that only come out for

1 October and September and November. Barrel trains
2 and pedal cars and on homemade slides, homemade zip
3 lines, and a variety of things that we're now seeing
4 as agricultural operators now extend their earning
5 season by adding events like corn mazes and - and the
6 like, right?

7 So they're completely unaware that
8 there's rules and regulations that cover some of
9 those amusement rides and attractions that they are
10 operating even now, or have just finished operating
11 right now. We don't even know they exist yet.
12 Right? Then you'll have Tinseltown, where they're
13 going to come in with scaffolding and make an ice
14 slide. Right? They're dealing with a scaffolding
15 company, laying down some plastic sheeting, putting
16 some frozen blocks on there and putting tubes on it.
17 Somebody points it out in the newspaper, typically,
18 Mr. Hall. He'll - will cut out an article and
19 forward it to us, and we'll say huh, isn't that
20 interesting?

21 Or the balloon over the Pittsburgh -
22 the Philadelphia Zoo. You know, they're offering
23 balloon rides. They put them up on a tether and put
24 them in a basket, up and down they go. And suddenly
25 that becomes us because they're on a tether, right?

1 So, magic, please tell us. We love to know.

2 I digress. Bojux Extreme. This is
3 one of those items that we have seen before as Board
4 Members. Just to be clear, it's not a surprise to
5 you folks. The last time that we met, we had a
6 conversation about this particular ride. It was
7 related to electrical. Having a long conversation
8 with Robert Di Domizio, Junior, our engineer. Flip
9 around over here. I think we figured it out. I
10 think we figured out the electrical works
11 appropriately based on the cycles between 50 and 60
12 hertz per cycle. And I think we're okay with it.

13 So at this point, Board Members, if
14 you have comments, questions, or concerns for the
15 submission for Bojux and the extreme, please.

16 MR. SWIKA: Is that - did that ride
17 make it to the states yet or is it on its way?

18 MR. FILOROMO: We're not quite sure.

19 CHAIR: We haven't seen it.

20 MR. FILOROMO: We kind of think it's
21 on a dock somewhere.

22 MR. SWIKA: Yeah.

23 MR. FILOROMO: And Ben is kind of
24 waiting until he gets, until this is approved to move
25 forward with whatever he's going to do.

1 CHAIR: We'll be reminded to turn a
2 little green light on when you speak. I know this is
3 a lot.

4 MR. SWIKA: Okay.

5 CHAIR: Thank you. We're giving some
6 of the Board Members a chance to refresh themselves
7 on their notes they might have taken in the past and
8 recently.

9 So we do have an owner for this. It
10 is intended to come into Pennsylvania. And again,
11 based on some of the comments, we don't know if it's
12 landed yet. We know that we have not seen it set up
13 yet. It may be in the country, but not in the state?

14 MR. SWIKA: I don't know.

15 CHAIR: It's like our five story
16 haunted house.

17 MR. SWIKA: I don't know, it's -.

18 MR. FILOROMO: We haven't physically
19 seen it.

20 CHAIR: We would like to.

21 MR. SWIKA: What was your - if you
22 look at the wheel, it's built like a tank. And I'm
23 sure this will be the same way. This is old water
24 and everything else. Do we know any of that? Like
25 the KLG breakout that holds water in it?

1 MR. FILOROMO: I don't remember.

2 MR. SWIKA: For the ballast? Is this
3 the same way or is this suspended trailer like the
4 technical part does for the ballast? Do you
5 understand? Right.

6 MR. ARNDT: Right. I don't recall if
7 this has a ballast on it. Yeah, is Tim Horn on the
8 line? He would be able to answer. He's the war for
9 this attraction.

10 CHAIR: Yeah, Tim Horn - Tim Horn is
11 on the line. Tim, Tim, do you want to have a couple
12 of comments on this and perhaps answer the specific
13 question about ballast?

14 MR. HORN: I do not believe there is
15 water ballast.

16 CHAIR: Other than that, we're - not
17 much to say unless we have a question for you?

18 MR. HORN: Yeah, exactly. I mean,
19 we're familiar with Bojux. Mr. Pepper (phonetic) has
20 one of their wheels which we had extensive
21 conversation on.

22 CHAIR: Yeah, we have.

23 MR. HORN: And eventually came to the
24 conclusion that running 50 hertz European rides on 60
25 hertz is not an issue. We've only been doing that

1 for about 50 or 60 years, so. Apparently it's sunk
2 in.

3 CHAIR: It has sunk in for some of us,
4 Mr. Horn.

5 MR. SWIKA: You know, most motors and
6 stuff like that that you receive today, right on the
7 data tag will run at either 50 or 60 hertz. So, it's
8 not uncommon that the motor will run either way, so.

9 CHAIR: Feel free to nudge your
10 counterpart whenever he's here.

11 MR. SWIKA: Okay.

12 CHAIR: The guy who usually sits next
13 to you.

14 MR. SWIKA: Well, I've whispered in
15 his ear many a times about that. And he - he worries
16 about that transformer and that kind of stuff. You
17 know, there's four rides around here that has
18 transformers in there that you really know about.
19 There's a lot of stuff that has transformers built
20 right in, you know. A lot of stuff.

21 CHAIR: Fair enough. Any other
22 conversation on the Extreme?

23 MR. GORMAN: I'm having a hard time
24 understanding how the restraints are, so because I
25 haven't seen a good picture of it. Listen, you know,

1 riders would have a lot of G forces on it, and I
2 don't want to throw somebody, so for me, I can't -.

3 CHAIR: Tim's on the line, so.

4 MR. GORMAN: Tim, do you know how this
5 restraint, what they - what they look like, what
6 class they're rated at?

7 MR. HORN: I believe it's an over the
8 shoulder restraint, and it's in the manual, I think.
9 Let me take a look.

10 CHAIR: They'll - they'll get you an
11 answer. Give it a second. I agree. I'm pretty sure
12 it's a shoulder.

13 MR. GORMAN: Definitely has to be an
14 over the shoulder. Wonder if it has a crotch strap
15 on the, you know. With the double.

16 MR. FILOROMO: I could see it over the
17 shoulder. It is over the shoulder.

18 BOARD MEMBER: Is there elastic at the
19 bottom? Is there redundancy?

20 CHAIR: Joe's pretty good with
21 technology.

22 MR. FILOROMO: When it works.

23 MR. HORN: Yeah. If you look at the
24 photo set, you can see the over the shoulder
25 restraint in the photos.

1 MR. ARNDT: Its' got a latch like -.

2 CHAIR: Well, he - his submission he
3 did it in parts. We crushed it all together, but it
4 should be in the photos. The photos should be at the
5 end.

6 MR. ARNDT: Can you see that?

7 CHAIR: They're going to be all the
8 way at the end. They're not going to be in the
9 manual. So if you scroll all the way down to the
10 last, yeah.

11 MR. FILOROMO: There they are.

12 MR. GORMAN: Yeah, but is it - is it
13 pneumatic? Is it hydraulic? Is it a mechanical
14 lash? How does it work? Anybody know?

15 CHAIR: It's a great question. I know
16 the guy that should know.

17 MR. FILOROMO: That's why I wanted Ben
18 on the phone. Ask Tim.

19 CHAIR: Tim's - I'm sure.

20 MR. FILOROMO: He's seen it, hasn't
21 he?

22 MR. HORN: I haven't gone through this
23 in detail since January when I submitted it, so.

24 CHAIR: We understand.

25 MR. HORN: I have to apologize.

1 CHAIR: So how about this, Tim? We'll
2 - we'll take a satisfactory answer when you've had an
3 opportunity to review it, and we'll get those
4 questions answered.

5 MR. HORN: Yeah, I'm looking at the
6 hydraulics right now, and it's not hydraulic. That
7 means it's pneumatic. But let me look at the
8 pneumatic diagram. Pneumatic schematic. Yeah.
9 They're pneumatically operated. And if you look in
10 the manual, there's a copy of the pneumatic diagram
11 that shows the restraints. There's one for each left
12 bar or each arm, I should say. Yes. The pneumatics
13 diagram is in the manual on page, let me get there.
14 PDF page 39.

15 CHAIR: Probably not our PDF page 39.

16 MS. BROWN: I don't know what I'm
17 looking for.

18 BOARD MEMBER: Schematic, the first
19 schematic.

20 CHAIR: Steve, just to give you some
21 clarity, it won't operate until we've had the
22 opportunity to see it set up. The second piece of
23 that to remind everybody, no ride like this is going
24 to operate without a secondary in place that we'll
25 have observed. So I'm sure it has a lap belt. I

1 can't prove it because we haven't seen it yet. And
2 I'm sure the primary restraints we'll have to have a
3 conversation about, so.

4 MR. HORN: Yeah. Walt, if you look at
5 the photos with the over the shoulder, it's got a
6 large - it looks like there's a front strap in the
7 photo.

8 CHAIR: Yeah, I - I agree, Tim. And I
9 - I know that vaguely we had talked about some of
10 this stuff, but it's always something that we look
11 for when the ride is actually set up for the first
12 time that we go out and take a look at it just to
13 make sure it is as it was represented to us. Maybe
14 we've learned our lesson from Florida and a bunch of
15 others, but we'll see.

16 MR. HORN: Well you know, this ride is
17 TUV approved over in Europe.

18 CHAIR: Yep.

19 MR. HORN: So my guess is it has it.

20 CHAIR: I - I would certainly think
21 so. But we're going to make proof positive once we
22 see it.

23 MR. HORN: Sure.

24 CHAIR: Any other questions concerning
25 the submission?

1 MR. FILOROMO: We don't recognize TUV.

2 CHAIR: We did have a previous
3 discussion about a Board and their recommendation on
4 this. And that was yes, pending a discussion with
5 PE, Mr. Robert Di Domizio, Junior. And clarification
6 of the electrical system, right? So the Board was
7 okay in general with this and its submission based on
8 answering those questions.

9 Is there any further discussion now
10 that we're at this point? And if so, what is that
11 discussion and is there a recommendation out of it?
12 I want to stare at somebody other than Steve.

13 MR. SWIKA: You got to physically see
14 that though.

15 CHAIR: But just, you don't physically
16 see most things and you still have an opinion about
17 it. That's all we're asking is do you have any
18 input?

19 MR. SWIKA: I would personally like to
20 see it. Okay? I want to see how it's, you know,
21 ones we have approved are what holds them down, you
22 know. Have you ever watched one of these rides? You
23 ever watch - have you watch that flex and you watched
24 the movement? I want to know what holds it down.
25 Some of them are water based, ten of them are park

1 one trailer itself. I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

2 BOARD MEMBER: I'm going to treat you
3 like Joe. It's fine.

4 MR. SWIKA: All right.

5 Well, I haven't looked at it in force
6 though, so anyway. I'd like to see what holds the
7 thing, secures it into the ground. There's a lot of
8 movement, these rods. Just the nature of these. The
9 KMG one, of course, is water based. The water - the
10 trailer, water is a big tank. The typical park one,
11 the trailer is raised up and that's the base support.
12 So I'd like to see how this was supported. It seems
13 to me the trailer does the whole - and now, there is
14 some pictures I see, but I'd like to see really
15 straight on cars. That's all. Before I make my
16 opinion.

17 I know it's going to be built like a
18 tank. Bojux doesn't build like a tank with builders
19 I think from what I've seen of their equipment, and
20 that's what I have to say.

21 MR. FILOROMO: Suggest to make this
22 conditional approval, QA inspection.

23 MR. HORN: There are - there are
24 overturning calculations in the structural analysis,
25 which typically the Board does not ask for. But I

1 can certainly forward a copy of the electronic file
2 if you'd like to see that.

3 MR. SWIKA: The reason I asked this,
4 and I just saw a video from a different country when
5 they ship this out of the box. It was kind of
6 terrifying to watch this video of this being shipped
7 out of the box. And it was during a test operation,
8 so it did that. But we watch this stuff, and
9 sometimes - and - and the ride, what holds them down,
10 security, I mean it means a lot especially the way
11 this thing swings.

12 CHAIR: I appreciate your insight.
13 I'll offer this as consideration for the Board. Joe
14 had reached over and made the suggestion that this
15 all is contingent upon us actually seeing the ride.
16 So we'll say at this point, Tim, there's nothing
17 further to do than actually receive the ride and let
18 him set it up and let us look at it, right? At that
19 point, we can say yes or no. At this point
20 conditionally, it's yes, unless we find some fault
21 when we see it physically.

22 MR. HORN: Well, that sounds like a
23 plan to me. We may want to convey that to Mr.
24 Pepper.

25 CHAIR: I will. We'll - we'll put it

1 in writing. It'll be the conditional approval, and
2 we'll outline specifically that prior to it
3 operating, it has to be set up and functional. We
4 have to witness it.

5 MR. HORN: Sounds like a right
6 approach at this point.

7 CHAIR: Okay.

8 Yeah, I don't think we need anything
9 further on this from you. Just at this point, he
10 needs to receive it, set it up, and make it
11 operational, and then invite us to come see it before
12 he opens it.

13 MR. HORN: All right.

14 CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

15 MR. HORN: Thank you all for your
16 help. Signing off.

17 CHAIR: We're going to move on to
18 Proslide, and we'll invite whoever is here for the
19 Cannonball 40 up to the microphone. If you're going
20 to have a speaking part, that is.

21 MR. SAMS: Well, I'm here to answer
22 questions.

23 CHAIR: Then you'll have a speaking
24 part. So why don't you come on up and have a seat,
25 and if we need you. So let's get the introductions

1 out of the way. If you would turn that microphone
2 on, face our stenographer, introduce yourself, spell
3 your last name, and tell us who and what you are.

4 MR. SAMS: Hi, my name is William
5 Sams, S-A-M-S, and I'm representing Kalahari for the
6 Cannonball 40.

7 CHAIR: Okay.

8 Why don't you just give us, just,
9 like, the thumbnail of what it is, what you've done,
10 where it's at, and what stage you're at in the
11 process?

12 MR. SAMS: Yes. So the Cannonball 40
13 has been fully built, and we have operated it under
14 the tentative approval. It is a waterslide that's
15 been built by Proslide numerous times. And it is a
16 one to two person tube slide, where they go through,
17 traverse the tube, and enter into a bowl, and then
18 they spin around, where then they then drop into
19 another slide, which brings them to the catch pool.

20 CHAIR: Yep. I'd just like to throw a
21 little blanket over from our end. So, this is an
22 already approved model and version of Proslide, but
23 we wrap our arms around site specific. So just
24 because we have an apparatus, a piece of equipment,
25 or a ride, when it's built specifically for location,

1 that is part of our oversight program. So Kalahari
2 has been an upstanding partner with us to provide all
3 the details of the installation and operation, which
4 is the other two pieces. So that's Proslide itself
5 is approved.

6 The installation and operation are the
7 two other key pieces for our approval, which is why
8 they're here today having this conversation.
9 Otherwise, we would not bring this to the Board's
10 attention. But we remind the Board as we get into
11 this age that rides are designed specifically for
12 unique locations and circumstances and built that way
13 that we still have a role in it for its approval.
14 It's just not a rubber stamp that they get to do
15 whatever they want. And we appreciate Kalahari just
16 showing that. Love to work with you folks now.

17 MR. SAMS: Likewise.

18 CHAIR: But, it's all good. Any
19 questions? I'm sure there might be one or two about
20 the Proslide Cannonball 40.

21 MR. GORMAN: William - right, thank
22 you. This is Steve Gorman. We have a cannonball
23 slide from Proslide as well outside of our track
24 (phonetic). And my question is, when you're
25 operating it, how do you know when you can dispatch

1 the next person? Is it line of sight or do you have
2 sensors?

3 MR. SAMS: So we have a light sensor
4 for our staff. There is a line of sight possible in
5 the event of that failing, which we would use. But
6 it currently is operating on a light system.

7 MR. GORMAN: Thank you. And then
8 also, it looks like the bowl itself is outside the
9 building?

10 MR. SAMS: That is correct.

11 MR. GORMAN: So do you run it in the
12 winter time?

13 MR. SAMS: Yes, we're an indoor
14 facility, so they enter and exit inside. However,
15 the bowl and smooth slide is positioned outside.

16 MR. GORMAN: So just a curious
17 question, the pumps for injectors in the bowl are
18 outside? They look like it. So how do you deal with
19 it freezing?

20 MR. SAMS: So - of course, yeah. So
21 the - the pipes, there are some pipes that are
22 outdoor, but they run down into the ground below
23 where we have a pump room that they are, the actual
24 pump and motors are housed in. There are drainage
25 systems put throughout that we are able to drain the

1 water with this off so that we don't have an issue of
2 freezing and bursting pipe.

3 MR. GORMAN: Thank you.

4 CHAIR: Yeah, we had no issue that you
5 elected to do that. We assumed that you had taken
6 care of all the particulars. You certainly don't
7 want to break your new toy, so.

8 MR. SAMS: Yes, absolutely.

9 CHAIR: That was a great question,
10 though. We had similar questions. Isn't that going
11 to be interesting? But yeah, good for you guys. Get
12 to do indoor, outdoor.

13 Are there any other questions
14 concerning this particular attraction? You're going
15 to tell them the cool news that you're building an
16 entire new? No.

17 MR. GORMAN: One more - one more
18 question. Are you weighing people for this
19 attraction? Do you have a scale?

20 MR. SAMS: So for this sort of
21 attraction, we do not have a scale installed. There
22 is a weight requirement that has been tested and set
23 by Proslide, which we will be enforcing, but we do
24 not have a scale currently.

25 MR. GORMAN: Yeah. For the record, we

1 do not either on this attraction.

2 CHAIR: Didn't we understand it?

3 That's - you have to take some of the patron's word
4 for something versus trying to put a scale in it.

5 Will you put a scale?

6 MR. SAMS: I mean, also just for
7 feedback, we have, what, four years operation? I
8 don't think we've had an injury on this ride. So
9 cross your fingers, it'll still have the same
10 experience.

11 CHAIR: Can I ask an aside question?
12 How's attendance for all the other attractions?
13 Maybe the one I'm asking about, but not bringing up.

14 MR. SAMS: Well in general, attendance
15 for the park it's - it's been good. Yeah, we've
16 definitely seen a lot of attendance during the
17 holidays. I think this new addition will definitely
18 get a lot of buzz and - and bring a lot of people out
19 moving forward.

20 CHAIR: Okay.

21 And you already have all the
22 documentation you need from us, so.

23 MR. SAMS: Yes.

24 CHAIR: Board, any comments concerning
25 this? Again, because of the nature of it, it was

1 issued a conditional approval. Is there anything
2 that would for Board Members that would make them
3 believe that the conditional approval needs some
4 additional work or something else is required at this
5 point from Kalahari? Appreciate the Board's
6 indulgence. Thank you.

7 Sakanac Rock climbing wall. Going to
8 ask the Board Members another great question. How
9 many climbing walls do we have or climbing obstacles
10 or climbing attractions? Hundreds, like hundreds, 95
11 percent or more of them are auto belay. Probably
12 more than that. So we have a very small amount that
13 are manual belay, which should hearten most folks.
14 But this is another example of manufactured by
15 somebody, bought specifically by somebody, and then
16 throwing their name over the top of it.

17 So trampoline parks started this trend
18 where they bought equipment that was manufactured
19 internationally. And it was too difficult to have
20 that manufacturer go through the process. So the
21 purchaser wrapped their arms around it and took
22 ownership of it, put it through its paces to meet
23 Pennsylvania's requirements. Similar in agritourism
24 where they build a one off slide or a one off zip
25 line. The owner is the manufacturer. They have all

1 the liability. They have the responsibility of a
2 professional engineer.

3 This is another case for Sakanac Rock
4 that this is not a manufactured wall by Sakanac.
5 They purchased it or the plans for it. They had a
6 local engineer, appropriate local engineer go through
7 all the paces with us and they constructed it one off
8 on location. And then they met all the requirements
9 for us.

10 In this particular case, they have two
11 options. They actually have a bouldering wall, free
12 climb off to the side, a separate entity of the three
13 pieces of the climbing wall with auto belay. So this
14 is your garden fair. Now, I'll remind everybody that
15 the climbing association, I hate to use the word
16 disavow, but it's great for - great for conversation.
17 Don't agree that they need to comply with us if
18 they're a gym. Okay? Remember, this is one of those
19 things we would like the law to clarify for us.

20 We adamantly disagree that a gym
21 environment excludes them from our oversight because
22 we've never met a gym that doesn't invite an outside
23 customer to have a party or bring a friend. And in
24 that case, they're no longer a gym membership.
25 They're a pay per play, which puts them in our realm.

1 Anyway, I'll jump off my soapbox.

2 Are there any questions concerning the
3 Sakanac rock climbing wall submission? Basically, if
4 you build it, we'll regulate it. That's just the way
5 it is.

6 MR. GORMAN: Have you seen it? Has it
7 been inspected by you? I thought you said yes?

8 CHAIR: Yes, over. Yes, I did. I did
9 the checks for it over and over again actually. They
10 had lots of questions for us. They were interested
11 in not reinventing the wheel themselves, but finding
12 out if we had a good training policy and equipment
13 folks and all that. They were - they were very
14 communicative when they wanted to build and open
15 this, so.

16 So this is another one that was on a
17 conditional approval, pending Board approved. We
18 just saw no reason to not allow them to operate. Any
19 other comments for the Board? Okay.

20 We're going to switch gears a little
21 bit here. So there's two housekeeping items. You'll
22 see the Wipeout come up. That's Joe's domain. I'm
23 going to jump in, post that, talk a little bit about
24 continuing education, and then we're going to end the
25 show with Waldameer.

1 So, Joe, if you would move on to what
2 - it's not Urban Air specific, but it was brought up
3 when we were looking at Urban Air. There are other
4 people who operate similar rides.

5 MR. FILOROMO: Okay.

6 CHAIR: Right? So, Joe, would you
7 turn your mic on and then give us a little bit of
8 background of why Wipeout is on here and why we
9 thought it was important to bring to Board Members?

10 MR. FILOROMO: Okay.

11 We don't have my memo, do we?

12 MS. BROWN: It's behind you.

13 CHAIR: Yeah, they've seen it.
14 They've been provided.

15 MR. FILOROMO: Okay.

16 Wipeout's that's the thing where this
17 big bar flings around. They have to - they stand on
18 a pedestal and try not to get knocked off. And we've
19 had them operating the state for years over airbags,
20 inflatable. And with them, they've been safe if
21 they're operated properly. It was all how they're
22 operating.

23 The new thing that has happened is
24 trampoline parks have -

25 CHAIR: Stop.

1 MR. FILOROMO: - brought the mechanism
2 and put it over trampolines instead of inflatables.
3 And then put their name on it as the manufacturer.
4 The inflatable is a device that absorbs impact. The
5 trampoline is a device that does not. It rebounds
6 the impact. And so, there's been nationwide
7 noticeable amount of more serious injuries as people
8 fall off of the pedestal and then land on the
9 trampoline.

10 And a couple of states have addressed
11 this, and the manufacturer addressed it. So you'll
12 see that I put this together here, explaining what
13 I've just said pretty much, probably spoken better
14 than I just did. But explaining that we're not - we
15 want - we're going to discontinue allowing this, and
16 they need to use the retrofit, which is second page.

17 Per Urban Air, Urban Air has come up
18 with a fix for this if the state does decide not to
19 accept the trampolines. So they have a procedure
20 here to basically cover up where the mechanism was
21 and just use it as a trampoline park.

22 The - we've talked to trampoline park
23 owners around the state. We don't - we don't seem to
24 get any pushback on this. I don't see how we'd get
25 any pushback from Urban Air being that they put this

1 memo together, this bullet. So that's the situation.
2 It's a dangerous situation, the trampoline parks, as
3 usual. And this is how we hope to fix it.

4 CHAIR: A couple dozen, less - less
5 than two dozen, but they're out there as far as what
6 we know that's registered. But again, to - we are
7 always on the lookout. And just because an issue or
8 accident or a concern arises outside of Pennsylvania
9 doesn't mean we're not paying attention. This is
10 merely a reminder that we're ever vigilant. Right?

11 So your input matters. If you hear
12 something that you think we may not be aware of,
13 please reach out to us. We don't want it to happen
14 here. So if we can get in front of it, we absolutely
15 want to do that.

16 There is another item that we're going
17 to bring up to the next Board meetings. We're not
18 100 percent ready on how to address it, but this year
19 we have seen nationwide, but also Pennsylvania, quite
20 a few hazards dealing with zip lines. The
21 interaction of an individual mounting and traversing
22 a zip line. Pennsylvania has had at least three
23 serious and one, we consider serious, issues with
24 either while zipping or at the beginning of the zip
25 and falling.

1 So we're going back to the drawing
2 board. Joe's reached out and received ACCT
3 regulation to scour that to make sure we're not
4 missing anything that should have been enforced.
5 Talking with some of the engineers that are involved
6 with producing these, the manufacturers, what we're
7 thinking about to offer to the board for
8 consideration, or if the board has ideas, we're
9 asking you today to think about it and send it to us.
10 It is a two trolley system where the primary and
11 redundant safety is not tied to the same mechanism.

12 So when we first approved zip lines,
13 same as the five point harness, they had a primary
14 safety line that was attached that it should be
15 tamper resistant, and the secondary safety line on
16 the person was also attached to the same trolley or
17 trunk. Newer ones for traversing high ropes course
18 and zip lines have two separate mechanisms, so if one
19 fails, the other one should not. Right? It's not
20 relying on the same line.

21 So we're trying to figure out how that
22 works and how we institute a safety protocol that
23 lessens or mitigates the likelihood of fall hazards.
24 They were almost back to back this summer. Like, if
25 one weekend we responded to a 25 foot fall out of a

1 tower, and it was almost a week and a day later that
2 we had another 30 or 35 foot fall, mid zip. Right?

3 So fortunate, you know, we talk death
4 is the ultimate worst. Obviously, there was
5 significant injury to at least one of those two that
6 I related, but no death. So we were definitely
7 trying to figure out how do we - how do we do better.
8 So we'll have something, I think, in writing for the
9 Board to review and consider. Moving forward, this
10 will be hopefully in concert to what other
11 manufacturers in other states might be thinking
12 about. And if nobody else is, we are, because we
13 definitely have to do something about it.

14 It's - I think we've been very
15 fortunate, and we've seen what can happen both if the
16 rider is able to access their equipment, which in one
17 case, we think might have occurred. So in a lot of
18 these courses, especially if high ropes and zip all
19 at the same activity, and you're harnessed in once,
20 but you're allowed to traverse a course by yourself
21 and navigate to different obstacles and different
22 levels of difficulty that that person along the way
23 could interact with their safety equipment. And we
24 noted that as the rider interacted with the different
25 pieces, levels of rope course or the zip line, that

1 they were just making sure that they were attached.
2 They weren't relooking at their safety equipment to
3 make sure it was affixed properly.

4 So the rider somehow managed to adjust
5 themselves or left the course for a break or
6 something and then got back on the course without
7 being observed. So we did take immediate issue with
8 some locations to change their operational
9 procedures. But our concern is that it's a larger
10 issue, not just the operational place that we've
11 identified. So that's some of the behind the scenes
12 stuff going on.

13 MR. ZHANG: Okay.

14 Folks, I'm sorry to interrupt your
15 conversation. My name is Jesse. I'm the owner of
16 the trampoline park of Nova Trampoline in Wyoming,
17 Pennsylvania.

18 There's two issues that I'm having
19 trouble with. One is the ninja course, and one is
20 the rope course. I know that the office want us to
21 solve you guys an impact force on the ninja course,
22 which is in warnings. I did have my engineer wrote
23 you guys a letter, and I don't know, somehow this is
24 not the way that you guys looking for or not the way
25 that he word it. And I am aware that Randall and

1 Tony, that they both came up to my park and we walked
2 through the park. We - he addressed other the
3 problems.

4 CHAIR: He's the ninja, right?

5 MR. ZHANG: And we fixed all the - fix
6 all the problems and the concerns at the park.

7 CHAIR: He doesn't know we said yes.

8 MS. BROWN: He didn't get it yet.

9 MR. ZHANG: A week after also, Tony
10 came back and reinspect. He walked through the park
11 again and all the problem was addressed from Randall
12 was fixed. So I do not know why these two attendees
13 is still in the original Board meeting today. That's
14 why I'm calling in and jumping into this
15 conversation, see if there's anything we can do to
16 moving this forward.

17 CHAIR: Thank you. I appreciate you.
18 Thank you for taking the time to jump on here real
19 quick. I - I will rewind on your behalf because I
20 know that we were reaching out to you earlier to get
21 you on.

22 We - we have already gone through
23 Angel Playground, both the ninja and rope course.

24 MR. ZHANG: Yeah.

25 CHAIR: And we - we have all of the

1 required needs from our end. We have some paperwork
2 that needs to be updated, but it doesn't affect your
3 ability to operate under your conditional approval.
4 So you are more than welcome to continue operating as
5 you have been. We have some paperwork, housekeeping
6 items we need you to update us on, but that will not
7 affect your ability to operate.

8 Is that satisfying?

9 MR. ZHANG: Understand. Okay.

10 Understand. In the meantime, I want
11 to keep you in the loop. I actually contacted Angel
12 Playground last week, and they are actually having
13 someone doing a newer version of the impact force for
14 the ninja course. So hopefully they will have it to
15 me by the end of this week, and I will have Tony look
16 at it, see if that's the stuff that you guys are
17 looking for.

18 CHAIR: Yeah. Excellent. We
19 appreciate your diligence in working with us. Again,
20 you're going to be able to continue to operate as we
21 update your submission and - and get your manual to
22 where it needs to be. Other than that, today is for
23 you, today is successful, and that we're - we're
24 going to get to the finish line for you and get you
25 open and operational with everything we need.

1 MR. ZHANG: Great. Thank you so much
2 for your time.

3 CHAIR: Thank you.

4 MR. ZHANG: Yep. You have a good day.
5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR: I'd like to invite the
7 representatives of Waldameer to the microphone if
8 they are indeed speaking, or if you're going to speak
9 on their behalf, or both.

10 MR. GORMAN: This is Steve Gorman.
11 So, I'm here as a representative from Waldameer just
12 to inform the Board that we plan in March to have a
13 review of two of our existing rides. We are updating
14 the control systems on both of those. The picture
15 you see here is our wooden coaster that's 60 years
16 old. It's just a picture to show you.

17 CHAIR: I love that coaster. I love
18 that coaster.

19 MR. GORMAN: Just the longer story is
20 the control system was installed, I believe they've
21 only done two roller coasters ever in their career,
22 you know, and we use them. And they actually, our
23 expertise is baggage handling. So it just hasn't
24 worked out like we wanted to. We spent a lot of
25 troubleshooting that we have to deal with. So we're

1 going to convert to someone who's more expertise in
2 the amusement industry, park manager onto it. So
3 that's one ride.

4 The second ride is our 38 year old, 38
5 year old log flume ride. And same, this ride, the
6 control system was done by OD Hopkins, the original
7 manufacturer, and we are updating it with WhiteWater
8 west, who bought OD Hopkins. We just thought it was
9 time, just all the wires are old and the sensors are
10 old. And we're going to update the control system so
11 it'll be more modern. No changes to the dynamics of
12 the ride, just changing the control system so it's
13 easier for us to troubleshoot and control the ride.

14 CHAIR: Watch, I'm going to beat up
15 Joe. Joe, in your professional opinion, major
16 modification or just notification?

17 MR. FILOROMO: Well, by definition,
18 without a change in the dynamics of the ride, no.
19 But on the other hand, if the operations change or
20 the maintenance, we would just like to have an update
21 of the manual to reflect those changes.

22 CHAIR: So, yes, I agree as long as
23 you keep us informed of the progress. And if there
24 is no change other than the controlling system, that
25 that does not change the dynamics, keeping us

1 informed is appreciated.

2 MR. GORMAN: Okay.

3 When we have all that proper manual
4 stuff, we will share that with you. It should be
5 well in advance if you need it.

6 CHAIR: We will have the opportunity
7 for Board comments. I have two other items, and then
8 I will turn the rest over to the Board Members.

9 Reminder, if you are in attendance
10 here and you have not signed in, there is a sign in
11 sheet somewhere in the room. We'd appreciate you
12 taking a moment to sign in. Board Members with
13 expenses, expense vouchers to Yvonne, please at your
14 convenience, or if you need assistance filling out
15 your expense vouchers, we actually have figured it
16 out. Getting people paid. I actually saw it happen.
17 So, appreciate again your patience and your
18 indulgence, but expense vouchers to Ms. Yvonne.

19 And before I ask for Board Member
20 comments, I want to offer one more thing that you
21 might want to comment on. In September, I, on behalf
22 of the Division, changed methodology for continuing
23 education. For approval of continuing education.
24 So, as you may or may not be aware, Pennsylvania is
25 one of those states that if you're an amusement ride

1 qualified safety inspector that you take a test for
2 whatever level of inspector licensure that you
3 believe or desire you need for the type of rides or
4 attractions that you operate.

5 We will test you. You'll pass the
6 test with a 70 percent. And if you remain
7 continually licensed over your three year period and
8 renew your license, you won't have to test again
9 unless something crazy happens. But typically, if
10 your license doesn't expire, you don't have to test.
11 But in that three year period, you have to get a
12 certain number of approved continuing education
13 credits in that time frame. As little as 16 hours in
14 a three year period, all the way up to 48 hours in a
15 three year period. But most people land about 24
16 hours. That's the median for 90 percent or more.

17 That covers the majority of people
18 that we have as affiliated inspectors, level one and
19 the minority of level two inspectors who have a
20 little bit more of a continuing education
21 requirement.

22 We, the Division, do not provide
23 training. We can and had in the very beginning, in
24 the past, but we do not because there is other
25 acceptable training opportunities out there. And

1 there is a described policy on what continuing
2 education approval for our program requirements look
3 like. And we issue that to anybody who is interested
4 in providing continuing education credits, and if
5 they meet the outlined requirements and the time
6 frames, and our ability to audit their training, we
7 award continuing education based on the attendance of
8 the individual and the training certificate issued by
9 that program.

10 So as of September, we realized that
11 we were doing it correctly in state and probably less
12 so out of state. And what I mean by that is, is part
13 of our program, most programs, not all, is the
14 ability to audit, to make sure that what is offered
15 as continuing education is actually what is
16 occurring. Right? So that means attendance, whether
17 participating attendance or an audit role of
18 attendance, you're actually showing that what's being
19 offered on paper is actually what's being given to
20 students.

21 And inside Pennsylvania, we have
22 always been invited to and regularly attend all of
23 the training events that occur. Right? It's not
24 always all for all the time, but always invited, have
25 a relationship with the parks that offer their own

1 and with the programs that offer their own,
2 specifically pay seminar and the amusement rides
3 safety seminar, two of the primary ways continuing
4 education is offered in Pennsylvania.

5 But there are some continuing
6 education that does occur out of state. To name a
7 few AIMS, national NAARSO, Northwest Shelton
8 (phonetic) as a few that we have issued continuing
9 education approval for - for their programs in the
10 past.

11 This year, I reached out and had
12 spoken to all three organizations that moving
13 forward, we're going to stay within our 90 day ask of
14 when training's going to occur, and then our window
15 of receiving all the documentation, which is
16 biographies of instructors, curriculum, schedule of
17 events, that kind of stuff, and that they will issue
18 a certificate. Right? And that they will have some
19 kind of attendance policy that we agree with, that we
20 are able to attend and audit courses that are out of
21 state.

22 So for us moving forward, wanting to
23 step up onto the national stage, our attendance is
24 required for us to issue continuing education for
25 all, not just in state, but out of state. And that

1 was the change. And I was received very well with
2 the folks I spoke with. Everybody kind of gets it.
3 It makes sense what's going on. That's why it's
4 important to meet the timelines for us, at least
5 notifying us when training is going to occur out of
6 state so we can work on what Pennsylvania would deem
7 as cumbersome to get travel arrangements and to get
8 people in the pipeline for attendance. Right?

9 So I feel comfortable speaking to Fred
10 Strathmeyer, who was just here, that we'll absolutely
11 have the funding and the ability to travel, barring
12 the budget impasses where travel is restricted.
13 Right? But short of that, he completely supports our
14 attendance at these continuing education
15 opportunities, understands our need to be there to
16 play that audit role and to participate in those
17 activities that will directly benefit and affect
18 Pennsylvania inspectors. So that's the direction
19 we've moved. We've issued that notice to the people
20 that we've dealt with in the past, and that's how
21 we're going to proceed moving forward.

22 Now, I'll offer this as the time where
23 Board Members, I'll invite you to make comments on
24 our behalf. I just want to say one last piece, that
25 I appreciate each and every one of you, the time and

1 effort that you put in, even with the calling in. I
2 just had a little conversation with our engineer and
3 Mr. Pittman. If we need to help folks figure out
4 their individual computer issues, and we'll do a dry
5 run of a Board meeting to make sure everybody's good
6 with signing on and there's no issues.

7 I don't know what the problem was. We
8 use this all the time, but we're very familiar with
9 Teams and it's idiosyncrasies. So folks who may not
10 use these on the regular could jump on the phone
11 number and call in. But if you're not familiar with
12 Teams and that option, then that's a failure on our
13 part, and we'd like to fix that moving forward. So
14 we'll be - you'll see me reaching out to you saying,
15 hey, do you have a comfort level of doing it by
16 Teams? And if so, we would just sign on for a quick
17 ten minute trial run and answer any questions, make
18 sure that you guys can maneuver around Teams easily
19 and we don't keep having the starving faux pause of
20 10 or 15 minutes while we try to figure out if folks
21 can hear us. All right.

22 I open it up to Board Members for
23 their comments, questions, concerns. Yep. Mr. Hall,
24 as always.

25 MR. HALL: Yes, good morning. Bill

1 Hall, public member. A point of information,
2 probably for Joe and Randall. I was reading about a
3 Willow Grove Park Mall in Suburban Philadelphia and
4 Preit Property, P-R-E-I-T, which is facing some sort
5 of financial issues. And a former JCPenney store is
6 being advertised as a fun spot. It's going to have
7 arcades and games and this buried in there, which
8 there will also be bumper cars, which falls within
9 our purview.

10 My question is, how do we find out
11 about that? Do they notify us or we just stumble
12 across it? Or somebody tells us, like I'm telling
13 you?

14 MR. FILOROMO: We just stumble across
15 it. We're right now, be - being the Christmas
16 season, we're doing a sweep of all the malls because
17 of rides in malls. Hopefully we would have caught
18 it. But problem with malls is they have a very high
19 turnover in their management, and we will have them
20 up to speed of what's required. And the next month,
21 we have different people in there and they don't even
22 - and they - they just build stuff and they don't
23 even realize it's regulated.

24 So we need to kind of keep an eye on
25 it. And so once, during this time of year is when we

1 kind of try to check every mall for stuff. But,
2 yeah, we need to.

3 MR. HALL: Well, thank you. Second
4 point. I saw an ad in the Philadelphia Media a few
5 months ago about a huge Bounce America attraction of
6 the old Philadelphia Navy Yard. And I wasn't aware
7 that we were cognizant of that fact. And I sent
8 Walter an email, and he said there are several of
9 these already operated in the Commonwealth and we
10 were aware of them.

11 I've been here a long time. I may
12 have missed that one, but my goodness, if it was a
13 Big Bounce America, and I wondered if you fellows
14 ever go and inspect those things.

15 CHAIR: I'm going to jump in and just
16 categorize why I answered. They know, and I'm sure
17 they're going to answer and not make me look foolish.
18 Yes, I'm sure.

19 Rarely do we bring inflatables to the
20 Board, not to district, Mr. Batchuss (phonetic), or
21 the industry as a whole. But it's pretty cookie
22 cutter, cut and form, right? We rarely see anything
23 that we haven't seen before. These ginormous ones
24 like Slide Philadelphia, Slide Pittsburgh, that go
25 down blocks and blocks are really just 40 foot pieces

1 strung together over and over again. These 100 foot
2 ones are really 25 by 25 pieces that are fit
3 together, some enclosed, some not enclosed, some for
4 art, some not.

5 So the answer is, it's always cool to
6 go see. And I would venture to say he's going to say
7 yes, I'm giving him my answer already, that we come
8 to see them. But we - yeah, we do have some that are
9 ginormous, 100 foot by 100 foot or, you know, the
10 length of a street, which is ridiculous, by the way.
11 But, have - have you gone to see giant inflatables
12 before, Randall or?

13 MR. ARNDT: Yes. I've been - I wasn't
14 at the one at the Navy Yard, but I was at the one,
15 the same company had it in King of Prussia at the
16 mall. And so I've - I've been there as a quality
17 assurance inspection. And Gary Chuck back there, he
18 has done the actual inspection for - for compliance.
19 We've been aware of them and went through the proof
20 of process, as Paul mentioned, and have them do
21 inspections.

22 MR. HALL: Are they successful as far
23 as patrons? Daren's (phonetic) shaking his head.

24 MR. ARNDT: Yeah, they tell me they're
25 successful and they've been in a couple of places, so

1 I'm glad to say, yeah, they wouldn't be coming back.

2 CHAIR: Well, I have to say I - I saw
3 one that was successful to the point that I
4 intervened. This is just a personal story. So I
5 went to see some events at Hershey arena. So the
6 inside one, and they had a big one operating and it
7 was a free for all. Like, so one - one would say
8 that whatever the rules were, they decided there was
9 no rules. So if you had a wristband and you paid a
10 certain price, kids out of the drove. So it was
11 actually before circus. So it was a few years ago.

12 And I politely introduced myself.
13 Unfortunately, I was carrying my credentials at the
14 time, interacted with some very nice folks over at
15 Hershey, and politely, they made the announcement,
16 and took the air out of it. It was - my son wanted
17 to go down, right? He was young and small. It was
18 complete mayhem. You had, you know, 15 year-olds the
19 size of adults to toddlers running through this with
20 no regard to volume of people, size or anything. So
21 I had to say nay. You have to operate it within some
22 reasonable expectation of safety, so.

23 They were kind enough to not make a
24 big issue of it. You know, it wasn't that big of a
25 deal because it was a pre to the show, but they're

1 everywhere, and surprisingly so. Baseball games, big
2 events, they keep getting bigger for some reason.

3 MR. HALL: My third and final point,
4 some years ago, we had flyers being distributed by
5 this agency, the Agriculture Department, and
6 stressing public ride safety. And I haven't seen
7 that. I used to pick it up out here at the brochure
8 spot outside the elevator. Yvonne is shaking her
9 head. I wonder, do we still have that? And is there
10 a distribution process for that?

11 Okay, well, that answers my question.
12 It's not available, it's not available. But I
13 wondered how they would distribute it if you go to
14 parades or festivals or fairs, but if it's not there,
15 it's not there. So, I'm done. Thank you.

16 CHAIR: It always a pleasure. Every
17 time you call, please continue. You actually read
18 the newspaper and go through social media in your
19 area, and your area is huge for events that typically
20 may not be aware of the requirement of regulatory
21 oversight. So please continue, and we appreciate it.
22 Comments?

23 MR. GORMAN: Well, the showman at the
24 farm show, when they do their carousel project, we
25 give out a coloring book which promotes safety at the

1 parks and at the carnivals. Just coloring books for
2 kids, don't run, don't fall or you know. So we do a
3 little bit of that. And years ago, when I worked
4 there, we used - you used to give them to me and I
5 would drop off at the rest areas that brochure you're
6 talking about, but probably gone by the way of the
7 budget. You know how that goes.

8 CHAIR: You make a great point that I
9 want to offer to Board Members. The one thing I
10 think that I am absolutely, I won't say failed, think
11 I can do a lot better is promotion. Promotion of
12 what we do and how we do it. So reaching out to
13 media events and telling folks what the program
14 entails. You know, not just when we're interacting
15 with potential owners and operators, but the public,
16 right? So more people that know, the better. It
17 keeps us.

18 Once upon a time, Joe was very
19 efficient and had exactly what we're talking about,
20 coloring books. He had handouts. This was in the
21 infancy of the program, when he had darker hair. And
22 he had constantly, when I first came on board, said,
23 you know, where is this? Where, you know, where is
24 these documents? And we've fallen by the wayside.

25 We absolutely need to up our game with

1 our public outreach, our social media, and our media
2 kit for interacting with people. That I said, if
3 there's one downfall as a director that I haven't,
4 and that's any of my programs that I've concentrated
5 on, is they do a terrible job of saying how good we
6 do. I'm just saying, right? So, I mean, there are
7 media kits out there for a variety of industries.
8 And this is one of the success stories that we should
9 highlight as often as we can, especially as it comes
10 around, you know, big fall season.

11 We - there's a lot of things that we
12 can do proactively and productively to tell folks
13 about our program, and I feel like that's something
14 that we really have to up our game on. And I
15 appreciate the sentiment about the coloring book and
16 what it means. Getting that information out to the
17 public simply to ask ride operators for the PA ID
18 plate, or knowing that when you see that year and the
19 PA ride ID plate on it, that it's registered with us
20 and part of registration that it's insured, and that
21 they're - that we're aware that they have a certified
22 inspector and that likely we can look up the last
23 time it was inspected and where it was and who owns
24 it.

25 You know, these - these couple of

1 things, you know, point people towards people who are
2 doing it correctly versus people who are coming in
3 from outside the state and don't have any knowledge.
4 And it gets us information of unsafe, potential,
5 unsafe activities sooner. So, there's a lot of good
6 to be said for your comments and I appreciate that.

7 Any other Board Members with comments?
8 Thank you, Mr. Gorman.

9 MR. GORMAN: Well, that makes me think
10 you said, William, it makes me think of the annual
11 report that you have put out before about incidents
12 you've had during that season. So when that becomes
13 available, is it good to share with the Board?

14 MR. FILOROMO: That's normally in
15 January.

16 MR. GORMAN: Yeah. Okay, great.

17 CHAIR: Another excellent point.
18 Right? That's - it would be great if OBA or Industry
19 would kind of come up with a standardized litmus test
20 on how well or poorly a program is doing. But
21 considering, I know, I can tell you why, but
22 considering Pennsylvania does things that no other
23 state does, and some states do things that we don't
24 do. Right? Or the method and means in which they
25 track incidents. And some states, pardon me for

1 using his terms, is a pay per play. Like, as long as
2 you pay for the registration, there's no approval or
3 registration process other than paying. Some states
4 do it themselves, some states farm out the work. So,
5 there's - there's really no standardization.

6 So we are unto ourselves, right? So
7 it's just an interesting dynamic, the way the
8 industry operates in a variety of jurisdictions.
9 Personally, I think based on the program, the Board,
10 all the time and effort of all the operators and
11 owners, not going to beat us. I mean, just that's my
12 personal take on it. Thank you, Mr. Gorman.

13 Any other Board Members with
14 questions, comments? Hearing none, I'm going to bite
15 my tongue and I'm going to offer public opportunity
16 for comments. I'm not even going to look at you,
17 Gary.

18 MR. FILOROMO: Why'd you do that?

19 CHAIR: Because I can, and it's not
20 the wrong - nothing. If you do, you have to come up
21 to the microphone. You have to identify yourself,
22 but you have to.

23 MR. FILOROMO: Here we go.

24 CHAIR: It's okay to say thank you for
25 answering my questions. I don't have any further

1 questions.

2 MR. CHUBB: I'm Gary Chubb, C-H-U-B-B.
3 Just quickly on the Pittsburgh Safety Seminar. It
4 was held out in Pittsburgh area, Monroeville on,
5 let's see, October 30th through the 2nd of November.
6 Our attendance was a little light. The day's seminar
7 is supposed to be noticed, sponsored by the
8 Pennsylvania State Showman's Association and the
9 Pennsylvania Amusement Parks Association.

10 This year we had the classes at the
11 DoubleTree in Monroeville. We went to Kennywood for
12 a day and had a good time out there. We looked at 12
13 different rides, and we were fortunate enough to have
14 participants from the states on the state QA
15 inspectors were there, Tony and Lehigh, Yvonne was
16 there as a representative of the Department. And we
17 certainly appreciate everybody's assistance. So I
18 think overall, things went very well.

19 We had instructors from the National
20 Association of Safety Officials, NAARSO for short,
21 and we have a variety of - of parks and traveling
22 shows, but like I said, attendance was a little
23 light. We had 55 persons attend altogether. We had
24 a variety of classes, anything from rich rides to
25 basic DMC and ladder logic. We talked about ASPM,

1 S770, basic NDT, comprehensive evaluation, signage,
2 environment, that type of thing. So altogether, like
3 I said, I think it was a very good seminar.

4 We had a number of sponsors and we
5 certainly appreciate all the sponsors that help put
6 that seminar together. Our team will recognize Tom
7 Reebie from Philadelphia Toboggan Coaster continues
8 to be a big, big supporter and sponsor. So, thank
9 you Tom.

10 That's all I have on the PACE so far.
11 I do have another question. I recently been made
12 aware of a new Urban Air opening up in Harrisburg on
13 Derry Street. And I was just wondering, does the new
14 Urban Air have any QA inspectors that - I know the
15 website says coming soon. And during the meeting
16 here, I was contacted by one of the organizations
17 that I do inspections with to see if I can do a pre-
18 opening inspection. So, I don't know if they
19 registered with the state yet or not. And maybe I
20 can find that out after this meeting.

21 CHAIR: Yep. You just went one step
22 too far. Thank you for your comments, but happy to
23 answer your questions after we close the meeting.

24 MR. CHUBB: Yes, yes, yes. Thank you.

25 CHAIR: Sure. I won't say this is my

1 favorite time, but it ranks right up there with
2 lunch. Does the Board Member have a motion for
3 adjournment? Sir, yes, sir.

4 MR. SHAW: This is Derek Shaw - Walter
5 Shaw, S-H-A-W, with Amusement Today. I have a brief
6 recap for you about the Golden Ticket Awards this
7 year, which there were many Pennsylvania winners.

8 CHAIR: Yeah, I - we would - we would
9 love to hear you from you, sure. Hang on a moment.
10 Our stenographer is dutifully getting back. She's
11 probably having a difficult time hearing you, so
12 we're going to be quiet on our end to give you the
13 stage. Derek Shaw is a writer, it's S-H-A-W. His
14 name is up there for one of the periodicals. He
15 offers a lot of amusement ride content to a variety
16 of sources. And he's going to tell us about how well
17 Pennsylvania did this past year. Go ahead, Mr. Shaw.

18 MR. SHAW: Okay.

19 Well, the Golden Ticket Awards have
20 been around for 25 years. It's put out in our
21 Amusement Today newspaper, of which I handle
22 primarily the fair and carnival side of things.

23 So we held our awards this year at
24 Dollywood. And the Golden Tickets are an award
25 system where 800 people worldwide are given ballots.

1 I'm not one of them because I work in the newspaper.
2 And they have 21 categories that they select the best
3 of.

4 And in the wooden roller coaster
5 category, for the fifth year in a row, Phoenix at
6 Knoebels Amusement Resort took number one. Number
7 eight was the Ravine Flyer II of Waldameer Park; 15,
8 Jack Rabbit at Kennywood; 18, Thunderbolt at
9 Kennywood; number 22, Lightning Racer at Hershey
10 Park; number 23, Flying Turns at Knoebels.

11 In the steel side of things, 12th best
12 roller coaster in the world went to Phantom's Revenge
13 in Kennywood. Number 24 was Candymonium at Hershey
14 Park.

15 Best family park for two or three
16 years in a row now, Dutch Wonderland. The best new
17 water ride, Rocket Blast at Waldameer Park. Best
18 guest experience, second best in the world, Knoebels
19 Amusement Resort. Best dark ride, second best in the
20 world went to Knoebels Amusement Resort with a
21 haunted mansion. Best food went to Knoebels.

22 There also were some legends awards.
23 Claire Hain and Mike Boodley from Great Coasters
24 International Incorporated in Chesterville, which is
25 a suburb of Sunbury, won a legends award as well as

1 Jack and Pete Herschend, who originally started
2 Silver Dollar City. And in 1982, they partnered with
3 Dolly Parton to rename their park Dollywood. And
4 yes, Dolly Parton was there as well. And yes, she
5 sang a song, too.

6 Publisher's pick went to - the
7 Renaissance Award went to Kennywood for their
8 makeover, repaint, and signage, restored park
9 elements.

10 And so that's kind of a summary of
11 some rewards. A lot of the Pennsylvania winners.
12 And this coming year, the 2024 Golden Ticket Awards
13 will be at Kennywood, September 6th and 7th. It's a
14 free event and anyone is welcome to attend if they
15 would like. That's what I got.

16 CHAIR: Super timely with that, Mr.
17 Shaw. I appreciate both the summary and the reminder
18 of the invite. So that's awesome, 6th and 7th,
19 Kennywood. Show up, no ticket necessary.

20 MS. BROWN: I was just there.

21 CHAIR: You were. You - you guys were
22 just there. Mr. Shaw, where is that published at or
23 is it published?

24 MR. SHAW: The Golden Ticket Awards,
25 we have a special issue. If you go to

1 amusementtoday.com on our website, you can go through
2 past issues of our publication. It's the Golden
3 Ticket Awards issue.

4 CHAIR: Awesome.

5 MR. SHAW: I can also send a link. I
6 can send a link to you directly, Walt, if you'd like
7 to share it with everyone.

8 CHAIR: I would. Very much so. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. SHAW: Sure.

11 CHAIR: It's that time again.

12 MR. GORMAN: I will make a motion to
13 adjourn.

14 CHAIR: I have a motion on the table
15 to adjourn. Might there be a second?

16 MR. HALL: Second.

17 CHAIR: I see a bunch of seconds.

18 BOARD MEMBER: Third.

19 CHAIR: Any conversation? All those
20 in favor?

21 (AYES RESPOND)

22 CHAIR: We are adjourned. Thank you.

23 * * * * *

24 MEETING CONCLUDED AT 12:00 P.M.

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, hearing held before Chair Remmert, was reported by me on December 5, 2023 and that I, Bernadette M. Black, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Dated the 20 day of December, 2023

Bernadette M. Black

Bernadette M. Black,
Court Reporter