

MARYLAND BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

March 13, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER/GREETINGS:** Board President, Dr. Mark Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the open session to discuss State of Emergency due to Coronavirus/COVID-19: Board Position on Required Continuing Education (CEU) 12 credits – accepting all Board approved on-line courses for a limited time.

2. **Board Members Present:** Dr. Mark Bailey, President; Michele Kutta, 1st Vice President; Robert Lang, 2nd Vice President; Kirk Helfenbein, Secretary; Brandon Wylie; Sheria Jennings, Robert Bradshaw, Melanie Oppat, Dr. Ahmed Elzaree

3. **Board Member Absent:** Dr. James Kalshoven and Suzana Kuriadom.

Board Staff Present: Christy Collins, Executive Director; Deborah Donohue, Esq., Board Counsel; Bethan Haaga, Esq., Board Counsel.

4. **LICENSING COMMITTEE** – Chair Michele Kutta reported: Coronavirus/COVID-19 State of Emergency: Board position on acceptance of Board-approved online courses to satisfy all 12 required Continuing Education (CEU) credits for license renewal period ending April 30, 2020. Committee made a motion to temporarily remove the requirement of at least 3 CEU credits be completed in-person in accordance with Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article, § 7-314(c)(4) and COMAR 10.29.05.05.C and G. The licensing committee made a motion to temporarily allow all twelve CEU credits be obtained online, Sheria Jennings seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

5. **PRESIDENT’S REMARKS:** Dr. Bailey prepared and read to the Board a Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors response letter concerning Coronavirus (COVID-19). The letter addressed valuable information and resources for all licensees and consumers. Dr. Ahmed Elzaree made a motion to accept letter as written and distribute to all licensees and consumers through the Board’s website, Robert Bradshaw seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

6. **ADJOURNMENT:** Sheria Jennings made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Michele Kutta, and with unanimous Board approval, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25p.m.