

# Funeral Consumers Alliance of Western Massachusetts

## MINUTES of 2023 Annual Membership Meeting

Submitted by Kate Mason, Secretary

Annual Membership Meeting, Sunday, October 22, 2023

1. Call to Order by Cecile Richard at 2:10pm
2. Unanimous approval of last year's (October 2022) Annual Meeting Minutes
3. President's Report - Cecile Richard reported there has been more advocacy work with the MA legislature (e.g., An Act Expanding After Death Care Options); Sandy Ward will address in her presentation. Work continues with the Federal Trade Commission to get online posting of General Price Lists; Carol Coan will present. Thanks to retiring Marie Mason-Leclerc and Jim Couchon for serving on the board this past year. Thanks to Sandy Ward for moving and archiving FCA documents, and obtaining FCA merchandise from the national FCA office. Thanks to Tom LaValley for taking on editing the newsletter. Thanks to Kate Mason for role as secretary for many years.
4. Treasurer's Report – Joan Pillsbury shared the FY 2023 Assets and Debits report, and thanked Denise Wood for our Financial Review as mandated in our bylaws. We had a larger deficit this year than in several years. Biggest expenses are printing and mailing the newsletter 2x year (\$500 or more per newsletter).

### FY 2023 Summary

Opening check book balance (September 1, 2022)	\$8929.52
Total income	\$1826.00
Total Expenses	\$4010.11
Closing check book balance (August 31, 2023)	\$6745.41

5. Election of Trustees: Cheryl Funk for 3-year term  
Alexandra Tinari for a 3-year term  
Jim Couchon for a 3-year term.  
Slate approved and elected with a quorum of 18 FCAWM members (17 in-person and 1 via Zoom).
6. Election of Officers (1-year terms):  
Sandy Ward- President  
Cecile Richard- Vice President  
Joan Pillsbury- Treasurer  
Alex Tinari- Secretary
7. Business Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm

**Program - "What's New and What's Changing To Help Funeral Consumers"** with speakers:

- Dalilah Rain, UMass Chan Medical School's Anatomical Gift Program
- Carol Coan, long-time FCAWM activist, former board president
- Sandy Ward, FCAWM webmaster and former board president
- Joan Pillsbury, Green Burial Massachusetts and FCAWM