Funeral Consumers Alliance

Board of Trustees Videoconference Meeting

February 19, 2020

**Agenda**

I Call to order

II Approval of draft minutes from videoconference meeting of Dec. 18, 2019

III Approval of Agenda

IV Finance and Fundraising

V Governance

VI Conference 2020

VII Ongoing Projects

VIII Adjournment

**Members in Attendance:** Ruth Bennett, Alison Rector, Karen Smith, John Lantz

Nancy Petersen, Rod Stout, Marjorie Focarazzo

Josh Slocum, Executive Director

**I** **Call to Order**: By President, Ruth Bennett at 7:07 pm Eastern Time.

Quorum is established.

**II** **Minutes:** approval of draft minutes from December 18, 2019

Videoconference were approved with the following corrections:

V Governance Allison Rector: last names added to the list of

nominees to be presented for election to the Board of Trustees

* Katherine Ortiz, FCA Humboldt County CA
* Dianna Repp, FCA AZ
* Kristin Mouton, FCA CO
* Dylan Menguy, Washington, DC
* Nancy Peterson (incumbent)
* Marjorie Focarazzo (incumbent)
* Sarah Lambring, FCA Northern TX

Move to approve minutes as corrected was made by Alison Rector; seconded by John Lantz; motion carried.

**III** **Agenda:** Approved as presented.

**IV** **Finances and Fundraising: Josh Slocum**

1. Year to Date Income vs. Expenses: no concerns; going in the right direction; $44,000 gift was very helpful; fundraising going in the right direction

* Josh is to meet with the presenter of Fund-Raising Conference attended last year
* How does National get more mailing lists from affiliates?
* Who is sharing?
* If not, why not?
* Difficult to reeducated new board members on why sharing member list is important.
* National could provide an incentive to increase sharing, i.e.: write the affiliates fund raising letter

1. Year to Date Balance Sheet: year end assets, 2019, are approx. $171,100
2. Year-End Fund-Raising Campaign: how it can be effective for both affiliates and National

* Josh believes we are doing better this year than in past years
* Grants? Takes a lot of time to write a grant, so it is not a good time right now; need to concentrate on the Biennial Conference. Discuss at the Board meeting immediately following the Biennial with new board members.

**V** **Governance: Alison Rector**

1. Candidates for Board

* Packets will be going out to affiliates by month’s end with nominees’ bios
* No nominations from the floor

1. Bylaws: table for discuss at Board meeting following Biennial Conference

**VI Conference 2020**

1. Schedule is completed
2. Registration is live at funerals.org

**ACTION: Josh/Nastassia to send weekly reminders**

1. Looking for entertainment for Saturday evening
2. Past President PMA has a program for end of life choices; may be good for Saturday afternoon.
3. Timetable to be published as we get closer to the Biennial

**VII Ongoing Projects**

1. FTC Funeral Rule Review has officially open

* Josh is drafting FCA’s comments
* Steve’s (CFA) comments and FCA’s comments will more then likely overlap when submitted
* Useful comments/ideas should be sent to Josh
* Steve wants Nancy to write a letter to be distributed with affiliates
* Contact consumer advocates in metropolitan areas about the Funeral Rule Review and accepting comments from consumers
* Question about cemetery abuses falls under The Funeral Rule
* Claims there are no widespread deceptive practices, which is not true; no investigations have been done on cemeteries
* Josh will include in his comments, but in depth as in the past
* John shares there are very few GPLs online in Georgia

1. Alison congratulated Josh on a successful “Get to Know You” chat; plans to have more

**VIII Adjourned** at 7:43 pm EST

Next videoconference: April 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm EST

Submitted by

Marjorie Focarazzo

1-30-2020