

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM with a quorum present by Dr. Hari. P. Close, President

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hari P. Close, President
Robert Bradshaw, Jr. 2nd Vice President
Lauri Cebula- Seaboch, Secretary
Keith Downey
Renee Derketsch
D. Lynn Newman
Vernon Strayhorn, Sr.
Ahmed Elzaree

STAFF

Ruth Ann Arty, Executive Director
Darlene Cline, Licensing Chief
John French, Health Occupations Investigator
Thomas Anderson, Health Occupations Inspector
Lisa Woods, Office Secretary III
Richard Bloom, Board Counsel

A motion was made and seconded for the approval of the previous month's minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Arty started by apologizing for the late start of the meeting. She asked for a vote that the Open Session meetings begin at 11:00 am so that Board Members are prompt and our audience does not have to wait.

Ms. Arty reported it had been a very busy month, as it is licensure time. This licensure is for the second half of the alphabet. As stated in previous Board meetings, only 6 CEU's are needed and no Maryland pre-need. Also, no photos are needed as the Board will be using controlled stickers with new expiration to put on your previous license. MVA allows photos for five years in this state. The Board intends to do the same thing.

Legislative session was very busy. It is over. Ms. Arty said she would have copies of the new laws that effect the mortuary science profession for the next Board meeting, as she wanted to make sure she had the true final copies with all amendments. In brief, the Board had three bills. One was withdrawn. That was the bill on immediate access to the

prep room. The other two have passed with some amendments. They are the bills that cover the requirements for supervising mortician and or sponsor of apprenticeship. And the other bill was the establishment discipline bill that gives the Board the go-ahead to be able to discipline establishments with amendments for certain violations of the act, not all violations of the act. There were three bills in opposition, and of those three bills, two were withdrawn. One of them passed, and that is the bill regarding holding rooms that was put in by Kathy Klausmeier. That bill essentially does not require holding rooms in funeral homes that have central preparation and we will look at the final language. A bill on trade names was withdrawn and is requested to go to summer work session.

The two appointments that need to be made to the Board are for Mr. John T. Stewart's seat, who passed away and Mr. Bob Bradshaw, who will be giving up his seat in July after eight years of service. The Governor's office has applications and candidates are being considered.

Ms. Arty reported that Dr. Hari P. Close is now the Secretary/Treasurer of the International Conference Board.

APPRENTICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch, Apprenticeship Committee Chair, interviewed the following applicants for apprenticeship.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Jennifer Chance for a renewal of her apprenticeship. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Keith Downey, Chair reported his staff would evaluate the spreadsheet and get it back to Darlene to be up-loaded online.

FAMILY SECURITY TRUST FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch, Chair reported there was a total of \$603,833.07 in the fund. Also, there has been one claim that has gone against the fund, but no monies have been paid out. The Advisory Committee has recommended 20% for the Stella claims. A motion from the Family Security Trust Fund Advisory Committee for 20% on the Stella claims was made and approved.

FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT/INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

In Michelle Huggins absence, Ms. Renee Derketsch will Chair this committee report.

Victor March is requesting a name approval for March Life Tribute Center - Laurel, P.A. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

G. Douglass Stauffer, owner of Stauffer Funeral Home, PA intends to purchase the Ricketts Funeral Home (the business only – essentially purchasing the pre-need accounts) at 504 Main Street, Myersville, Maryland, the sale being effective May 1, 2013. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Dr. Muhammad Hussain intends to open a satellite full service Islamic funeral establishment, with approval of the Board, to be named Hussain's Islamic Funeral Service of Baltimore County located at 1808 Woodlawn Drive, Suite Z, Woodlawn, Maryland 21207. This location would be used to wash, shroud and transport the deceased in accordance with Islamic traditions. Dr. Hussain is seeking a name approval. A motion was made and approved.

Beth A. Kehl intends to purchase the Bradley Ashton Funeral Home, PA located at 2134 Willow Spring Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222, with a settlement date of May 1, 2013. Ms. Kehl is seeking name approval to be Bradley-Ashton-Kehl Funeral Home. A motion was made and approved for the name change. The approval of the purchase will be pending final audit, which is in two weeks.

Cheryl Ross Bluford is asking for name approval for Ross Bluford Funeral Service for a restricted establishment out of Wiseman Funeral Chapel, P.A. located at 7527 Old Alexandria Ferry Road, Clinton, Maryland 20735. Ms. Bluford will conduct all aspects of mortuary science out of this location. A motion was made and approved.

Albert P. Wylie is seeking the approval of the Board to build a new full service funeral establishment to be located at 701 North Mount Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21217. The name of the new establishment will be Wiley Funeral Home, PA, and will replace the current funeral establishment at 638 North Gilmor Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21217 when complete. The Gilmor Street location will be closed at that time. A motion was made and approved.

PRE-NEED COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Lynn Newman, Chair reported the pre-need inspections Tom presented to him were fine. Mr. Newman also stated, last month we promised we would have the proposed pre-need regulation for the death of an owner with regard to their estate and any pre-need bank accounts or insurance policies. Mr. Newman stated the proposed regulation reads: "Upon the death of an owner of a licensed funeral establishment, the establishment shall publish notice of the death, including the date of death, in the local newspaper where the establishment is located and on any website of the establishment within three days. Notification letters shall be sent to all pre-need account holders, whether placed in escrow trust or by insurance, as required by Health Occupation 7-405, within 14 days of the death."

* After a large discrepancy in the Family Security Trust Fund, Darlene Cline went to check the March minutes for a total. The March minutes have a total of \$603,458.07, and

that is \$375.00 less than this time. That \$375.00 is for a new establishment for Roger Mason.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license for Tara Suther. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license for Casey Buzzard. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license for Irvin Ceddillos. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license for Tiffany Cox. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of reinstatement of Morticians license for Kashiba Rollins-Fiscus. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Mortician's license via waiver of apprenticeship for Ikkeia Harrell pending paperwork. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license via waiver of apprenticeship for Deonza Washington pending an item of paperwork. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license via waiver of apprenticeship for Stacye Stewart pending an item of paperwork. A motion was made and approved.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license via reciprocity for Francis Dooley, Jr. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Cebula-Seaboch moved for approval of Morticians license via reciprocity for Steven Woodell. A motion was made and approved by the Board.

Ms. Arty asked if the Board would consider her recommendation for the open session to begin at 11:00 am. A motion was made and approved by the Board to start our open session meetings at 11:00 am instead of 10:30 am.

Dr. Close nominated Victor C. March, Sr., Michelle Huggins, D. Lynn Newman, and Lauri Cebula-Seaboch as new officers.

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

Dr. Close reported he received a letter from the Stewart family on behalf of our late colleague, John T. Stewart, thanking the Board for their support of Mr. Stewart. He also received a letter from David Goodman, Chairman of the Advisory Council on Cemetery Operations, expressing his appreciation for the collaborative efforts made by the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors and the Office of Cemetery Oversight. The Executives and Assistant Attorney Generals for both Boards, and Kristen Neville worked tenaciously to arrive at a consensus in several areas helping to move the cremation regulations forward.

Dr. Close went on to thank the staff, Board Council, and his colleagues from Maryland State, and Brian Ditzler of Consumer Alliance.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, Annotated Code §10-501 et seq., on a motion by Dr. Close, President, the Board unanimously voted to close its meeting in room 100 for the purpose of complying with the Maryland Morticians Act that prevents public disclosures about particular proceedings or matters. The Board will address complaints and disciplinary issues.

Respectfully submitted:
