

**NEW JERSEY CEMETERY BOARD**

**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 14, 2013**

*A regular meeting of the New Jersey Cemetery Board was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ, on the sixth floor, on Thursday, November 14, 2013. The meeting was convened in accordance with the schedule filed with the Secretary of State and was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 321, P.L. Notice of the meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed on September 24, 2012 to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Star Ledger, the Record, the Press of Atlantic City, the Asbury Park Press and the Trenton Times. Board Chair William Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M.. A roll call was taken and the following attendance of Board members was recorded for these minutes:*

<i>Paul M. Desbiens</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Waheed Khalid</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>June Nikola</i>	<i>Present Arrived at 10:20 AM</i>
<i>William Nichols</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Jeffrey Kasko</i>	<i>Present Arrived at 10:10 AM</i>
<i>Linda McGloin</i>	<i>Present Left at 11:15 AM</i>
<i>Rabbi Jay M. Kornsgold</i>	<i>Present Arrived at 10:50 AM</i>
<i>David Soulen</i>	<i>Present</i>

*Also in attendance were: Dianne L. Tamaroglio, Executive Director, New Jersey Cemetery Board; Deputy Attorney General John Hugelmeyer; Khaled Madin, Government Representative, and Ellen Green, Board Secretary.*

**II. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2013**

*A motion was made by David Soulen and seconded by Paul Desbiens to approve the Public Session Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2013 as amended. A vote was taken and the motion was passed by a unanimous vote.*

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Hoboken Cemetery (CA #183)**

*This matter will be held over.*

**B. Cemeteries that do not possess a Certificate of Authority and bury those of all faiths**

**Millbrook Methodist Cemetery**

*Dean Tuttle has advised Executive Director Dianne L. Tamaroglio that they are working on getting all of the information together and will be forwarding the application shortly.*

**Fresh Ponds Cemetery**

*The Reverend Robert S. Turton, III has signed an affidavit stating that only persons who have had some significant religious connection with Fresh Ponds Chapel, or were family members of church parishioners, are interred in Fresh Ponds Chapel Cemetery, with the exception of a few graves provided by the cemetery without charge to indigent individuals in need of burial. This matter is now closed and removed from future Board meeting agendas.*

**C. Concerns with Machpelah Cemetery (CA #200)**

*This matter will be held over pending receipt of revised Certificates of Indebtedness form.*

**D. Application for a Certificate of Authority Cemetery Company**

**1. Northern N.J. Veteran Memorial Cemetery, Inc.**

*This matter will be held over pending receipt of a revised Resolution from the Township of Sparta as well as proof of establishment of the cemetery's Maintenance & Preservation Trust Fund in the amount of \$75,000.00.*

**E. Application for a Certificate of Authority Management Company**

**1. Graceland Management Corporation**

*The Board is in receipt of correspondence from Martin F. Dowd, Esquire regarding the relationship between Graceland Memorial Park Association and Graceland Management Corporation and additional information regarding the principals of each and each entity's organization. Upon review and discussion, a motion was made by Paul Desbiens and seconded by Linda McGloin to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Authority to Graceland Management Corporation. A vote was taken and the motion was passed by a unanimous vote. This matter is closed and removed from future Board meeting agendas.*

**2. Franklin Memorial Park Organization**

*This matter will be presented for a vote for the issuance of a Certificate of Authority at the Board's December 12, 2013 Board meeting.*

**F. Correspondence from Stephen McBride, Mount Hebron Cemetery Association, Inc. (CA #312)**

*June Nikola was recused from this matter and moved away from the table.*

*As there has been no further communication from Stephen McBride, this matter will be removed from future Board meeting agendas.*

**G. Calvary Cemetery (CA #425)**

*This matter will be held over pending receipt of proof of the establishment of the cemetery's Maintenance and Preservation Trust Fund.*

**H. Application for the approval of an easement  
Re: Gates of Heaven Memorial Park, Inc. (CA #96)**

*This matter will be held over pending receipt of a signed and recorded easement document between Bay Bridge and Gates of Heaven Memorial Park Inc.*

**I. Application for the lease of a portion of cemetery property  
Re: The Atlantic City Cemetery Association (CA #95)**

*Previously, Atlantic Cemetery Association wrote to the Board requesting permission to lease a portion of the cemetery to Jersey Outdoor Media, LLC for the establishment of a two faced billboard. The Board voted to not approve the lease and suggested that the cemetery apply for a variance for a 25' set back to allow the billboard to be closer to Route 40. John J. Murray, Treasurer, Atlantic City Cemetery wrote to the Board advising that the cemetery has decided to apply for the variance.*

*Previously, the Board was advised that Atlantic City Cemetery Association has established a crematorium on its property without coming to the Board for approval. When questioned, Mr. Murray wrote to the Board advising the cemetery did contact the New Jersey Cemetery Board in April, 2011 regarding the establishment of the crematory. At that time the Board advised the cemetery that it was covering its bases and was reaching out to the proper authorities. The cemetery was also advised at that time that the Board's statutes and regulations do not cover crematories. Mr. Murray will be advised that on January 17, 2012 the law was amended to include crematories being under the jurisdiction of this Board. Mr. Murray will be asked to provide any and all paperwork, permits, etc. pertaining to the establishment of the crematory. This matter will be carried over.*

**J. Correspondence from Margit M. Jackson  
Re: West Creek Cemetery Association, Inc. (CA #71)**

*Another letter will be forwarded to Margit M. Jackson requesting the names and contact information for the new officers of the cemetery.*

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Correspondence from James E. Franklin II, Esquire  
Steelman Cemetery (CA #230)**

*James E. Franklin II, Esquire has written to the Board advising of the possible transfer of ownership of Steelman Cemetery to a Lutheran Cemetery which has voluntarily been caring for the property for a number of years. The Church has informed the City Administrator that it would like to acquire title to the cemetery to continue to maintain it as well as the possibility of erecting a columbarium of the site. Mr. Franklin has asked the Board some legal questions to which he will be advised that the Board cannot provide legal advise. Whether the church can acquire title to the cemetery is not addressed in the Board's statute. The Board will advise Mr. Franklin that if the church does take over the cemetery it would still be subject to the Board's statute and regulations as persons of all faiths have been buried there over the years. With regard to the erection of a columbarium, that would be ok as long as it is not built over existing graves as per **N.J.S.A. 45:27-22c** but the cemetery should check with the municipality regarding its zoning laws. Mr. Franklin will also be advised that whenever burial takes place in the columbarium a deposit to the Maintenance && Preservation Trust Fund must be made. This matter is closed and removed from future Board meeting agendas.*

**B. Should this cemetery apply for a Certificate of Authority?  
Re: B'NAI ABRAHAM MEMORIAL PARK**

*The Board received a fax regarding B'NAI ABRAHAM MEMORIAL PARK advertising that this religious cemetery has an interfaith section. The sender wondered if perhaps this cemetery should have a Certificate of Authority issued by this Board. As this is a religious cemetery it does not have to have a Certificate of Authority.*

**C. Concerns with Price List  
Re: The Princeton Abbey and Cemetery (CA #421)**

*A review of the price list for The Princeton Abbey and Cemetery shows that prices for crypts and niches are listed in ranges rather than in specific amounts for the different levels. The cemetery will be advised that prices must be specific. Also, the price list lists multiple sales of graves to individuals (50 or more). The cemetery will be advised that it must comply with the requirements of **N.J.A.C. 13:44J-14.5**. This matter will be carried over.*

**D. Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Report (Final)**

*The Board reviewed its Fiscal Year 2013 Final Budget Report. The condition of the Board's budget is very tight.*

**E. Approval of Bulk Sales**

**Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Clover leaf Memorial Park, (CA #14), Iselin, NJ to the Brooklyn Garments Workers (ASIS) Units, Brooklyn, NY**

*Executive Director Dianne L. Tamaroglio approved the bulk sale of 186 interment spaces for \$209,250.00 (\$1125.60 per grave). The required 15% will be deposited into the Maintenance & Preservation Trust Fund of Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens.*



*The substance of these investigations will remain confidential until disclosure is permitted by law. Board action arising from such discussions will be made public at such time official action is taken on these matters, if permitted by law. A motion was made by June Nikola and seconded by Jeffrey Kasko to adjourn the Board meeting of November 14, 2013. A vote was taken and the Board meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Dianne L. Tamaroglio  
Executive Director*