

Vermont Board of Funeral Service

National Life Building North FL2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

Unapproved Minutes

March 9, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Paul Guare, Chair, John Coffin, L yndon Mann,
Members absent: Peter Beck
Staff Present: Judith Griffen administrative assistant and Investigator, Daniel Vincent.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:12 AM by Chairman Paul Guare
 2. Paul Guare made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2009. Mr. Coffin seconded. Minutes were approved
 3. Status of Cases: Ms. Griffen presented the Board with a summary of Funeral Board Cases. Mr. Guare noted that all of the cases are from 2008. Mr. Coffin noted that he liked the new list that was presented.
 4. There were no Concluded Reports.
 6. Applications: John Ambrosino application for Funeral Director - Mr. Coffin noted that the application was dated in 2006. Ms. Griffen suggested that if every one was in agreement then the Board could approve the application pending an updated application is sent in before the license was issued and providing everything was the same. The board accepted and approved the application.
 7. Discussion Items: Mr. Dan Vincent, the investigator for the Board of Funeral Services, had some additional concerns he wished to share with the Board. The first involve the confusion with the licenses on pre-paid arrangements and how the funeral directors are applying different ways to handle this issue. It seems the licenses are confused on several terms used. The set terms being, guaranteed, non-guaranteed, pre-paid, irrevocable and non-irrevocable. Guaranteed and non-guaranteed are terms not used in the laws and but are used in the industry. This discussion was lengthy and redundant so the board asked to have Kevin Leahy the staff attorney come in to discuss this issue. Unfortunately Mr. Leahy was scheduled in another board meeting and was only present for a brief summary. Since a discussion needed to have the advice of the attorney and needed the attorney present it was decided that this further discussion when Mr. Leahy can be present.
 - These second items brought up had to do with practices funeral directors were dealing with rituals performed at the funeral home by certain religious groups. This was brought up at the previous board meeting. The consensus then and now is that the professional funeral director need to use his best due diligence in matters dealing with restricted portions of his establishment while attempting to accommodate certain clients. Mr. Vincent was informed that there may be OSHA regulations that say anyone in a prep room needs to be educated before reentering. Mr. Vincent was not aware of this and will look into it to see how this will affect all concerned.
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- The Board will discuss both of these issues again at the next board meeting were Mr. Leahy and Mr. Vincent will both be present.
10. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM
 11. Next Scheduled Meeting: April 7, 2009