



MEETING MINUTES

AFCCA Board of Directors Meeting
Green Acres Mortuary & Cemetery • Scottsdale, AZ

Thursday, February 13, 2020
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

In attendance:

Board of Directors

Ethan Bueler, President
Greg Coury
Michelle Green
Hallie Lang
Renee Corbelli
Steve Handley
Stephanie McNaughton

Absent

Russell Persinger, Vice President
Dan Salter, Secretary
Steve Palmer, Treasurer
Patricia Rodriguez
Joseph Stone
Hillary Adair
Donna Backhaus

Guest

Ray Perlman, Sinai Mortuary

Staff

Heather Long, Executive Director

Call to Order

Meeting Called to order at 10:29 AM by President, Ethan Bueler

Guest

Ray Perlman, Sinai Mortuary

Ray came asking for the Associations help on death certificates. As it stands currently, doctors have 72 hours to sign a death certificate, which is written in law. We are uncertain at how it is defined in law (e.g. 72 hours from death, 72 business hours, etc.) because doctors fluctuate on how they personally define it. Ray feels that 24 hours is realistic and is a better approach for everyone based on religious purposes and the fact that AZ is a transient state, so many families do not live here when planning services and/or ship-outs. Ray is hoping that the Association and its members will assist in changing the law from 72 to 24 hours.

During discussion, we know that we need to ask the State Health Department to get involved – either with enforcement of doctors signing certificates quicker or changing the law. The association plans to invite State Health Department to the conference meeting in June.

Reports

1. Secretary's Report

In Daniel Salter's absence, Ethan Bueler presented the January 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes from the January 2020 Meeting made by Renee Corbelli, seconded by Hallie Lang. Motion approved unanimously.

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AFCCA Mission

Encouraging the continuance of education of our members, promoting high ethical standards in our industry, and providing advocacy for death care professionals and the families they serve.



2. Treasurer's Report

A motion to table the treasurers report for February was made by Greg Coury, seconded by Renee Corbelli. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Executive Director Report

Membership report = we have 223 total accounts, including student/intern accounts.

Current paying members, 61 accounts. Past due accounts are at 61 accounts. Our membership revenue is at \$50,620 for 2020.

4. Legislative Update

SB 1274 – Funeral Board Composition

This bill passed out of committee on February 10, 2020 5-2. There was not representation from the Funeral Industry to speak out against this. This bill will change the composition from 4 funeral directors/embalmers to 3 and from 3 public members to 4.

Trish is encouraging that we write to the commerce committee to ask that we do not change the composition of the Funeral Board to have more public members than practicing funeral directors/embalmers. The AFCCA Board will be submitting a joint letter on behalf of the members. There is a meeting on Monday, February 17 at 4:00 PM with the commerce committee chair, Senator Ugenti-Rita.

HB 2249 – Funeral Director Personal Representative

This bill has passed through its third read in the house on 2/11/20, unanimously. Amended changes on 2/10/20 were "after 'Director' insert 'or Funeral Establishment Owner'".vThe association still feels that the verbiage is still not correct and does not address the issue, however we may need to approach this again during next legislative season.

It was identified that the true issue is that counties need to pay the money promptly for indigent burials but are not being held accountable. The County needs to personal representative and in turn ensure that funeral homes are paid for their services.

Reciprocity Bill

There are many issues with this law that went into effect August 2019. It is opening up the door to uneducated, unexperienced licensed funeral directors in our state. In order to make a change, it has to be a public outcry. We will be encouraging our industry to reach out to the Governor's office to express their concerns. They can also state their concerns during the "Call to the public" at the Arizona Board for Funeral Directors and Embalmers meetings, held every third Tuesday of the month. The more outcry we have the better. With this law, anyone can get a license; it makes licenses in Arizona of no value essentially. Ethan will help craft a letter to send to the membership to speak out.



5. National Updates

NFDA President Bryant Hightower will be attending our conference in June.

6. Supplier Representative Report

Nothing new to report.

7. Education Report

Nothing new to report.

8. Foundation for Children Report

Foundation had a condensed February meeting due to absences. Nothing notable to report.

Business Items

1. 2020 Convention Planning

We have confirmed Mike Nicodemus, Lance Ray and will be asking Rory McKeown to speak. All conference information will be up on website shortly. Heather will be reaching out to see if Kaitlyn Daugherty can speak. Steve Handley will ask Poul Lemasters.

2. Cemetery Maintenance Seminar

The 2020 seminar was well attended, and everyone was happy with the speakers/agenda. The first aid/safety presentation was such a hit, that it was asked we have them present at the conference. We are looking for a host for 2021.

3. Vice President Position

Russell Persinger has stepped down as Vice President.

4. Other Business for the Good of the Order

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Renee Corbelli, seconded by Greg Coury. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 PM by President, Ethan Bueler.

Next Full Board Meeting – Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 10:30 AM; Green Acres Mortuary & Cemetery Market Office unless otherwise noted.