

## ABFSE 60th ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 8, 2022

## DoubleTree by Hilton – Campbell Centre Dallas, Texas

\*\*These Minutes will be presented for approval at the 61st Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA\*\*

The meeting was called to order by President, Jolena Grande at 9:33 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Secretary/Treasurer, Joseph Finocchiaro.

The Invocation and Prayer of Remembrance was given by James Shoemake. The following were remembered in prayer: Patty Krause, William (Bill) Steven Malcom, Brian Miller and Jerry Strasmick.

President Grande welcomed everyone, expressing appreciation on how nice it was to, once again, meet in person. Mark Evely (Wayne State University) was appointed parliamentarian.

Roll was called by ABFSE Vice President David Martin (Piedmont Technical College).

Institution			
American Academy McAllister Institute			
American River College			
Arkansas State University-Mountain Home			
Cape Cod Community College			
Carl Sandburg College			
Chandler-Gilbert Community College			
Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science			
Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service			
Cypress College			
Dallas Institute of Funeral Service			
Des Moines Area Community College			
East Mississippi Community College			
Fayetteville Technical Community College			
FINE Mortuary College			
Florida State College at Jacksonville			
Goodwin University			
Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service			
Hudson Valley Community College			
Jefferson State Community College			
John A. Gupton College			
Lake Washington Institute of Technology			

Malcolm X College
Miami-Dade College
Mid-America College College of Funeral Service
Milwaukee Area Technical College
Mount Hood Community College
Nassau Community College
Northeast Texas Community College
Northampton Community College
North Shore Community College
Ogeechee Technical College
Piedmont Technical College
Salt Lake Community College
San Antonio College
St. Louis Community College
St. Petersburg College
State University of NY-Canton
Tidewater Community College
University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana
University of Minnesota
University of the District of Columbia
Wayne State University
Worsham College
Cremation Association of North America
National Funeral Directors Association
National Funeral Directors & Morticians Association
Public Members: Kelly Campbell & Harriette Scott
ABFSE Staff: Robert Smith III, Michael Landon, Trudy Ellmore, James Shoemake
ABFSE Team Chair: David Edds
ABFSE Executive Committee: Jolena Grande, President; Jzyk Ennis, Past President; David
Martin, Vice-President; Joseph Finocchiaro, Secretary/Treasurer.

Forty-nine (49) of fifty-eight (58) members were present. A quorum was declared by Vice-President Martin. A special thanks was given to our Bronze Sponsors and Exhibitors for their participation in our annual conference.

Vice President Martin then invited members and guests to introduce themselves to all present.

#### AGENDA

President Grande stated the agenda was available in the Program Booklet and on the entrance table.

MOTION: David Penepent (SUNY-Canton); second by David Hess (Salt Lake Community College) to adopt the agenda as presented.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## MINUTES (APRIL 2021)

President Grande stated that the minutes from the previous Annual Meeting held virtually had been emailed to all present prior to the meeting and was available on the entrance table.

MOTION: Cody Lopasky (CIFS); second Kevin Davis (St. Petersburg College)

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

#### REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT, JOLENA GRANDE, PRESIDENT

President Grande expressed recognition and appreciation to everyone in attendance. She acknowledged the tremendous obstacles in order to convene this annual meeting in-person of the member institutions and associations, as well as the industry partners, exhibitors, and vendors who continue to support the American Board of Funeral Service Education and participate in our events.

She expressed thanks to all who answered calls for committee volunteers, to Dallas Institute of Funeral Service and the Pierce Mortuary Colleges for their hospitality during yesterday's visit, the Conversation on Current Issues attendees (Wednesday evening) and NBE Liaison Committee meeting on Thursday morning. She acknowledged the tireless efforts of ABFSE Staff and the Professional Development Committee for the work they have done to ensure that we are able to continue to grow and thrive.

Since assuming office in April 2021, the agenda has been full of meetings.

Strategic Plan update: The Executive Committee moved to extend the 2021 Strategic Plan for an additional two (2) years to provide time to convene members for strategic planning sessions, consult an attorney regarding the corporate structure, and evaluate the accomplishments of the current plan which include the following priorities

- 1. Enhance visibility and strengthen communication to promote the mission of the ABFSE
  - 1.1 increase visibility of the ABFSE.
  - 1.2 Serve as a key voice
- 2. Develop programs and improve communication to enrich member experience.
  - 2.1 to foster connectivity and engagement.
  - 2.2 Provide more programs for members on a variety of platforms to increase attendance and interest.
  - 2.3 outreach to the public.
- 3. Engage in continuous improvement through review, assessment and reporting to provide meaningful input to the achievement of ABFSE goals.
  - 3.1 Develop an improvement plan and methods of assessment of the major processes of the ABFSE.
  - 3.2 Review and assess current procedures for efficiency and efficacy of ABFSE meetings.
  - 3.3 Develop a system for receiving and reviewing feedback/data in order to inform decisions about improvements
- 4. Coordinate dialogue with the COA to disseminate information to membership.

- 4.1 Develop a plan to increase communication to the ABFSE.
- 5. Enhance Service to and collaboration with other organizations to increase engagement and membership

The Executive Committee will convene in conjunction with the NFDA Convention in Baltimore to work on updating our strategic plan. Please mark your calendars to join ABFSE on October 8, 2022. More information will be forthcoming

## REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ROBERT C. SMITH III, ABFSE

R. Smith introduced those seated at the dais. This represents his ninth annual report to the American Board. Though there are eight (8) full years behind him, each one has been different yet the same in some respects.

Activity since last year's Annual Conference:

- 3 Town Hall sessions,
- 4 professional development sessions
- 3 Annual Report seminars
- On-line site visitor training
- In-person Self Study Workshop.
- Weekly *conversation* sessions with ABFSE officers
- Weekly phone conferences with the COA Chair.

## 56 programs (58) in 2022

- Total enrollment has increased in each of the last 5 years; largest total enrollment since 2010, the first year we tracked that piece of data.
- Largest number of new enrollees in 2021 (3393) since we tracked the data (prior high was 1996 3213)
- In 2021 total enrollment increased 11% over 2020.
- Growing number of students pursue funeral service education on a part-time basis; 43% of programs offer pt option
- Females now number 70% of the graduates.

#### ABFSE Recognition at the federal level:

- 2 USDE recognition reports
- 3 CHEA reports
- Appeared before NACIQI twice and CHEA once. USDE and CHEA recognition reports are essentially the equivalent of the SS
- ABFSE accreditation processes, policies and procedures have been vetted by both USDE and CHEA multiple (3-5) times in the past 8 years.

#### Covid – pivot.

- USDE approval to *pivot* to remote learning as a temporary response
- Virtual site visits approved by USDE, but require an in-person follow-up of some kind.

#### COA activity

- Reviewed 16 site visit reports
- 4 site visits are planned for spring/summer 2022
- 4 for fall 2022
- 3 virtual site visits for approval of substantive changes to add distance learning
- 8-10 site visit reviews in a 12-month period is the norm.

#### Annual Report summary data available via the ABFSE website.

• Update of the Annual Report for 2022 will include Student Tracker info (and eliminate the Cohort Tracking spreadsheet)

## NBE exemption requests:

- 185 for 150 students.
- 73% of Arts requests were approved
- 74% of Sciences requests were approved
- 47 requests were denied because the student/taker passed the exam

#### ABFSE Directory.

• The updated Directory will be published in June and programs will be expected to have the 2021 information on their program webpage before October 1.

#### Other important initiatives in 2022:

- Review of Standards
- Strategic Planning
- No increase in annual renewal fees
  - o increase in the comprehensive review fees for those schools billed in the '22-23 fiscal year

#### Use of professional vocabulary:

- Image problem in funeral service?
- 65 % of accredited programs currently use Funeral Service in their title
- 35% use Mortuary Science

In order for us – funeral service and funeral service education - to be taken seriously we need a plan, a direction, a voice and we need to collectively support that position. Your success at the program level is important - no it's essential - for quality Funeral Service Education and funeral service overall. Let's all work toward that goal.

# REPORT FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT, JZYK ENNIS (JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE)

His brief report expressed his thanks to everyone.

## FINANCIAL REPORT, JOSEPH FINOCCHIARO, SECRETARY/TREASURER (MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE)

If anyone would like a copy of the financial reports, please email the ABFSE office and they will be provided. The Finance Committee met and discussed a number of things. In order to be good stewards, we will be researching alternatives to FDIC investments due to very low return on investments. The new budget was streamlined in order to minimize the number of account categories. A "legal fund" line item was established.

The final 2021 Audit came this morning, not allowing time for review prior to the start of the annual meeting. It will be reviewed during the scheduled morning conference call with the Executive Committee Friday, April 22, 2022.

#### **COMMITTEE AND ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

#### Scholarship Committee, Jose Moreno, Chair; San Antonio College

The Scholarship Committee met via a Zoom video conference on the afternoon of April 1st, 2022, to complete the final evaluation of the scholarship applications submitted by the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Out of fifty-six (56) applications received, only twenty-one (21) undergraduate and two (2) graduate applications were complete. The committee awarded five (5) scholarships as follows:

Applicant	Institution	Scholarship Sponsor	Score	Amount Awarded
CAMEROT, Ashton	Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science	NFDA (\$2,500)	22.34	\$2,500.00
GERMILLION, Kami L.	Cypress College	NFDA (\$2,500)	22.00	\$2,500.00
de JESUS, Jessica	Mount Hood Community College	UMSEA (\$1,000) NOMIS (\$1,000)	20.33	\$2,000.00
TRUONG, Tammy	Carl Sandburg College	Damon de la Cruz (\$1,500) NOMIS (\$500)	20.00	\$2,000.00
BERGMAN, Robert	Worsham College of Mortuary Science	Bourgraf Family Foundation (\$1,000) Dave McComb-Eagles Wings Air (\$1,000)	20.00	\$2,000.00
TOTAL AWARDED				\$11,000.00

The beginning scholarship funds totaled \$50,075.61, of which the Scholarship Committee awarded \$11,000.00. Thus, carrying over \$39,075.61 to be considered during the September 2022 award cycle.

**Curriculum Committee, Cody Lopasky, Chair** (Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service) The committee met on Wednesday 4/6/2022 in conjunction with the annual ABFSE meetings in Dallas, TX at the DoubleTree Hilton Dallas – Campbell Centre. We had seven (7) members in attendance and many guests. The following items of note occurred at the meeting.

• The committee voted to begin using a standardized form to receive official comments regarding outlines reviewed each summer at the curriculum workshop. The committee also decided to begin doing a post-workshop evaluation for participants. It was decided that a virtual format (perhaps Survey Monkey) would work best; pending approval from the ABFSE.

- The committee discussed a comment received by the ABFSE office suggesting that "groove director" be changed to "grooved director" due to a greater prevalence of usage. After discussion and some research, the committee decided to take no action.
- The Conference posited, at its annual meeting in Houston, TX, that the reduction in detailed content in ABFSE curriculum outlines was in some way responsible for a possible disconnect between the NBE and what is being taught in the accredited programs; thus contributing to the lowered national NBE pass rate. The committee discussed this at length and expressed concern with an outside organization dictating how our outlines should be constructed and used. No action was taken.
- The committee voted to replace the term "Bibliography" with "References" in the official ABFSE Outline Printing Instructions. It was noted that this will bring that form into compliance with its own instructions to use proper APA format.
- After excusing guests, the committee met in executive session to select the participants of the 2022 curriculum workshop to be held in Virginia Beach, VA. Selected participants are listed below by outline. CANA will not have any participants, and per the committee, any from NFDMA can join whichever outline they choose.

Ethics	Merchandising	<b>Business Law</b>
<ul> <li>Cody Lopasky</li> </ul>	Shawna Rodabaugh	• Brian Mullins (will pay
<ul> <li>David Hess</li> </ul>	• Dan Shea	his own way if needed)
<ul> <li>Ebone Dukes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cody Walker</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mark Evely</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Lee Gohmann</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Larry Cleveland</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nicholas Ricci</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Jennie Frederickson</li> </ul>	Mary Mena	<ul> <li>Jolena Grande</li> </ul>
• John Rice (ICFSEB)	<ul> <li>Kortez Boyd (ICFSEB)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Jose Moreno</li> </ul>
,	• Chris Robinson (NFDA)	<ul> <li>Don Cymbor</li> </ul>
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## Committee on Accreditation, Leili McMurrough, Chair (Worsham College)

Vice-President David Hess reported for the Chair who was unable to attend the annual meeting.

The COA met April 5 and 6, 2022. During those meetings:

- Three (3) programs had their Substantive Change Application for Distance Education
- approved,
- One (1) program moved off Probation,
- Five (5) programs were granted seven (7) years accreditation,
- Two (2) programs were put on Probation, and
- Two (2) programs were granted Initial Accreditation for three (3) years.

Reminder: We are scheduling in-person follow-up visits for those programs who had Virtual Site Visits due to the pandemic.

#### National Board Exam Liaison Committee, Tim Krause, Chair (Carl Sandburg College)

The Committee met Thursday, April 7, 2022 with approximately eighty (80) people in attendance. Our guest speaker was the Executive Director of The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board, Dalene Paull. Several of her staff accompanied her. It was a good meeting with some good input. The Committee has been looking for feedback from The Conference to the colleges. There now

will be an opportunity for the students to opt in to send their pass/fail results to the colleges (not scores). The meeting continued as a Town Hall meeting with comments and questions from the floor.

#### College & University Council, Cody Lopasky, Chair (Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service)

- CUC met virtually on March 10, 2022. There were fifty-six (56) participants representing thirty-nine (39) ABFSE programs in attendance.
- Few committees had a report because they had not met yet.
- The three (3) notices of motion were approved regarding the curriculum outlines reviewed virtually last summer.
  - Communication
  - o Embalming
  - o Funeral Directing
- Jolena Grande gave a report about ABFSE participation in The Conference's annual meetings. Of note, thirty percent (30%) of ABFSE programs were in attendance.
- There was a reminder that 2021 NBE scores would not be used in any negative accreditation action by the COA.
- After taking a vote, the three (3) names forwarded to the COA for the open public educator position were:
  - o Lisa Meehan
  - Tony Moore
  - o Jose Moreno
- The results of the CUC survey were shared:
  - o 44 programs responded
  - o 90% supported having a virtual CUC meeting
  - o 80% supported lowering the NBE exemption time frame to 6 months
  - o 77% supported the proposed standard deviation model for NBE scores
  - o 64% were unhappy with their 2021 NBE scores
  - o 84% do not feel that schools are given enough info from The Conference
  - The most cited idea for improvement was a more detailed breakdown of program performance (this is forthcoming but not ideal or as requested)
  - o 75% are still being affected by the pandemic
- There was a discussion about textbooks and the possibility of a textbook list created by the ABFSE and given to The Conference for use in item writing. This would streamline the number of texts that could have possible items written from them. A task force has been created to explore this possibility.
- It was noted that a review of the ABFSE standards is coming up, and all were encouraged to actively participate in the process. The results of the CUC survey showed opinions regarding the NBE moving in a certain direction. All were reminded that the review of standards is the time to make certain changes reflected in the survey results.
- A reminder announcement was made about the Summer 2022 curriculum workshop. At the time of the CUC meeting, very few people had applied to participate.

#### **Program Committee, David Coughran, Chair** (St. Louis Community College)

We met Wednesday, April 6, 2022. Discussed were:

- Ideas for next meeting locations which included Boston, MA; New York; Detroit, MI; Newport Beach, CA; New Orleans, Florida or Seattle, WA.
- Ideas for professional development which included leadership training, having a Restorative Arts specialist; NFDA participation, and CANA possibilities. We specifically discussed exam writing skills of a professional quality.

Rebecca Gardner will be the new Chair of the Program Committee next year.

## Constitution & By Laws Committee, Leili McMurrough, Chair (Worsham College)

Due to the absence of the Chair, there was no report.

## Accreditation Liaison Committee, Venus Riley Smith, Chair (Jefferson State University)

The Committee was able to meet with the COA Wednesday, April 6, 2022 and had a free discussion about what we need to accomplish. Appreciation was given to the Executive Director for all the Town Hall meetings during which many questions were asked. If you have any questions for COA, please send them via email. You will always get a response. If you don't, please follow up.

#### **MEMBER ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

#### National Funeral Directors Association Report, Randall P. Anderson, President

<u>Mortuary Student Expectations Study is Live</u>: (NFDA) is conducting a follow-up survey to its 2019 Mortuary Student Expectation Survey.

The survey results will be linked to previous surveys that were conducted in 1990, 1995, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2016, and 2019. The purpose of the survey is to:

- Determine salary, benefit, and working condition expectations of students;
- Track how these expectations have changed over the past two decades;
- Compare student expectations to the expectations of the funeral directors who hire them.

<u>Journey To Serve</u> is a joint project of the Funeral Service Foundation and the ICCFA Educational Foundation that launched in April of 2021. It is aimed at recruiting military veterans into careers in funeral service (all aspects of the profession). Journey to Serve is now fully launched in the US and Canada, with the full website and all assets available in English and French

<u>Foundation Scholarships</u>: 4 new academic scholarships are available for veterans applying to your programs, along with the Foundation's usual offering of dozens of academic scholarships (valued at \$2,500 and \$5,000)

NBE Scholarships funded by the Funeral Service Foundation: The Foundation is funding 50 NBE scholarships per year – an increase from the original 30 offered for the past two years. Scholarships are administered by The Conference. These 50 scholarships are *in addition to* the 10 NBE scholarships funded by The Conference.

NFDA's Career Center is a hub for employers and job seekers to post jobs, find resources, engage with funeral directors and ultimately find qualified employees or placement that works for both sides. Of particular interest to students and recent grads is the Job Seeker Database that provides:

- ➤ Unlimited access to a dashboard to upload your resume and cover letter for free
- ➤ Career resources such as resume writing help, professional development, and tips for interviewing.
- > Job alerts to inform you of available jobs in your area

There are currently over 850 job postings running on the NFDA Career Center, and 177 resumes in the resume bank.

Member Assistance Program launched on April 1: SupportLinc is NFDA's new Member Assistance Program and provides all NFDA members (including student members), and their families, with confidential support work & life.

<u>Remembering Together Tool kit</u>: A free toolkit for NFDA members that can be used to hold a COVID-19 Day of Remembrance event in their community.

NFDA National Emerging Leaders Program: A year-long leadership development program for funeral professionals between 5-10 years licensed. Or second career funeral directors licensed between 3-8 years. Eligible funeral directors are selected by application review process. Sponsored by the Funeral Service Foundation and Homesteaders Life.

<u>Arranger Training for Students</u>: Each year since 2017, the Funeral Service Foundation has fully funded Arranger Training for students to be conducted at four ABFSE schools. For 2022, the four schools are:

Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science

Dallas Institute

Malcom X College

Canadian College of Funeral Service

Student Membership: NFDA currently has 917 student members.

<u>The Director.edu</u> – : Look for a Spring issue of NFDA's quarterly electronic publication exclusively for funeral service students to be emailed to all program directors in late April.

#### National Funeral Director & Morticians Association, Hari P. Close, President

- There has been media coverage on African-American Funeral Directors during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The NBE Review course is continuing to assist students on successfully passing the NBE.
- NFD&MA representative is on the Advisory Board of University of Iowa on the "Study on the impact of COVID-19 on Fatalities Management Personnel."
- NFD&MA is in final stage of selecting a new Executive Director. Selection will be made by the end of the month.
- Mr. George Durham of Greensboro, NC will be the 68<sup>th</sup> president of NFD&MA and the new representative.

#### Cremation Association North America, Barbara Kemmis, Executive Director

- <u>CANA Membership</u>: Accredited programs of the American Board of Funeral Service Education are personally invited to join CANA and extend the benefits of membership to their faculty and students for standard membership dues rate of \$495. This new expansion has new benefits which include: one print copy of *The Cremationist* and other publications and access to digital archived issues on our website.
  - ➤ Current School Members include: Chandler-Gilbert Community College Mortuary Science Program Mesa, Arizona; Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science Cincinnati, Ohio; Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service Houston, Texas; FINE Mortuary College LLC Norwood, Massachusetts; Goodwin University East Hartford, Connecticut; Hudson Valley Community College Troy, New York; Lake Washington Institute of Technology Kirkland, Washington; Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois; University Of Minnesota Program of Mortuary Science Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Worsham College of Mortuary Science Wheeling, Illinois. Total Scholar Members (students and faculty with digital access only): 1000
- CANA also offers <u>Student Memberships</u> at the annual dues rate of \$35 for a maximum of two years. Students can be part- or full-time and must be enrolled in a recognized program and can be held for a maximum of two years. Student members receive all of the benefits of membership but are not listed in the CANA Membership roster or website, cannot vote on association business or hold an office in the association, and are not be permitted to use the CANA logo on business cards or any promotional material. Current Student Members: 31
- <u>CANA Publications</u>: Published quarterly, CANA's widely-read magazine, *The Cremationist*, delivers business-oriented information including timely articles, regular columns and news from CANA Headquarters. As part of their member package, the publication is sent to all CANA members print copies to more than 3,300 cemeterians, funeral directors, and cremationists and digital copies to over 700 more.
- Launched in July 2017, <u>The Cremation Logs blog</u> is a publicly-available resource for anyone in the profession to benefit from shared expertise, resources, and current trends. Please contact Brie Bingham, Membership & Marketing Manager, Brie@CremationAssociation.org for more information on submitting content for the blog or magazine.

CANA Education: Online - Approved by seventeen of the twenty-one states that require certification, CANA's Online Crematory Operations Certification Program has been widely used by independent students and schools across the country. Five schools have integrated the online course into their program, and it is now required for all students. Several other schools have started taking steps to begin the integration into their curriculum or recommend that students take the course at a negotiated, discounted rate. For 2022, the CANA Crematory Operations Certification Program<sup>TM</sup> (CANA COCP<sup>TM</sup>) is updated to feature best practices in in all forms of cremation, including alkaline hydrolysis. Popular activities such as the *Plan Your Day* exercise have been newly revised, there is an all-new animation to demonstrate the cremation process, and the COCP Manual has been updated, keeping CANA's curriculum at the cutting edge of crematory operation best practices. *In-person* - CANA resumed limited Crematory Operations Certification Programs in person at the end of 2021. In 2022, CANA heads to Chicago, Atlanta, Houston, and New York with live, in-person Crematory Operators Certification Programs for people in all stages of their career. CANA reconvened the Cremation Symposium in-person in Las Vegas in February 2022. Martha Thayer, former faculty at Arapahoe Community College, and Glenda Stansbury, faculty for University of Central Oklahoma and Worsham College, took the stage to join a panel to talk about retaining and engaging employees in the workplace -atopic on many members' minds as the staffing shortage continues. Lacy Robinson, faculty at Worsham College, offered a popular session on *Embracing the DIY Consumer*. CANA has certified 233 students since August 1 through both online and in-person courses. Faculty -Additionally, CANA has created a resource section on our website specifically for faculty of the schools to supplement their cremation curriculum. Items available include cremation statistics, video animations, and a list of teaching activities that could be incorporated to help teach cremation in the curriculum. Contact Barbara Kemmis, Executive Director for more information on teaching tools and education.

## **Executive Committee, Jolena Grande, President** (Cypress College)

The Committee meets twice a year, typically in person. This October 2022 the Executive Committee will not meet in conjunction with the Committee on Accreditation but will meet remotely. It will provide an opportunity to meet for a strategic planning session. Please participate in strategic planning session.

The Executive Committee approved two (2) new policies at their April meeting.

- 1) Communications Policy: regarding disseminating information out to our member institutions and associations.
- 2) Guest Policy: regarding attendance at our events and meetings. The majority of our committee work is open, transparent and available for you to observe.

There has been a solicitation prompted by the work of the Executive Committee to engage a corporate attorney to review our corporate status. This has yielded some fruitful information on how we can better align our Constitution and By-laws with the operations of our organization.

MOTION: To accept the Committee Reports as presented by David Penepent, second David Hess: VOTE: Passed unanimously.

#### Unfinished Business, Jolena Grande, President

• Strategic Plan session is planned for October 8, 2022.

There being no other unfinished business, President Grande moved on to:

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Notices of Motion and Curriculum Outlines were available on the website for thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

MOTION: Gabe Schauf (Milwaukee Area Technical College); second, Venus Riley Smith (Jefferson State Community College) accept revisions to Embalming, Funeral Directing and Professional Business Communications outlines and glossaries.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

President Grande reminded the membership that the following outlines will be reviewed in Summer 2022: Ethics, Business Law and Merchandising

President Grande called for final announcements. The Executive Director announced that those who are members of the Academy, permission was received for CEUs. Forms for that purpose are at the registration table and meeting entrance table. The ABFSE Office will send that information to the Academy on your behalf.

#### CLOSING COMMENTS, JOLENA GRANDE, PRESIDENT (CYPRESS COLLEGE)

The reason we are here is for our students, who have been amazing throughout the pandemic. The faculty has been phenomenal. In the emergency, those schools who did not have online programs all became online. Many students have indicated an interest in funeral service during this pandemic. They've seen the news and the initial reports. The increase we are seeing in our programs is not being seen in other programs of higher education.

What will the future look like? This is the future, where those of us who can't be here, will be here. And those who don't want to lose connection will be streaming us live. That is how some of our classes have migrated. Some of us are in person. Some of us are remote. But we all are engaged. That is the ABFSE way.

This is Jzyk Ennis' last meeting as sitting past president.

MOTION: David Penepent (SUNY-Canton); second Timothy Krause to adjourn.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM (CT)