

MARYLAND BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order with a quorum at 1:06 p.m. by Victor C. March, President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Victor C. March, Sr. President
James Govoni, 2nd Vice President
Gladys Sewell
Robert Bradshaw Jr.
Mark Bailey
Lynn Shuppel
Dr. Camille Bryan

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS

D. Lynn Newman, 1st Vice President
Vernon Strayhorn Sr., Secretary
Dr. Ahmed Elzaree
Wayne Cooper

STAFF

Ruth Ann Arty, Executive Director
Darlene Cline, Licensing Chief
Thomas Anderson, Health Occupations Inspector
Anthony DeFranco, Board Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm. Mr. March moved for approval of July's Open session minutes. In last month's minutes, Lynn Shuppel's name was spelled incorrectly. A motion was made and approved to correct the spelling of Ms. Shuppel's name in the July minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Arty began by congratulating the March family on the Grand opening of their new facility, The March Life Tribute Center, located in Randallstown, Maryland. In August, we had an all-day CEU class at the Board covering Pre-need, Cremation Regulations, Mortuary Transportation Regulations and the Human Dignity Act of 2012. There will be a class at the University of Maryland sponsored by the Anatomy Board on September 17, 2016. The class will cover OSHA, Blood Borne Pathogens, Infectious Disease, The Maryland Transportation Regulations and The Human Dignity Act of 2012. The course offers 3.5 CEU's and begins at 8:00 am.

We continue to try to assist insurance companies that ask funeral homes to take ownership of life insurance policies. If you are having problems with insurance companies, please let us know and we will help them understand what needs to be done for consumers to be able to spend down.

Ms. Arty and Mr. Anderson went through the statistics of the last renewal cycle. Out of approximately three hundred establishments that are licensed, one hundred of those failed inspection on the first inspection. Ninety-nine of those firms corrected their deficiencies within the first thirty days and got passing letters, one did not and was referred to complaint committee. Of the crematories, fifteen of them did not pass inspection on this renewal cycle, all of them corrected

the within thirty days except one, which was referred to complaint committee. We have twelve crematories left to inspect, and they will all be complete by the end of September. Also, when inspecting the crematories there were some facility issues and misunderstanding about the Board required forms. They forms can be found on the Board's website.

Several establishments have sent the Board concerns about the electronic death certificate procedures, being if they get them at their local health department they get it right away, if they get them in the electronic system and any amendments are needed, they are held for quite a while. The Board is trying to work with the help desk to get them done faster.

Ms. Arty received a call from a consumer alliance group on the increasing price of cremations. They are reaching out to the FTC to revisit the funeral rule in regards to cremation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

FAMILY SECURITY TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lynn Shuppel, chair reported there is currently \$956,214.54 in the fund.

PRE-NEED COMMITTEE REPORT

In D. Lynn Newman, absence, Gladys Sewell reported, no report.

ESTABLISHMENT/INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Bailey, Chair reported the committee discussed the issue of pro-rating crematory and transport companies' permits, when the license is filed in a year that would only give them a year left on their permit. The committee's recommendation is they should be allowed to prorate. A motion was made and seconded to prorate permits that are filed in a year that would only give them a year left on their license.

Mr. March reported stickers that are being issued for the vehicle inspections are not required for funeral establishments, however during your establishment inspection the inspector will offer the option of placing the sticker on your inspected vehicle. The decision is up to the establishment. This Board has never required any nursing homes, hospitals, etc. to have a sticker on their vehicle.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE REPORT

James Govoni, Chair, reported on the following Licensees.

Apprentice

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Shelby Clark for apprenticeship with Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home with Cedrick Whitaker as her embalming sponsor. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Trenice Vinson for apprenticeship with Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home with Cedrick Whitaker as her embalming sponsor. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Danielle Fryer for apprenticeship with Schimunek Funeral Home of Bel Air, Inc. with Steven Coster as her sponsor for funeral assists and Thomas Smith as her embalming sponsor. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Patricia Bridge for apprenticeship with Mitchell-Wiedefeld Funeral Home with George Ferrarse as her sponsor. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Jason Abosch for apprenticeship with Sol Levinson & Bros. Inc. with Eliza Feller as his sponsor. A motion was made and approved.

Mortician Via Waiver of Apprenticeship Requirements

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Andrew Philliber for Mortician license. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni reported licensees have been asking about the time requirement for completing an apprenticeship. Under Statute 7-303b (2) an apprenticeship is not less than one full year and an extension could be applied for if needed.

Reinstatement of Mortician License

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Michael Sloan for reinstatement of his Mortician license. A motion was made and approved.

Courtesy Card

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Saretta Wright for Courtesy Card. A motion was made and approved.

Crematory Operator

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Jacob Zinn of Donaldson Funeral Home and Crematory for Crematory Operator. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Steven Rogowski, Jr. of Hagerstown Crematory for Crematory Operator. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Michael Minnich of Hagerstown Crematory for Crematory Operator. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Rosa Turner of Heaven Bound Crematory for Crematory Operator. A motion was made and approved, pending final paperwork.

Mortuary Transporters

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Austin Drew of Drew Removal Service for Registered Mortuary Transporter. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Bobby Barrett of Drew Removal Service for Registered Mortuary Transporter. A motion was made and approved.

Mr. Govoni moved for approval of Roscoe Brown of DHR Transportation Service for Registered Mortuary Transporter. A motion was made and approved.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS COMMITTEE

Dr. Camille Bryan, Chair, reported on the following CEU's.

KAVOD Independent Jewish Funeral Chapels – From Scratch - Building a Successful Funeral Business from the Ground up – November 15, 2016 – 1 CEU. A motion was made and approved.

David L. Bednar – OSHA Compliance – New paperwork and training requirements - Connelly FH Essex **Closed** – September 13, 2016 – 1 CEU, Beall Funeral Home **Closed** – September 14, 2016. A motion was made and approved.

David L. Bednar – OSHA Compliance – New paperwork and training requirements - Rausch FH **Closed** – September 27, 2016 – 1 CEU. A motion was made and approved.

David L. Bednar – OSHA Compliance – September 29, 2016 – 3 CEU's. A motion was made and accepted.

Edward Ranier – OSHA Prep Room & Removal Compliance Evans Funeral Chapel – October 4 & 5, 2016 – 3 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

Edward Ranier – OSHA & FTC Compliance – Pope Funeral Home - October 19, 2016 – 4 CEU's. A motion has been made and approved.

Edward Ranier – OSHA Compliance – Barranco and Sons, PA Severna Park – November 7, 2016 – 3 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

Ronn Wade, Anatomical Services Division – Mortuary Science Continuing Education Seminar – September 17, 2016. 3.5 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

The Dodge Company – 2016 Dodge Wreaths Across America Project – December 15-18, 2016 – 8.75 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

The Dodge Company – 2017 Dodge Technical Seminar – Hawaii – February 6-8, 2017 – 12 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

Sol Levinson & Bros Funeral Home, Inc. – The History of Human Preservation – October 18, 2015 – 2 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

Maryland State Funeral Directors Association – MSFDA 2017 Mid-Winter Retreat – February 10 - 12, 2017 – 5 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

NFDA – NFDA Certified Crematory Operator Program, Columbia S. C. – October 5, 2016 – 6 CEU's. A motion was made and approved.

NFDA -- Investing in Key Employees Webinar -- November 10, 2016 -- 1 CEU. A motion was made and accepted.

NFDA -- Update on VA Burial Benefits webinar -- December 1, 2016 -- 1 CEU. A motion was made and accepted.

NFDA -- NFDA Arranger Training -- December 7, 2016 -- 6 CEU's. A motion was made and accepted.

Jeffrey L. Gair/Tri-County Funeral Directors Association -- How to Boost Your Bottom Line with Cremation in Mind. -- January 12, 2017 -- 1 CEU. A motion was made and accepted.

ICCFA -- 2016 Fall Management Conference -- October 5-7, 2016 -- 7 CEU's. A motion was made and accepted.

Reminder: If you are submitting CEU's for review, please submit applications at least 60 days prior to the event.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Arty reported the Board had to cancel the Open Meeting regarding the proposed changes to the Apprentice and Family Security Trust Fund regulations. It has been rescheduled for October 4th at 1:30.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Bailey reported each transport company should send an updated data sheet for each of its employees. Also, each crematory must have a supervising crematory operator.

F.Y.I.

There will be a date posted on our website of when transporter ID's will be issued. Tom Anderson will have inspection stations around the State in the late October, early November. Those dates and times will be announced at October's Board meeting.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

There has been a request by the Attorney General to convene with a work group to address the anti-trust issue. The Committee had its first meeting yesterday in Annapolis, and will have two more meetings, in October and in November. We hope to come up with a plan of action.

AJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, Code § 10-501 et. Seq., on a motion by Victor C. March, President, and seconded the Board unanimously voted to close its meeting.