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Niagara Falls Memorial Society Papers; Bylaws; 1983-03-31

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara Falls

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Section 2. The privilege of voting by proxy shall not be extended to any member.

Section 3. Ballots shall be required when so voted by the membership, or whenever there are more names placed in nomination than there are vacancies to be filled.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held prior to July 1st of each year, at a time and place, within the service area of the Society, to be designated by the Board of Trustees. Members shall be notified not less than 14 days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. The President shall cause a special meeting of the members to be called upon the written request or petition of 10% of the total enrolled membership or 25 members, whichever is the lesser, or upon the request of the majority of the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. Such a special meeting shall be called by the Secretary who shall mail a notice to each member at least 14 days prior to the meeting. Such notice shall include a statement of the purpose or object of the meeting.

ARTICLE IX - QUORUM

Section 1. At any meeting of the membership of the Society, a quorum shall consist of 10% of the total enrolled membership or 25 members, whichever is the lesser.

Section 2. At all meetings of the Board of Trustees a majority shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE X - (Reserved)

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended only by a two-thirds vote of the members at any Annual Meeting or properly called special meeting of the membership. The Trustees shall furnish the members, at least 14 days prior to the meeting, a full explanation of the proposed amendments.

ARTICLE XII - RECIPROCITY AND TRANSFERS

Section 1. Agreements between the Memorial Association of Canada (MSAC) and Continental Association of Funeral & Memorial Societies, Inc. (CAFMS), providing for reciprocity and transfers among the membership of their respective member societies is fully endorsed by our Society, and is to be a part of any contract or agreement, written or oral, between this Society and any mortician.

Section 2. Under the reciprocal agreement each member society is to provide the usual service, advice and assistance as they are able to arrange for their own members, to the members of the other member societies should need arise while traveling in their area.

Section 3. A member moving into the area of another member society, shall be welcomed as a member in good standing, without payment of additional enrollment fee, upon the request of the transferring member. Where necessary a transfer fee may be charged to cover the cost of making the transfer.

ARTICLE XIII - AUDIT

Section 1. One month before the close of the Society's fiscal year the President shall appoint two members from the membership at large to audit the Society's records, unless an audit by a Certified Public Accountant or a Chartered Accountant is requested by a majority of the Board of Trustees or by a petition signed by five members and delivered to the Secretary one month before the close of the Society's fiscal year.

ARTICLE XIV - FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year of this Society shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of this corporation, distribution of assets remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be determined by direction of the members at a meeting called for that purpose, and recipients of said distribution in dissolution shall be limited to recognized nonprofit, tax exempt organizations, preferably to another society having similar purposes who could continue serving the Society's membership, or to the Continental Assn. of F & M Societies, Inc. in the USA or Memorial Society Association of Canada in Canada; or to a charitable or educational organization. No part of such distribution shall enure to the benefit of any member of the Memorial Society of Niagara.

ARTICLE XVI – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Section 1. Parliamentary procedure, as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order is hereby adopted as the Rules of Order of the Society, subject, however to any contrary provisions in the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

BYLAWS

MEMORIAL SOCIETY OF NIAGARA

Adopted March 31, 1983 **ARTICLE I – PURPOSE**

Section 1. The purposes of this society are:

- To promote the dignity, simplicity and spiritual values of funeral rites and memorial services, operating as a nonprofit corporation;
- b. To reduce unjustifiable costs of burial, cremation and other funeral services:
- To promote the opportunity for every person to C. predetermine the type of funeral or memorial service which that person desires:
- To provide guidance to its members and to prod. mote their interests in achieving the foregoing and other activities pertaining to the care, disposition or utilization of human remains.

Section 2. The Society assumes no legal or financial responsibility for the final disposition of the body remains.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any person without regard to race, creed, or national origin, who is in sympathy with the purposes of the organization, and pays the prescribed enrollment fee, shall be eligible to membership.

Section 2. The membership fee of \$15.00 shall be paid at time of enrollment for regular adult membership, by each person age 18 or over, or couple enrolling at one time.

Section 3. Incompetents and dependent minor children of members shall be included as members of the Society without additional fee.

Section 4. To retain membership, a minor who became a member through the membership of parent or guardian must apply on his or her own behalf upon reaching 18 years of age.

Section 5. Members of all branches, chapters, auxiliary, satellite or any form of subordinate group of the Society must be direct members of the Society with full privileges and responsibilities.

ARTICLE III – TRUSTEES

Section 1. The management and administration of this corporation, except as otherwise provided herein, shall be vested in the Board of Trustees, consisting of nine trustees elected by the members at the annual meeting. Only members shall be eligible to serve as trustees.

Section 2. Trustees shall serve staggered three year terms. Of the initial Board, one-third shall be elected for three years; one-third for two years; and one-third for one year. Thereafter, three trustees shall be elected each year, each for a three year term, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 3. Whenever a Board or Nominating Committee vacancy exists the remaining trustees may appoint a successor to serve until the next annua meeting, at which time a trustee shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 4. Board members shall serve without pay. No Board member shall be a paid employee of the Society.

Section 5. The Board may appoint an advisory committee from time to time, as need arises.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. Within two weeks following the annual meeting, the newly elected Board of Trustees shall meet and elect the following from its number: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Officers shall serve for a period of one vear.

Section 3. The President may appoint, with the approval of the Board, a legal advisor who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Section 4. Any officer may be removed from such position by a two-thirds vote of the nine trustees at a regularly called meeting.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS

Section 1. The active Nominating Committee shall, after having obtained the consent of the persons to be nominated, report its nominations to the Board of Trustees, not less than two months prior to the annual meeting.

Section 2. The President, with approval of the Board of Trustees, shall, after having obtained consent of the persons to be nominated, not less than one month prior to the annual meeting, nominate three members to serve the subsequent year on the Nominating Committee, two of whom shall be from the membership at large and one from the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. Additional members names for the new Nominating Committee and all Trustee positions to be filled may be placed in nomination, by delivery to the Secretary, not less than seven days prior to the date of the election, a list of the names of members being nominated, said list to be signed by five sponsoring members.

ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

Section 1. The election of Trustees and/or Nominating Committee shall be held at the Annual Meeting, or a special meeting called specifically for that purpose. In either case, the notice shall include the proposed slate of nominees.

ARTICLE VII - VOTING

Section 1. Each adult member shall have one vote.