

DIVISION OF CEMETERIES

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

CEMETERY BOARD

ROSSANA ROSADO
SECRETARY OF STATE
CHAIR

BARBARA D. UNDERWOOD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DR. HOWARD A. ZUCKER
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

APPROVED

Cemetery Board Minutes

August 8, 2018
Department of State
One Commerce Plaza, Albany, NY

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Pattison, Department of State, Chair
Jill Faber, Office of Attorney General

Paul Ambrose, Department of Health

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Lewis A. Polishook, Division of Cemeteries
Antonio Milillo, Department of State, Counsel
Joshua Beams, Department of State

Chester Butkiewicz, Division of Cemeteries
Alicia Young, Division of Cemeteries
Leonard Breen, Division of Cemeteries

GUESTS:

Calum d'Oelsnitz, New York State Association of Cemeteries
Scott Henderson, New York State Funeral Directors Association
Bruce Geiger, Pinelawn Cemetery

18-08-A-41 Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted approving the minutes of the July 25, 2018 meeting as submitted.

18-08-B-42 Legislation and Regulation

1. Pending Legislation

As Mr. Milillo reported at the July 25, 2018 meeting, two bills have passed both houses of the Legislature but have not advance to the Governor's Office, A/5784-A/S.2606-A, and A.10515/S.7835.

2. Rules and Regulations

None.

18-08-C-43 Division's Report

Mr. Polishook reported that Division staff met on July 26, 2018 in Syracuse. Topics of discussion included the Division's strategic operating plan, ways to get town involvement in cemetery meetings and suggestions for steps cemeteries may take if hazardous monuments are identified. The Division proposed, and the Board did not object, that in the future cemeteries could be allowed to lower hazardous monuments after verification and documentation by the Division and still seek funds from the vandalism fund. The Board also reiterated the general rule that monuments that have fallen are no longer hazardous.

Mr. Polishook reported that Sheridan Park Crematory, a standalone crematory operated by a funeral home, has resumed operation after being closed because of enforcement action by the Department of Environmental Conservation. After negotiations with the DEC, the crematory has installed additional equipment to further filter air coming out of the retort. The manufacturer of the retort has stated that the crematory has not increased cremation capacity. Division staff attended the first cremation this week, and will follow up to ensure that the crematory operates in accordance with the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and Cemetery Board regulations.

18-08-D-44 Wellwood Cemetery (59-059 Suffolk) and Beth Moses Cemetery (59-005 Suffolk) – Major Renovation (Demolition of Former Office)

Mr. Polishook reported this application was not ready for Board review.

Public Comment

No comments.

Other matters

The next Cemetery Board meeting is to be held on September 18, 2018 at 10:30 AM, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231.

Motions to go into, and subsequently exit, executive session were made, seconded and unanimously adopted.

After exiting executive session, the Cemetery Board had no resolutions to report.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded, and unanimously carried.