The Board of Directors and General Membership were given due notice of the following Annual Business Meeting’s date, time, and location. The meeting was held via video conferencing, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A quorum was present.

10:16am
The meeting was called to order by President Rebecca Morse at 10:16am (EST).

State of Association Report from President Rebecca Morse

Rebecca Morse noted that we usually begin the Business Meeting by approving the previous year’s Business Meeting notes. Because there was no 2020 Conference and the 2020 Business Meeting only included comments by Board members (held virtually, no general membership), the 2020 minutes were approved by the Board in the July 2020 BOD meeting. The 2019 Business Meeting minutes have yet to be approved, waiting for an in-person conference with general membership. The 2019 Business Meeting minutes are now scheduled to be approved at the 2022 St. Louis, MO Conference, along with the 2021 Business Meeting minutes from today.

Rebecca presented highlights of the last year:
1. The difficult decision to move the 2021 Conference, scheduled for Houston, to a virtual format. The Houston hotel contract was renegotiated and moved from 2021 to 2024; the hotel will hold our deposit, applying it to the 2024 Conference.

2. A presentation of current conference statistics, noting that there were 510 virtual attendees, exceeding our goal.

3. ADEC Connections, a November 2020 virtual half-day workshop chaired by Melanie Wright, which brought in $10,000 in revenue.

4. The ADEC in Conversation series, led by Jill Harrington, offered detailed conversations with ADEC experts, free and available to the general public.

5. Two well-attended virtual Services of Remembrance in 2020 and 2021.

6. Mid-Year Report to members (aka “The Wolfe Report”, created by the suggestion of Past President Ben Wolfe). After the virtual half-day workshop, the Board used the Wolfe Report to update members.

7. A new social media initiative (with SANP volunteers), a new Communications Policy, and two virtual New Member Orientations.

8. Creation of policy on research advertisement and recruitment and a renewed emphasis on sponsorships.

9. Focused Strategic Priorities, with clear, quarterly benchmarks.

10. Revenue figures from the half-day workshop, virtual conference (including Andy McNiel’s effort on sponsorships) and the Light the Way initiative.

11. 2021 Bylaws Amendment, re-instituting the role of Immediate Past-President to preserve leadership continuity. 99% voted in favor of the initiative.

Rebecca discussed the resignations of our last two Executive Directors under MHQ and thanked both Isaiah Allen and Michelle Bjerkness for their work with ADEC.

Rebecca noted that Credentialing Council Chair Jolene Formaini’s written 2021 Credentialing Report was distributed to members via the Annual Conference’s Whova application.

Treasurer Worth Kilcrease’s written 2021 Financial Report was also distributed to members via the Annual Conference’s Whova application.

Rebecca cited the following “resolutions” for 2021:
- Virtual conference success.
- Increased sponsorship opportunities.
- Continued membership growth.
- Enhanced virtual options.
- Increased integration of SANP members.
- Clear ADEC messaging.
- Focus on revenue generation.

Rebecca noted three initial "take-aways" from this week’s conference (requests from attendees):
- Reenable the *Find a Thanatologist* feature, updated to search by specialization or field.
- Research connections, with a platform to foster communication between institutions and individuals.
- Continue to build and maintain networking groups.

Rebecca acknowledged the outgoing leaders from both 2020 and 2021. She then presented the new ADEC leadership: Peggy Whiting as President, Jennifer Matthews as Vice-President, and Rebecca’s new role as Immediate Past President. New Board Members are Joy Berger and Tashel Bordere. Andy Ho has agreed to remain on the Board to complete Jeanette Potts’ term (one additional year). Rebecca led the new leadership in their ADEC Oath of Office and installed all of the new officers.

Gifts were exchanged between outgoing President Rebecca Morse and incoming President Peggy Whiting. Rebecca then turned the meeting over to Peggy.

Peggy Whiting thanked Rebecca for her service. Peggy then offered her thoughts on the opportunities of the coming year.

10:45am President Peggy Whiting adjourned the meeting at 10:45am (EST).

Respectfully submitted by Heidi L. Parker, Secretary.