Funeral Consumers Alliance

Board of Trustees Meeting

August 17, 2021, 7:30 pm Eastern

*To join the Zoom meeting, put this link in your web browser’s URL address bar:  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2811916531*

Note—There is not enough in the last month to justify an Exec. Director’s report or supporting documentation. This agenda is the only document for this meeting. I will give details about items below at our meeting.

AGENDA

**I. Call to Order  
  
II. Approval of draft minutes from July 20 meeting**

**III. Governance**

a. Report from Elections Committee—Marjorie Focarazzo

b. Suitability of paid Affiliate staff members for board positions—Rod Stout

**IV. Conference 2021**

a. Program is complete, with nine presentations over three days. See details at:

[**https://funerals.org/civicrm/?civiwp=CiviCRM&q=civicrm%2Fevent**](https://funerals.org/civicrm/?civiwp=CiviCRM&q=civicrm%2Fevent) **%2Finfo&reset=1&id=31**

**V. Ongoing/Upcoming Projects**

a. Next report on state funeral board composition with Consumer Federation of America  
 b. Online classes for FCA affiliates

-An introduction to the Guidebook for Running a Funeral Consumers Alliance

-Would like to schedule **Katherine Ortiz** to give her “getting connected” class on social media

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance:** Ruth Bennett,Katherine Ortiz, Dianna Repp,

Rod Stout, Marjorie Focarazzo

Excused: Kristin Mouton

Josh Slocum, Executive Director

I **Call to Order** by Vice President Ruth Bennett at 7:38 pm.

II **Quorum** established.

III **Minutes** of the July 20, 2021 were approved as presented.

IV Governance

* Report of Nominating Committee from Marjorie Focarazzo
* Contacted to serve and the results:
* Karen Smith, former board member, decline due to her busy work schedule
* Alison Rector, former board member, declined; taking care of elderly parents and cannot devote the time
* Marcy Klein, former board member, accepted
* Cassidy Stout, contacted twice but have not received a response; Rod will mention it to her
* Requested contact information for Steve McCarthy and Jim Bates. Josh will forward that information.
* Suitability for paid staff members of affiliates to serve as board members
* National FCA does not have a policy
* Not many state affiliates have paid employees
* Anyone in the funeral industry who received renumerations cannot serve on a FCA affiliate board—conflict of interest; PMA is somewhat of an exception but theirs is a co-op owned funeral home.
* Employee salary should come from some other aspect of income other than the funeral home portion to avoid any impropriety

**ACTION:** Ruth, Katherine, and Rod will look at the bylaws and write a proposed policy to discuss at next meeting.

Josh will forward bylaws with highlighted area pertaining to this.

V Conference 2021

* Email will be sent to all affiliates about the conference
* Question and Answer time will be at the end of the conference on Sunday afternoon, 4:30 to 6 pm EST
* Conference will be posted to FCA’s website

VI Ongoing and Upcoming Projects

* State Funeral Boards with Consumer Federation of America
* Composition of the boards contain more professionals than consumers
* What are the criteria to serve? Funeral Directors have criteria but there is none for the consumer.
* Complaint cases are adjudicated by state boards and should be public knowledge
* How accessible are complaints to the public?
* What are the resolutions for complaints?
* What are the depths of complaints?
* GPLs: Nastassia is working on the GPLs in areas that have no affiliates
* Online classes for FCA affiliates
* PMA is holding will hold classes
* Katherine Ortiz to do a class on “Getting Connected on Social Media”

Josh and Katherine will determine a good time.

VII Next meeting: Sept. 21st, 7:30 EST

VIII Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm by general consensus

Submitted by

Marjorie Focarazzo