

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN EMBALMING AND FUNERAL DIRECTING
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2023, OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Board Members Present in person:

Paul Phaneuf, Chair
David Brezniak, Member
Richard Gormley Member

Board Members Present remotely:

Patrick Driscoll, Secretary
Janet Leombruno, Member

DOL Staff Present in person at various times during the meeting:

Jenna Hentoff, Board Counsel (JH)
Kathleen McNally, Executive Director (KM)
Robert Williams, Office of Investigations (RW)

DOL Staff Present remotely at various times during the meeting:

Bryan Freitas, Supervisor, Office of Investigations

Public Attendees: Margie Nolan, Tara McGrath, Sandy Ward, Kiersten Veroneau

Board Members and Staff attended as noted, with members of the public attending remotely.

1. KM made note of the Board Members, Staff, and the public in attendance.
2. KM advised as to the recording of the public meeting.
3. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM with advisement as to the location of Rest Rooms, Exits, and Fire alarm procedures for this location.
4. The Chair led the discussion of Elections for Officers of the Board for Board Chair and Board Secretary. A **MOTION** to nominate Paul Phaneuf as Board Chair was made by PD. Seconded by JL The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf – Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley – Yes
David Brezniak – Yes
Janet Leombruno – Yes

The Motion passed.

A MOTION to nominate Patrick Driscoll for Board Secretary was made by DB. Seconded by RG. The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf – Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley – Yes
David Brezniak – Yes
Janet Leombruno – Yes

The Motion passed.

5. The Chair led the discussion of the Open Public Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2023. **A MOTION** to approve the minutes as submitted was made by JL. Seconded by DB, The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak – Yes
Janet Leombruno – Yes

The Motion passed.

6. The Administratively Approved License Registrations Report was provided to the Board for acceptance:

EM Board Licensed Registrants and Establishments:

Eric Daniels, Stanetsky-Hymanson Memorial Chapel, Salem, 9/15/2023 - 51428-EM-3
Scott Kendall, Fiske Funeral Home/Stone Ladeau, Winchendon, 9/18/2023 – 1042-EM-FA
James Currie, Tighe-Hamilton Funeral Home, Malden, 9/21/2023 – 1043-EM-FA
John Rowe, John J. Brown Funeral Home-Short & Rowe, Marlborough, 9/29/2023 – 51429-EM-3
Nicole Plaisted, Nickerson Funeral Home, Orleans, 10/2/2023 – 6543-EM-A
Justin Cronin, Joseph W Casper Funeral Home, S. Boston, 10/2/2023 – 6544-EM-A
Sean Sullivan, Brasco & Sons Memorial Chapel, Waltham, 10/2/2023 – 1044-EM-FA
Michael Burns, Firtion Adams Funeral Service, Westfield, 10/2/2023 – 1045-EM-FA
Nicholas Spileos, Mackinnon Funeral Home, Whitman, 10/2/2023 – 1046-EM-FA
Michelle Frasca, Chapman Funerals & Cremations, Bridgewater, 10/3/2023 – 51430-EM-6
Francis Maggiore, Keohane Funeral Home, Quincy, 10/3/2023 – 51431-EM-6
Shiloh Dombek, Colonial Forastiere Funeral & Cremation, E. Longmeadow, 10/6/2023 – 6545-EM-

Anthony Conte III, Dewhirst and Conte Funeral Home, N. Andover, 10/10/2023 – 51432-M-6

Tayon Watson, Joseph Casper & Son Funeral Home, S. Boston, 10/13/2023 – 1047-EM-FA

Marc Olbash, Mackinnon Funeral Home, Whitman, 10/13/2023 – 1048-EM-FA

Hanna Talmo, Kenneth Pollard Funeral Home, Methuen, 10/13/2023 – 1049-EM-FA

Alyssa Lajoie, Forastiere Smith Funeral & Cremation, E. Longmeadow, 10/13/2023 – 1050-EM-FA

Sean White, Acton Funeral Home, Acton, 10/16/2023 – 6546-EM-A

Marianne Neergaard, Acton Funeral Home, Acton, 10/16/2023 – 6547-EM-A

Jasmine Malo, Stanetsky-Hymanson Memorial Chapel, Salem, 10/16/2023 – 6548-EM-A

Michael Bradley, Keohane Funeral Home, Quincy, 10/16/2023 – 6549-EM-A

After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to accept the Administratively Approved License Registration Report as presented was made by PD. Seconded by JL. The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley – Yes
David Brezniak – Yes
Janet Leombruno – Yes

The Motion passed.

7. The Administratively Approved Continuing Education Course Report was provided to the Board for acceptance:

Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association

- Professional Embalmer's Session

4.0 CEU's

After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to accept the Administratively Approved Continuing Education Report as presented was made by JL. Seconded by DB. The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak - Yes
Janet Leombruno – Yes

The Motion passed.

8. The Board notified of a letter sent to the Board by Legacy Cremation Services ("Legacy"). JH described the letter to the Board. Executive Director KM reported that she received a call

from Diana Riggins, the manager of Legacy, located in Colorado. Ms. Riggins wanted to discuss the letter sent to the Board. KM advised Ms. Riggins that she had not read the letter. KM advised Ms. Riggins to draft an email and send it to KM explaining the letter and the issues to be discussed. KM reported that she did not receive an email from Ms. Riggins or anyone from Legacy. Ms. Riggins called the office one week later and spoke to John Hill and requested the name of KM's direct supervisor which was provided. Legacy is not licensed in Massachusetts. No additional correspondence was received from Legacy. Board Counsel JH advised the Board that she would report if anything additional was received by Legacy. The Board did not take any action at this time.

9. KM advised the Board about the online renewal process for 2023. She notified the Board of an issue involving incorrect addresses appearing on some of the renewal forms, and that staff was working to fix the issue. KM advised the Board that staff is processing renewals as they are received. No Board action was taken at this time.
10. Board Counsel JH advised that she has reviewed the memorandum between the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) and the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA). JH will report to the Board when she has more information to present. No Board action was taken at this time.
11. Investigator Robert Williams presented information for the Investigative Update on Licensed Funeral Establishments. Investigator Williams discussed the Robert J. Miller Funeral Establishment and reported that the building was being sold, and that there are 44 preneed contracts, which have been funded. Investigator Williams reported that there is an attorney handling the estate and that Investigator Williams keeps in contact with the estate attorney. Chair Phaneuf stated that his concern was the preneed contracts which have now been funded. No Board action was taken at this time.
12. Investigator Robert Williams reported during the Investigative Update on Licensed Establishments about the Turgeon Funeral Establishment. Investigator Williams reported that there are approximately 40 existing preneed contracts which have all been transferred to the Rice Funeral Home in Worcester, Massachusetts. Mr. Turgeon's funeral business is completely closed. Investigator Williams will give another status report to the Board at the next meeting on November 21, 2023.
13. The Board discussed the Apprentice Extension Request by Michael Randone. The Board discussed that this is the first extension request by the licensee. After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to allow the extension request for one licensing cycle was made by DB and seconded by RG. The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak - Yes
Janet Leombruno - Yes

The Motion passed.

14. Under topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting, the Board discussed the Apprentice Extension Request by Kiersten Verroneau. The Board discussed the request from the licensee who appeared before the Board. After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to allow the extension request for one licensing cycle was made by PD and seconded by RG. The Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak - Yes
Janet Leombruno - Yes

The Motion passed.

15. A **MOTION** to close the Open meeting and enter the Closed Investigative Conference pursuant to G.L. c.112, §65C, and not return to an Open Meeting, was made by JL. Seconded by RG. After a brief discussion, the Chair called for a roll call vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak - Yes
Janet Leombruno - Yes

The Motion passed and the Open Public meeting closed at approximately 10:51 A.M.

16. The following actions took place during the Closed Investigative Conference:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| • 2022-000484-IT-ENF | Dismissal. |
| • 2023-000558-IT-ENF | Referred to Prosecutions. |
| • 2023-000461-IT-ENF | Referred to Prosecutions. |

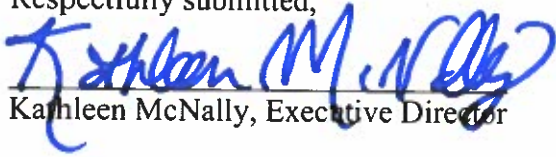
17. A **MOTION** to adjourn and close the meeting was made by DB, seconded by JL. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:

Paul Phaneuf - Yes
Patrick Driscoll - Yes
Richard Gormley - Yes
David Brezniak - Yes
Janet Leombruno - Yes

The Motion passed and the Meeting was closed at approximately 11:45 AM.

The above minutes were taken at the meeting held on October 17, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen McNally, Executive Director

Documents used in public session:

- Agenda for the October 17, 2023, Open Meeting
- Draft minutes of the September 19, 2023, Open Meeting
- List of approved license registrants and establishments
- List of approved continuing education courses
- Letter from Legacy Cremation Services
- Apprentice Extension Request by Michael Randone
- Apprentice Extension Request by Kiersten Verroneau