

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN EMBALMING AND FUNERAL DIRECTING
MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 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 at various times during the meeting:

Colleen Maloney, Associate Deputy Commissioner
Andrew Bridges, Associate Deputy Commissioner
Jenna Hentoff, Board Counsel (JH)
Kathleen McNally, Executive Director
Bryan Freitas, Supervisor, Office of Investigations
Robert Williams, Office of Investigations
John Hill, Board Staff (JEH)

Public attendees: Sandy Ward.

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 10:32 AM with advisement to the location of Rest Rooms, Exits, and Fire alarm procedures for this location.
4. The Chair led the discussion of the Open Public Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2023. A **MOTION** to approve the minutes as submitted was made by RG. 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 – Not present for vote.

The Motion passed.

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

EM Board Licensed Registrants and Establishments:

George Tazzini III, George B. Tazzini Funeral Home, Springfield, 8/30/2023 – 51420-EM-6
Melodie Taing, J.S. Waterman Langone Chapel, Boston, 8/30/2023 – 51421-EM-6
David Jasukonis, Pickering & Son Upton Funeral Home, Upton, 9/5/2023 – 1039-EM-FA
Sarah M. McCune, Joseph W. Casper Funeral Home, S. Boston, 9/5/2023 – 6540-EM-A
Seamus J. Slinger, Downing Funeral Home, Hingham, 9/5/2023 – 6541-EM-A
Sierra M. Pena, Miles Funeral Home, Holden, 9/5/2023 – 6542-EM-A
Camille Bourbeau, O'Connor Brothers Funeral Home, Worcester, 9/8/2023 – 51422-EM-6
William Wiles, James H. Delaney & Sons, Walpole, 9/11/2023 – 51423-EM-6
Nicole M Kamishlian, Consigli-Ruggerio Funeral Home, Milford, 9/11/2023 – 51424-EM-6
Dennis Conway, FPG Beers-Story, LLC, Palmer, 9/11/2023 – 1040-EM-FA
Dalilah-Rain Gilmartin, Miles Funeral Home, Holden, 9/13/2023 – 51425-EM-6
Sarah DeMelo, Silva-Faria Funeral Homes, Fall River, 9/13/2023 – 51426-EM-6
Ryan Ferreira, Oliveira Funeral Home, Inc., Fall River, 9/13/2023 – 51427-EM-6
Caroline Burlamachi, Concord Funeral Home, Concord, 9/18/2023 – 1041-EM-FA
Scott W. Kendall, Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, Winchendon, 9/18/2023 – 1042-EM-FA

After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to accept the Administratively Approved License Registration Report as presented was made by PD. 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 – Not present for vote.

The Motion passed.

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

ICCFA

ICCFA Annual Convention and Exposition

- Convention held May 16 – 19, 2023 14.00 Hours

WILBERT FUNERAL SERVICES

- Is State Regulatory Law It? 1.00 Hour

NFDA

- Green Burials: Opportunity or Threat? 1.00 Hour

MFDA

- Proposed New Options for Death Care Services in Massachusetts 3.00 Hours

COLIBRI HEALTCARE, LLC

- Mass Fatalities Incidents 1.00 Hour
 - OSHA and CDC Guidelines for the Funeral Profession 1.00 Hour
 - An Understanding of Grief and the Role of the Funeral Profession 1.00 Hour
 - Military and Line of Duty Funeral Services 3.00 Hours
 - The Impact of Grief in the Elder Adult Population 1.00 Hour
 - The Death of a Parent 1.00 Hour
 - The Funeral Rule 3.00 Hours
 - The Culture of Death and Funerals 1.00 Hour
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- DENIED – Cremation: An Overview 1.00 Hour

After a brief discussion, a **MOTION** to accept the Administratively Approved Continuing Education Report as presented 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 – Not present for vote.

The Motion passed.

7. The Board Counsel advised that she is still reviewing the memorandum between the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) and the Department of Transitional Assistance

(DTA), and she will report to the Board when she has more information to present. No Board action was taken at this time.

8. Investigator Robert Williams presented information for the Investigative Update on Licensed Funeral Establishments. Investigator Williams discussed the Robert J. Funeral Establishment and its two licenses (Webster and Charlton) which are revoked. The establishments were owned by Robert J. Miller who is recently deceased. Investigator Williams updated the Board regarding the status of preneed contracts and the funding of the contracts, which will include monetary proceeds from the possible sale of the Webster funeral establishment. Chair Phaneuf stated his concerns about notification to consumers regarding the status of their preneed contracts and monies paid by consumers when a funeral establishment is sold, transferred, or goes out of business. Investigator Williams stated that there were approximately 43 preneed contracts from the Miller Funeral Homes, which are currently with an Attorney. Investigator Williams stated that he will speak to the Attorney and provide another update to the Board at the next meeting.
9. Investigator Williams reported during the Investigative Update on Licensed Establishments about the Turgeon Funeral Establishment. Investigator Williams reported that he is working on obtaining additional information, and he will report to the Board at the next meeting. The Board tabled further discussion until the October 17, 2023, meeting.
10. Chair Phaneuf discussed the status of Online Funeral License Renewals for this year. The Board discussed issues with receipt of mailed renewal notices, including address issues. KM advised that if licensees already renewed their licenses by mail, then please do not also renew them online, as that will wreak havoc with the renewal system. Investigator Williams stated that if licensees report problems to him regarding license renewals, he will properly instruct them as to whom to contact to correct the issues. Chair Phaneuf stated that since this is the first year with online renewals, the Board expects that there will be issues.
11. Board Counsel Jenna Hentoff discussed License Classifications. Counsel reviewed the amendments made to license types and/or classifications when the Board last reviewed their regulations. The changes were implemented to eliminate and consolidate certain license types due to administrative and legal issues that arose for staff. Counsel stated that changing the license types would require engaging in a lengthy regulation review process. Counsel further advised the Board that if licensees are not operating within the scope of their license, then a complaint can/should be filed with DOL's Office of Investigations (OI). No Board action was taken at this time.
12. 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 RG. Seconded by DB. 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 11:13 A.M.

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

- 2022-000474-IT-ENF Dismissal
- 2023-000428-IT-ENF Dismissal
- 2023-000595-IT-ENF Referred to Investigations

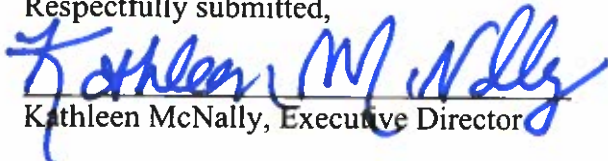
14. A **MOTION** to adjourn and close the meeting was made by DB, seconded by JL. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:

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 11:56 AM.

The above minutes were taken at the meeting held on September 19, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen McNally, Executive Director

Documents used in public session:

- Agenda for the September 19, 2023, Open Meeting
- Draft minutes of the August 15, 2023, Open Meeting
- List of approved license registrants and establishments
- List of approved continuing education courses