MINUTES OF THE 135th ANNUAL MEETING OF LOT OWNERS OF THE KENSICO CEMETERY

Thursday, October 24, 2024

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL AND PRESENT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LOT OWNERS OF THE KENSICO CEMETERY, HELD AT THE KENSICO SERVICE BUILDING, VALHALLA, NEW YORK, ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 24, 2024, AT 1:00 P.M.

Mr. Matthew G. Parisi, President, welcomed all present at the 135th Annual Meeting Lot Owners of The Kensico Cemetery. The following Lot Owners, members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Guests and members of the Cemetery staff were present:

Sin Anthom Antoinette Gurley Raymond Perlet Marsha Wolff William Powers Sarah Wong Kok Au Diana Haladey Wai Auyu Shahnaz Helbing Kathleen Ricketts Lillie Wren Bobby Ayo Shahnaz Helbing Joyce Rivera Sylvia Wren Susan Bannon George Hellick Peter Rivera Aaron Young Vincent Battone Howard Heyel Allison Rivera Helen Yuen Palla Berg Susan Heyel Valerie Robinson Barrie Bonacci Cheuk Fai Ho Tracey Robinson Thomas Bonacci Grace Yung Ho Christina Ronnau **DIRECTORS** Lorinda Bonacci-Hinty Ming Ho Eric Rosenberg Juergen Sacklowski Barbara Bottone Mikko Ho Mary Ann Alonso Robin Briggs Long Hua Jacqueline Sandberg Kevin J. Bannon Marcia Hudson Amy Scharfman Elicia Briggs Catherine U. Biddle Edward Scheinbart Thomas Briggs Johnathan Hudson Chester S. Day Jerrold Schwartz Belinda Briggs Jonathan Hudson Raymond Lou Donald Burrows Jacqueline Huggins Peter Schwartz Roydell Carroll Elizabeth Payne Sharon Johnson Evelyn Seastrand Guest Carroll Shellene Johnson Shirley Sharma Raymond M. Planell Marino Carvalho Pui Fong Kam Jin-Fa Shen Richard A. Schnall Christina Chan Eric Kemperman Katherine Sheppard Howard Weintraub James Sheppard Josephine Charles Zelma King9 Bin H. Chen Virginia King Yanick Sidney Lourdes Sigignano Jennifer Chen Peter Lai Joseph Sigignano Philis Hsiang-Pin Chiao Helen Lee **OFFICERS** Victor Lee Chung Kai Lee Michael Smalls Theresa Chung Jim LeRose Mary Smith **Emerald Chung** Patricia Solomon Michael H. Cook, Jr. Karen Levins Deborah Ciresi Helen Song Theresa M. Doran Don Levins Michelle Clark-Ceres Susan Levitsky Minnie Sun Michael J. Farmer Guest Cooke Mei Ling Wayne Thode James Lowen Robert Tilson Avn Crawford William Crawford Vallestya Lynch Christina Tralongo Edna Crawford Justine Lyss Carol Trester SUPERINTENDENTS & Teresa Tsang Mary Cripps Jeffery MacDonald **FOREMAN** Rosemarie DaCosta Kimberly Mack Stephen Tsang Angel DeJesus Richard Malkin Peter Tsang Joaquim Pedrosa Gerald Diamond Josephine McGee Thomas Tsang James Dong ?? McGovern Gregg Tucci Jack Cunha Daniel McManns Fred Dong Elenor Valentino Carlos Lopes Jillian Eng Vernice McMillian Marina Verlilli Pasquale Pugliese Eugenie Fardellone Roydell McMillian Gloria Vidal **Guy Robbins** Richard Fardellone Christa Shih Meadows Sheila Vogel Luis Rodriquez Angela Fardellone Shel Merr Ingrid Wallace Jose Sabio Gary Freiberger Virginia Mils Sara Wang Luis Salazar Phillip White Jacqueline Friedman **Edward Mils**8 David Gellman Theresa White Felicia Morales Jonathan Gellman Sheryl Moskowitz Ireta Williams Sandra Giampiccolo Albertine Mottley Brenda Williams Chris Gleason Alice Moy Corlita Williams Marsha Bacon Glover Daniel K.S. Moy Marilyn Williams Stacy Grant Jeannette Muller Guest Williams **Guest Williams** Lillian Green Joseph Norman Ida Oakley Timothy Wilson Susan Greenberg Stefanie Grossman Fred Oakley Joyce Wilson

STAFF

INVITED GUESTS

Cathy Alexander	Emmanuel Blugh
Lynrose Anderson	Kerry Forezzi
Barbara Cardany	Larry Massaro
Patricia Carter	Dave Malane
Kathy Caucci	Kerry McGovern
Stephanie Chan	Judith Mitchell
Lillian Collado	Louis Palmerini
Natalie Craig	7
Daniel Gaito	
Andrea Gallagher	STENOGRAPHER
Liz Kowalewski	
Sindy Martin	Dawn Cassara
Natasha Miller	
Iwona Mroz	1
James Neal	1
Rosemarie Prestipino	
Mike Ryan	
Peter Telfer	
Katherine Thoma	
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MR. PARISI: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Matt Parisi. I'm the President of Kensico Cemetery. And right on cue, a train is going by, so I'll hesitate for a minute. All right. So welcome to Kensico's 135th Annual Meeting. And a special welcome to those of you who have not attended any of our prior 134 Annual Meetings. Thank you for being part of this event.

To start the meeting, I ask Sindy Martin, our Accounting Manager and Kensico employee since 2018, to place a bouquet of flowers next to the flag in memory of all our family and friends who are no longer with us. Here comes Sindy.

Thank you, Sindy.

Now I'm going to ask Jack Cunha, Kensico's Deputy Superintendent, who many of you know has worked here since 1994, to lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, to be followed by a moment of silence. If you'd please rise.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silence.)

Thank you. Please be seated.

I'll start with a few housekeeping items, our usual housekeeping items. Please notice the exit signs. Other years we've had the doors open, so it really wasn't an issue, but right now the only door that's open is in the back because it's a little windy outside and we didn't want the room to fill with leaves. But please note that in case there's an emergency.

I just wanted to mention that this is a no-smoking

building, so please keep that in mind.

And one other thing. We are handing out the folders this year, so if anyone didn't get a folder, please raise your hand and we'll make sure you get one. Okay, so Andrea will come up. Keep your hand up for a minute. I'll keep going, and they'll pass out some additional folders. We want to make sure everyone has it this year because there's a lot of very interesting things in there.

While they're handing those out, I want to introduce a few people in the crowd. First of all, our friends from the Division of Cemeteries are here. We appreciate them coming by. The Division of Cemeteries is a state agency that oversees not-for-profit cemeteries like Kensico. Today we are joined by the Department's Investigator Kerry McGovern and Senior Investigator Mike Seilman. Would you two please stand and wave to everyone?

(Applause.)

Thank you for coming today. They'll be available after the meeting should anyone have any questions or issues they want to discuss with the Division of Cemeteries.

So now at this point I'd like to introduce Kensico's Directors, Officers, and employees. I'll start on my far left. On the far left is Elizabeth Payne. She's chair of the Pension Committee, serves on the Sales, Development and Environment Committee, and has been a Board member since 2001.

Kevin Bannon is next to Liz. Kevin is the Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee, and serves on the

Pension Committee.

Next to Kevin is Howard Weintraub, Chair of the Audit Committee, and he serves on the Finance Committee.

Next to Howie is someone everyone knows, Raymond Planell. He's Chairman of the Board, Chair of the Finance Committee, Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, and serves on the Sales, Development and Environmental Committee.

Turning to my right now, Richard Schnall, Vice-Chair of the Board, Chair of the Sales, Development and Environment Committee, and serves on the Executive Committee. Richard is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Kensico Cemetery.

Next to Richard is Cathy Biddle. Catherine is Vice-Chair of the Sales, Development and Environment Committee, and serves on the Audit Committee.

Next to Cathy is Ray Lou. He's Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee, and serves on the Pension Committee. He is also a Board member of the Friends of Kensico.

Cathy is also a Board member of the Friends of Kensico. Sorry Cathy.

And to my far right is Mary Ann Alonso, Vice-Chair of the Pension Committee, serves on the Audit Committee, and is Corporate Secretary. She actually has been a Board member since 1990, and she's also a Board member of the Friends of Kensico.

I also at this point would like to introduce and welcome a person many of you know very well, Kensico's former -- and this is a long list -- Comptroller, Director,

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Secretary, Corporate Treasurer, President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board, Chester S. Day.

(Applause.)

We, this past year, celebrated Chet's 50th anniversary for when he first began working for Kensico. So thank you, Chet, for all you've done for Kensico.

(Applause.)

I left one thing off of what Chet has done for Kensico. He's now the Chairman of the Board of the Friends of Kensico. I talked a little bit about the Friends before, but it was formed in order to support its mission to facilitate educational programs and otherwise spread the word about historic, cultural, architectural and horticultural significance of the grounds. So if Chet hasn't stopped at 50, he's still leading that effort. So thank you, Chet.

Others who are here, I'd like to introduce our Officers next. Many of you know Theresa Doran who's our CFO. She's on leave right now because of an illness, but she'll be back soon.

We also have Mike Cook who is our Superintendent of Grounds. He's in the back. He waved before anyone looked, but he's in the back corner there.

And we also have Mike Farmer, Vice President, and Sales and Development Manager since 1989.

(Applause.)

Since I just mentioned Mike, I'll mention the rest

of our sales team next. And many of you, I hope, went on the tours and so met some of our salespeople at that time or hopefully you know from before that. Barbara Cardany, Peter Telfer, Lillian Carter, and Mike Ryan, they're all here. Can you all wave to everybody, please.

(Applause.)

We also have, and I don't want to forget this because she's very important, but our Stenographer is here again, Dawn Cassara. So thank you, Dawn, for coming again. And I'll try to talk slower so you can get everything.

We also have in the back center, standing, is Jim Neal, our Information Technology Manager.

(Applause.)

Let's not clap for everybody because it will be too many, so we'll do a big round of applause for everyone at the end.

Our Accounting Manager who we met, Sindy Martin, who did the flowers, is up front.

We have our new Customer Service Supervisor, Daniel Gaito. I saw him. Oh, he's still outside under one of the tents.

We have our excellent Executive Administrative
Assistant, Andrea Gallagher, in the back with the folders.

We have our Deputy Superintendents, Joaquim Pedrosa. I saw him earlier. He's probably in the back. And Jack Cunha. Our Assistant Superintendents, Joe Sabio and Carlos Lopes. And it's amazing to me that I think the one who's been here the longest out of that is Joaquim Pedrosa who's

been here since 1979.

We have Section Foreman, Guy Robbins. He actually also started in 1979. Lou Rodriguez, Lou Salazar, and Pasquale Pugliese.

So that group and our entire grounds crew, security, and administrative staff, our operations would not be possible without the loyal and efficient service of these men and women who serve the lot owners and who are the Kensico organization. So I think now is an appropriate time to give a round of applause.

(Applause.)

Now, a couple more. I also want to say hello to Larry Massaro who was Superintendent here from 2006 to 2020. He was involved in much of the development of the grounds. Larry's in the back. I think many of you know him as well.

We also have with us our somewhat new Communications Coordinator, she started in December of 2023, Natalie Craig. Natalie's been with Kensico only a short while, but she's already had a significant, positive impact. She's updated the Kensico website and has established an excellent social media presence for Kensico. I'll talk about that more a little bit later.

And we also have with us Public Relations

Consultant, Judy Mitchell. Judy is a member of the Friends,

and she was, of course, again this year, instrumental in

putting together the Annual Report, which this year focuses

on the Kensico Cemetery Arboretum and its newly-attained

status as a certified Level II Arboretum. Judy does a great

job with the Annual Report every year. Please take a look in your folders if you haven't yet. I think she outdid herself this year because it's really a fantastic report.

And I suppose before I move on we should clap for those three. So thank you, Larry, Natalie, and Judy.

(Applause.)

And last but certainly not least, I would also like to acknowledge you, the lot owners. First, I'd like to welcome those who have made it to our beautiful grounds today. I hope you had an opportunity to visit the graves of your loved ones, meet with the sales, office, and grounds staff, and maybe even take a tour of the grounds.

And I hope you have enjoyed the treats that we have outside. It's a little different this year. We usually have the tea sandwiches from Fox Catering, but Mr. Fox retired, so we had to switch to a new company, it's A World of Food, they're from Valley Cottage in Rockland. I actually haven't had anything yet, now that I think about it, but I've heard some excellent reports. We hope you all enjoyed the new food. Thank you. So we're happy to be partner with A World of Food now as we move forward.

(Applause.)

So I'd also like to welcome anyone who is joining us from afar via our Internet stream of the meeting. We started this a few years back. So we are live on the Internet right now. And with the proxies that most of you received, if you want to do it from home, you can do it from home. But I'd like to just call out a few of the states

that have people listening in. It includes folks living in California, Texas, West Virginia, Florida, Oregon, Colorado, North and South Carolina, Maryland, Iowa, Pennsylvania, and, of course, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. So welcome to everybody on the Internet feed.

And I'd like to give a particularly warm welcome to those joining from Florida and North Carolina and any other region affected by the recent hurricanes. Kensico is certainly thinking of those lot owners and families that have been affected and has made a donation on behalf of all the lot owners to the Red Cross to support hurricane relief efforts in these areas.

(Applause.)

So for those on the Internet feed, I wish you could be here; maybe next year. But this year we're experiencing some unseasonably warm weather. Today is a little cooler, but it's still very nice outside. I drove down this morning from a conference up in Saratoga, New York, and the leaves this year are particularly beautiful, and it's no different on the grounds of Kensico. It's one of the most colorful autumns that I remember, especially for an Annual Meeting. So I think if you haven't been out on the grounds yet, please do, because it's an amazing sight out there. So whether you're joining us from near or far, we welcome all the lot owners, family, and friends who have loved ones here at Kensico Cemetery or Sharon Gardens.

Now, continuing on with our Annual Meeting, a few announcements. As required by State law, the Notice of

Meeting was published in The Journal News and placed on Kensico's website. We also mailed notices to approximately 48,241 lot owners of record for whom we have correct addresses. The Affidavit of Mailing and Publication will be filed with Kensico's permanent records.

I do want to take a moment to address some issues we encountered with respect to mailing the proxies this year. As some of you may know or have unfortunately experienced, we've struggled a little bit with the implementation of the new cemetery management software for sometime now. It's been very challenging to incorporate 135 years' worth of records into the new system. If you go back to the founding of Kensico, everything was done by hand and on paper. We actually have, in the Administration Building, many binders with handwritten interment, foundation, and endowment records that begin in the late 1800s. They're fascinating to look through, but they're not as accessible as the electronic records.

In any event, over the years, many different systems have been used to maintain the records, and in later years, to electronically reflect every interment, every foundation, and every event that has happened on the grounds over the last 135 years. There have been some issues incorporating these records into the new software. We've noticed that every couple decades the systems used to record transactions have been changed. So this isn't simply taking data from one system and putting it into another, it's converting five or more different formats of data into one system.

There are also 234 different sections of the cemetery, each with a different style and different rules and regulations. Some allow flush markers, some upright markers. There are different rules in each section. These different and diverse sections are one of the fascinating features of Kensico when you visit the grounds; however, it makes conversion to new cemetery software somewhat challenging.

This resulted in a few issues which Kensico's dedicated employees have been working through. For instance, the issuance of deeds has been delayed. The lack of a formal deed does not affect the lot owners' use of the lot that has been fully paid for, but we recognize that everyone wants that deed to provide them comfort and security. The good news is the new system is in much better shape now and we are starting to catch up on the paperwork that has been delayed. If you have a question about the timing of your deed, see me after the meeting or any one of Kensico's representatives, and they'll be able to address those issues.

Back to the proxies. We had some issues with those as well this year. It's a daunting task preparing to mail out nearly 50,000 proxies each year, one to each lot owner. Of course, some lot owners get more because they own more than one lot. So it's a very complicated process. Also, some lots are generations old, so some lots get up to ten or even more proxies mailed out. Unfortunately, this year about 2,000 extra proxies were sent to Kensico lot owners,

and a similar amount of proxies that should have been sent to lot owners were never sent out. The same issue occurred at Sharon Gardens, but since that's a smaller section of the cemetery, it didn't affect as many people.

I want to say to everybody here and everybody affected that I sincerely apologize for these errors, and so does our vendor. We've run the vendor, and our own records, through the ringer since we first received a call that a lot owner received multiple proxies. The vendor, Opus Xenta, has identified the issues, and we are comfortable that these issues will not arise in the future. And I want to say that we have a good partner in Opus Xenta who has worked through this issue with us. And actually I appreciate that Steward Hindmarsh, who's the CEO of Opus Xenta, he's from Australia, but he came here today for the meeting and to support us. He's better situated than I am, if there's any technical issues in what happened, because it's a lot of computer stuff that I don't quite understand, but he's here if anybody has any questions on that.

And I want to thank you, Stewart, for coming here today and for your partnership with these efforts. He's sitting in the back left corner. Thank you, Stewart.

(Applause.)

So I hope that anyone who didn't receive a proxy at least checked out the Kensico.org website which includes the meeting notice and all the meeting materials, and that everyone that wanted to be with us here today is actually here today. But, again, I apologize for those who were

confused to receive multiple proxies and for those who did not receive a proxy at all. We will do better going forward.

Now, returning to our agenda. The Inspectors of Election are Kensico employees Kathleen Caucci, Stephanie Chan, and Andrea Gallagher. Their oaths of office will all be filed. The Inspectors of Election have informed me that we have sufficient proxies and that a quorum is present.

Our next order of business is to approve the minutes from our last Annual Meeting of Lot Owners which was held last year on October 26, 2023. The minutes are in your folders and have been posted online. We customarily have a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, with the condition that if anybody finds any issues that need to be corrected, you can let us know and we'll make the corrections. So I ask you, the lot owners, can I have a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes? Any volunteers?

MR. GELLMAN: David Gellman, G-e-l-l-m-a-n.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. And he knows the drill; he spelled it so the stenographer would get the name right. Thank you, Mr. Gellman.

Does anyone second that motion?

MS. ROBINSON: Valerie Robinson.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Can you stand up and --

MS. ROBINSON: Valerie Robinson.

MR. PARISI: R-o-b-i-n-s-o-n? Okay. Thank you.

All in favor of the motion?

(Aye.)

Any opposition?

(No response.)

That's good, because that would take a while to read the minutes. So the motion passes.

So next I'll turn to my annual remarks. This year I want to talk about three topics; a change in the Board of Directors; Kensico's new social media presence; and the arboretum / beauty of the grounds here at Kensico.

So I want to begin by discussing our retiring Board member, Raymond Lou, who's sitting second from the end. Ray can wave hopefully. Ray's been a Kensico Board member since 2005. He's a graduate of Wagner College and New York University School of Law. He has a bachelors of law and masters of law in taxation. Prior to his private legal practice, he was the social tax counsel for Gulf and Western Industries, Inc. and Consolidated Cigar Company, and he was also an estate tax attorney for the IRS. But then he came here. We're glad to have him here. Mr. Lou has served for many years on board committees, including most recently as the Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee and a member of the Finance Committee. Ray's congenial manner, sharp mind and excellent accounting and tax guidance and advice have been instrumental in the success of Kensico for the last 19 years since he joined the Board. I think it's safe to say that it's through his involvement with the Board and his participation in Kensico events, he developed a real passion for Kensico, and he's always focused on doing whatever is in

the best interest of Kensico.

While the Board and every one of the employees is happy for Ray and wish him much success in his retirement, we will miss his contributions to Kensico. Fortunately for all of us, he will continue to be an integral part of Kensico's leadership, as he is and will remain a Board member with the Friends of Kensico. So on behalf of the Board and the employees of Kensico, I'd like to thank Ray for his many years of service and devotion to Kensico. I would ask for one more round of applause so we can show him our appreciation.

(Applause.)

So this year, Management is recommending three Board members to serve three-year terms. Two of them are long-serving Board members, Richard Schnall and Elizabeth Payne. They've each served on the Board since 2001. Many of you know Richard from his report each Annual Meeting detailing the condition and treatment of Kensico's grounds, trees, and landscape.

If you've ever attended a Kensico event like our Memorial Day event or our 5K or any other events, you would know that our ordained minister, Reverend Elizabeth Payne, has consistently offered a thoughtful and inspiring blessing before those events.

So with Ray's vacancy approaching, Management is now recommending for the Board Eric Chen. The Board set out to identify potential Board members whose expertise and knowledge would benefit Kensico Cemetery. Management

believes that Eric is uniquely qualified to enhance the Board's experience and leadership. Eric is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, with a bachelors degree in design of environment and European history. He also holds a juris doctor degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio, which means the ratio of attorneys will stay the same on the Board. I don't know if that's for better or worse, but it will be helpful. He's a senior partner of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman and Dicker, specializing in insurance coverage and construction-related litigation. He began his career as an intern for the Honorable Daniel D. Angiolillo. Eric is a native of Hong Kong, China. He's a board member of two prestigious institutions here in Westchester, the Chinese School of Westchester and OCA of Westchester and Hudson Valley Chapter. He's also fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin. So if Eric could just stand up and wave to everyone.

(Applause.)

Over the course of the last several months, Board members have spent time with Eric and learned a bit about what he can offer to Kensico. His experience in insurance coverage and construction-related litigation will be invaluable. His connections and representation with the local Asian community will also be beneficial. More than that, he's demonstrated himself, through his prior community service activities, to be committed to serve. So this year, Management recommends three, Richard Schnall, Reverend Elizabeth Payne, and Eric Chen.

Now moving on to the second part of my three-part statement here, I want to talk about social media. I introduced our Communications Coordinator, Natalie Craig, earlier. She's really spearheaded the social media effort, and has done, in my view, a fantastic job. Included in your meeting materials on the left inside flap of the folder are QR codes for Kensico's new Facebook and Instagram pages. I'll try to do it without knocking anything over, but right here. So you can point your phone at these and a little bar will pop up, and if you click that, it will it take you right to our Instagram or Facebook page.

When Natalie joined our Kensico team last December, we discussed the best way to spread the word about the amazing things that Kensico has to offer. As mentioned in this year's Annual Report, Kensico was founded in the late 1800s as a rural cemetery. The rural cemetery movement envisioned cemeteries as civic institutions, designed for public use, that contained images of hope and immortality. For 135 years, Kensico has kept true to this mission. However, we, who are here, know all about the beautiful landscape, the amazing architecture, the birds and wildlife that frequent the grounds. But to a certain extent, these features are a well-kept secret in the surrounding community. Natalie is dedicated to spreading the word, and in the past year she's developed an actively engaged social media presence for Kensico.

If you check out either page, you will learn a ton of interesting things about Kensico. For instance, one

recent post includes a wonderful photo of one of the border collies from Geese Relief Company. As many of you know from this area, there's an abundance of geese that can be aggressive and leave a mess on the grounds. So our border collie team comes out a couple times a day and humanely discourages the geese from impacting the grounds and the visitors to the grounds.

Another recent post played a clip of some beautiful drone footage of the grounds from the fall of last year, providing a wonderful perspective of the grounds in full autumn bloom and color; although I think the colors this year were even better.

Another recent post, one of our tree-of-the-week posts, featured the red oak planted near the Kensico Tower. This tree, a symbol of strength and endurance, was planted in remembrance of the victims of September 11th.

You'll also see a post featuring the Weeping Katsura Tree, which is Species Number 92 in our Cemetery Arboretum Collection of trees. It's a stunning tree native to China and Japan with heart-shaped leaves.

There's another post about the majestic white oak, one of the oldest on the grounds. One majestic white oak located near Mineola Lake dates back to 1850, and it's measured at 60 DBH. DBH stands for diameter at breast height. So it's about 60 feet across at breast height, which means it's about 15 feet around this tree. Did I say feet? Okay. Sorry. 60 inches, 5 feet, so 15 feet around the tree. So if you check out the post, you'll see some

adults next to the tree; they look like children because the tree is so big.

There's also a post about -- there's some articles that Natalie found from 1890 about Kensico's very first burial, Judge John Fitch, a US District Judge appointed by Abraham Lincoln.

Other posts discuss Kensico connections. One that stood out to me was William Denslow who was buried in a section of Kensico known as Range C. He was the illustrator of the iconic book *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* which went on to inspire the 1939 film adaptation *The Wizard of Oz*. In the movie, now 85 years old, the character of Glinda the Good Witch was played by actress Billie Burke. Billie Burke is buried here at Kensico in Section 78.

Other posts focus on the many beautiful monuments and memorials on the grounds, highlighting intricate stained glass windows positioned so the sunlight filters through to illuminate the spectacular art and craftsmanship, or the beautiful stone or bronze doors that grace the entrances to many of the mausoleums or the many sphinxes, angels and other statuary that can be found on Kensico's grounds.

Another post talked about unique tree stump tombstones, which if you've driven around the grounds, you may find some; they're near the roadways, many of the roadways. They look like a tree stump but are made of granite and other materials. They symbolize eternity and humanity.

Another post focused on the recently refurbished

Spanish-American War Veteran's section of the cemetery and a flagpole that's located on Uncas Avenue.

And of course some of the most liked pictures or posts are about the nature that's on the grounds. There's a nice photo of a Great Blue Heron near Montross Pond.

There's a real close-up of a red-tailed hawk resting on one of Kensico's benches. And there's another picture I really liked of Kenny, our resident snapping turtle, and he has a smile in the picture. If you check it out, you'll see it.

So while I encourage everyone to visit the grounds as often as you can, I also invite you to check out and follow Kensico's social media sites so you can experience virtual tours of the beautiful grounds and learn about the history that can be found on the property. So thank you again. Natalie's standing in the back. Thank you, Natalie, for all your work with this effort.

(Applause.)

Finally, this year's Annual Report is a celebration of Kensico's recognition as a Level II Arboretum, the only arboretum to achieve to this status in Westchester County. In our view, arboretum status is important for several reasons. Accreditation identifies Kensico as an important and distinctive public garden. This ongoing national recognition of Kensico's tree-focused professional standards and capabilities is significant. As part of the Morton Register of Arboreta, Kensico's commitment to and fulfillment of professional criteria certifies that Kensico is doing its part in the collective mission for a greener,

healthy, and more beautiful world.

Another part of our celebration is displayed in the back corner. If you haven't checked it out, please do so. We had some photographs taken by Kenneth Gabrielson as part of an ongoing project aimed at bringing the beauty of the grounds indoors. The topography of Kensico Cemetery, as proclaimed by its founders, remains unchanged, and the avenues of longstanding oaks have remained rooted for decades. The scenery, however, transforms with every season. From the vivid blossoms of spring to the lush greens of summer, the fiery reds and oranges of autumn, and a special kind of peaceful stillness exists only when snow blankets the grounds. This project aims to capture these changes within the cemetery and arboretum which serves as an homage to the trees and natural landscape of the property. Eventually these images will be displayed on the walls of the Administration Building for visitors to admire.

So to give you a sense of the importance of Kensico's 100-year plus commitment to the beauty of the grounds, I want to refer back to something that was written in Kensico's Viewbook back in 1909. It states, "Nature originally gave it an exquisite endowment of beauty. The landscape artists have supplemented nature's work. Drives, lakes, fountains, groves and walks have been laid out and arranged for the design of giving it a parklike aspect. Flowers through the grounds bloom and fade, typifying life and death. They offer up their fragrant incense and delight the eye with constant renewal suggesting the immortality

revealed as the destiny of man."

So Kensico has long been recognized as a place of beauty. While our primary mission is and will always remain the burial of human remains, for more than 100 years Kensico has recognized the importance of maintaining the natural beauty of the area and has steadfastly continued the tradition of developing the property to be merely nature assisted, not changed, with the idea that a beautiful landscape is the best memorialization of the dead. We remain excited about achieving Level II Arboretum certification. We hope you recognize that it enhances the reputation and standing of your Kensico Cemetery. And just one final note: Kensico's arboretum classification is not the conclusion of this journey but the next logical step in the development of Kensico as an esteemed and noteworthy rural cemetery.

Now, turning back to the Annual Meeting, as always, your folders contain the audited financial statements for the Cemetery. For several years we've kept the Annual Report and the Financial Report together as one document. They're separate documents this year. We thought that the Annual Report, which focuses on the photos of the grounds, warranted a separate report this year.

The financial statements cover the years 2023 and 2022. Our auditors have given us a clean opinion which states that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Kensico as of the end of 2022 and 2023. The opinion can be found on

page two of the Financial Report. Your folders also contain our unaudited Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 which provides you with a snapshot of what's happened so far this year.

As outlined in the Annual Report, 2023 was another very successful year for your Cemetery. Sales totalled an incredible \$21,712,040 worth of sales. This total represents the third consecutive year with over \$20,000,000 in annual gross sales, essentially doubling the amount of the average annual revenue for the prior decade.

I'd like to commend the entire staff here at Kensico who handled the last three years with a large volume of sales, and visitors as well, with the same steady dedication and experience that they've consistently provided for years.

2023 sales included 1,383 individual lot sales, of which 50% were pre-need and 50% were sold at need. 2,067 interments took place during 2023. By way of comparison, in 2019, there were 1,890 interments at Kensico. As of the end of '23, the total interments at Kensico totalled an incredible 172,599 interments.

As for Kensico's finances, 2023 was overall a positive investment environment. As of the end of '22, Kensico's investment funds totalled just over \$293,000,000.

Kensico's Finance Committee, in consultation with investment managers from some of the area's leading banking and investment institutions, continues its long-term investment strategy. This approach has been consistently successful for decades, building funds that provide each lot

owner with the comfort of knowing that Kensico's commitment to service and care will be perpetual and will never end.

So as of the end of 2022, the investment funds were \$293,000,000. At the end of 2023, the investment fund had increased to just over \$341,000,000. And the returns have been pretty good so far, particularly in the last several months of this year. So as of September 30, 2023, investment funds alone had risen to just over \$402,000,000. You can clap for that; I think that's good.

(Applause.)

Thank you.

So even better news is that cash flow remains positive. As my predecessors Chet and Ray Planell have said for many, many years, we have no debt, we have no loans, we pay as we go, and we are financially sound.

(Applause.)

So this year, again, has been a busy year at the Cemetery. I'm pleased to report that lot sales continue to be high. We're projected, again, to be in the \$19- to \$20,000,000 range. We anticipate, again, having interments of over 2,000 this year. As always, all those interred in our hallowed grounds or entombed in our sacred spaces here at Kensico will be memorialized, permanently recorded, and be a part of the historical, permanent record. In addition, their place of permanent residence will be taken care of forever in tribute to the lives they lived.

And I'm happy to confirm that today we remain committed to the same goals as those who worked here 135

years ago. And these will be the same goals that employees will be working toward 100 years from now.

So the next item on the agenda is the motion for nomination for Management's recommendation for three directors. I already brought this up a little bit, but the three directors being nominated this year are Richard Schnall, a Director since 2001, Elizabeth Payne, a Director since 2001, and Eric Chen. The biographies of each of them are here. I gave you a little bit of it, especially with respect to Eric, but they're contained in the meeting materials.

So I'd ask at this point for a motion from the floor in support of the nomination of Management's recommendation for directors. Would someone make that motion, please?

Okay, sir.

MR. SCHEINBART: I do make the motion.

MR. PARISI: Great. Can you state your name?

MR. SCHEINBART: Yes, Edward Scheinbart,

S-c-h-e-i-n-b-a-r-t.

MR. PARISI: Thank you, sir.

And would anyone like to second that motion? Please stand.

MS. GRANT: I second the motion of the three nominated people. Stacey Grant, G-r-a-n-t.

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Ms. Grant.

So all in favor of the motion?

(Aye.)

Okay. Any opposed?

(No response.)

Okay, so we're good to go. Thank you on that.

So Management's slated nominees have been put forward. I'll now ask are there any nominations from the floor for individuals other than the three Directors who are recommended by Management?

(No response.)

Okay. Seeing no raised hands, we have three nominees this year, Richard Schnall, Elizabeth Payne, and Eric Chen.

In your folders -- you'll remember if you've been here before -- there are green paper ballots. Any lot owner who did not vote by proxy should use the ballot today to get your vote recorded. If you're already voted by proxy, don't use it; we've already tabulated those votes. We will pass out pencils, and then we'll pick up the ballots. So go ahead and fill those out now, and some people will be down in a minute to pick them up. If you need a pen or a pencil, raise your hand and we'll get you one of those too. Andrea will come up, and a few others, to hand out pencils for everyone.

So while they're being handed out, I'll turn it over to Kensico Director Richard Schnall to bring us up to date regarding the Cemetery's grounds, plants, and trees.

MR. SCHNALL: Good afternoon. Thanks to all the hard work and dedication of the Cemetery's outdoor workforce, Kensico continues to be a beautiful place of remembrance. Led by Superintendent and Vice President

Michael Cook, this workforce consists of groundsmen, supervising arborists, deputy and assistant superintendents. The beauty of the cemetery is a testament to the entire team's hard work.

This has been a reasonably good year for the landscape plantings at Kensico. The winter was mild, with light snow, and the early spring cool and wet. Summer had 20 days above 90 degrees. While there were heavy rains in August, September and October have been extremely dry. As always, we try to mitigate the effects of drought by raising the height of our turf grass mowers. We also frequently water the newest planted trees and shrubs to help them establish. I urge any of you who have planted any trees, shrubs or perennials over this year or last year to continue watering them up until Thanksgiving; it's been brutally dry.

In the area of tree maintenance, we continue to care for the important collection of trees planted over the last 135 years. As mentioned and showcased in our Annual Report, our collection of trees and shrubs have been recognized and granted status as a Level II Arboretum. We're the only arboretum in Westchester County with that status. This year we conducted two tree walks open to the public that focused on the tree collection. In addition, we held a demonstration of proper tree planting techniques.

Trees, like people, do not live forever. This year we had to remove ten older specimens. Some were damaged during storms, and others due to natural causes. While sad, this gives us the opportunity to plant new, young, vigorous

trees in their place. Some of the trees that we removed were on lot owners' property. When possible, we contact the owners to give them the opportunity to replant.

This year, in order to ensure safety and tree health, and with our four supervising arborists, over 200 mature shade trees and evergreen trees have been pruned. In addition, 200 flowering trees have been pruned and thinned in order to maintain a natural shape and to ensure they have wonderful, abundant blooms next year. Some of the flowering trees are pruned two or three times a year, depending on their growth.

Using a device called an AirSpade, 75 young and old trees are being treated to reduce soil compaction, eliminate encircling roots that can strangle trunks, and to add compost, manure, and a charcoal amendment.

Hedge pruning, which takes significant time, continues each year to keep the cemetery well maintained. The turf grass is mowed and maintained in top condition, with particular attention to weed, insect, and disease prevention.

With our woody plants, insect, disease, and pest controls have been applied as needed. We continue to focus on protecting our ash trees from emerald ash borer, our boxwoods from boxwood blight and box tree moth, and beech trees from beech leaf disease. We continue to scout for spotted lanternfly and will treat them as needed.

In the middle of the cemetery, there's a 5.5 acre woodland with a stream running through it. This year we

continued the battle to remove non-native invasive plants. In the future, with help from the Friends of Kensico

Cemetery, we plan to replant the woodland with native plants and install new trails, boardwalks, pathways, and bridges to make this area accessible. This year we shared our development proposal with both the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Town of Mount Pleasant to get their approvals, as part of the area is considered a wetland.

The cemetery's buildings, roads, paths, above and underground infrastructure and monuments continue to receive excellent care as well, as we continue to repave paths, roads, repairing and replacing water lines, and improving drainage through the cemetery.

This year we removed and replaced all our in-ground oil tanks with new above-ground tanks. Fortunately, the old in-ground tanks all passed inspection, and the project required no soil mitigation.

This year, in honor of Arbor Day, we planted a Saucer Magnolia on the hillside near the Administration Building. In additional, we planted 76 trees and 99 shrubs. These plants now become part of the landscape that makes Kensico Cemetery a beautiful place of remembrance. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Richard.

So now I would ask -- I forgot this one year and it caused trouble -- if staff could come up again and collect the ballots. If anybody still has one, please raise your

hand, and we'll collect them so we can count them before the end of the meeting. So just keep your hands up and they'll come and collect them.

Okay, so while we're doing that, I'll open the floor to questions. I remind everybody that if it's of an individual nature, I may refer you to one of Kensico's employees who can address questions regarding specific issues about specific lots or lot owners. But I'll welcome the crowd. Does anybody have any questions? And we'll bring a microphone around. If you could stand and please state your name and spell it for the stenographer, that would be appreciated.

MS. LEVITSKI: Hi, my name is Suzan Levitski. I'm just curious where the beehives are. I served honey from last year and everybody wanted to know.

MR. PARISI: Okay. So it's big grounds, 460 acres. Across from the new Garden Mausoleum is Montross Pond. Just on the other side, there are I think it's now three hives. The boxes, they're painted bright, bright yellow. One of the employees here, who's an artist, painted each one of them. They look great, but don't get too close because there are bees in them. I think we have a sign nearby that says bee aware or something like that, bee aware. But they're over there. And we got another good harvest this year. Was it 15 pounds, Mike?

MR. COOK: Yeah.

MR. PARISI: Yeah, 15 pounds of honey this year. So our bees are hard at work and they're doing a great job. I

hope everybody who's had the honey loves it, and we'll have more going forward.

Any other questions? Yes, ma'am.

MRS. SHARMA: My name is Shirley Menezes Sharma. Is this working?

MR. PARISI: It is working. I can hear you. Hold it close. If you don't mind, can you say your name again?

MRS. SHARMA: My name is Shirley Menezes Sharma. It's a long name, so Mrs. Sharma.

MR. PARISI: Okay, Mrs. Sharma.

MRS. SHARMA: The investments that the investment company and managers, is it conservative or aggressive?

MR. PARISI: Yeah, so it's more than one investment company. There are a number of different investment managers, so we've got a diversity of views from different investment managers. We invest with very long-term goals. Right now, and we anticipate with 30 plus, potentially, additional years of lot sales, that we won't need any of those funds. So it's been a tradition here for a long time to conservatively invest those funds with a real long-term goal in mind. You can see by the numbers how much it's even increased this year. When you have a large pool of money like that, you can invest in a conservative manner and it compounds and it really grows. So it's very conservative. The goal is to, of course, have enough funds so that when there's no more sales there will be enough funds to maintain the property like it is today.

MRS. SHARMA: That's good to hear that it's

conservative. It's good to hear that.

The second question I have is what's the difference between the proxy and the green, because, you know, I came in with the proxies, I signed that, and I looked at the green form, it said revoke the proxies. So is there a difference between the two?

MR. PARISI: So we send the proxy out to all of the lot owners. If you can't make the meeting, you can give your vote to the attorneys who are identified there who can vote on your behalf. So those are the proxies that when they come back, a vote will be cast on your behalf by those individuals. You can't vote twice. So if you already filled out your proxy and mailed it in, your vote is already counted. If you come here today, and plenty of people do, they wait for today to do their vote, then you fill out the green and we collect those at that time. So we add the two together, and that results in the total vote.

MRS. SHARMA: Okay, so I'm also a member of another place and what we do is we vote for proxies online so it saves a lot in terms of mailing and everything.

MR. PARISI: Mailing, yes.

MRS. SHARMA: You just vote online and people can do that. It solves so much savings. It is cost.

MR. PARISI: So there's benefits of the old-fashioned way by mailing. I think it has a nice personal touch. I hope people like receiving the mailings. We like to reach out to them.

(Applause.)

But I also recognize that it is a considerable expense. You know, we'll probably go more electronic as we go in the years going forward, but considering the number we're sending out, we want it to really be an invitation to come here to this meeting, in addition to the proxy. So we like to mail it, but I can't guarantee we'll do it forever, but we'll keep it for a while.

MRS. SHARMA: How about the mailing and the online option so people don't miss out on voting?

MR. PARISI: Yes. Anytime you change systems, it's a little complicated and you have to work out some bugs and things like that. So, you know, we are looking at ways to become more efficient and contact everybody. I hope, even those of you who clapped about liking the mailings, please check out the website and check out the social media pages too, because there's a lot of information on there, and it's a good way that we're hoping to connect with you.

Thank you for your question.

MS. CHESTER: Thank you. And I want to thank everyone on the Board who has been on the Board. My family's been part of the cemetery since 1932, initiated by the death of my (inaudible).

MR. PARISI: Can you state your name?

MS. TRESTER: Yes. My name is Carol Trester. My family plot is Bunting in Pocantico.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you.

MS. TRESTER: I would like to ask if you could use a bigger sticker to include LinkedIn profile for everything

that the solidity and sustainability over the many, many years that Kensico stands for and everything that you mentioned as a global foundation for collective and peace. And I can only imagine how many have had their family members exhumed from places of war throughout the world and brought here to the United States to wonderful places like Kensico. If you would please add a QR code for LinkedIn. I just, myself, had to search it. And I think Kensico's an excellent business decision as well as for large private equity family offers solidity in business decisions.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. We're going as fast as we can with the Facebook and the Instagram pages, and we're getting our LinkedIn profile up to speed, I would say, but we're working towards that as well. We want to be as modern and connected with people in the best ways we can. I know a lot of that's electronically. But we also recognize that some people prefer it the older way, so we're continuing with that too. But we're transitioning to -- I wouldn't quite say the future, but recent past, because we're catching up with other industries and other companies that probably go quicker for other reasons than we do, but we're getting there and we're continuing to work on it.

Any other questions? Sir? We have a microphone. Here comes Stephanie.

MR. NORMAN: Joseph Norman. Two questions. Can you have mixed burials, green burial along with a regular burial, in a plot?

MR. PARISI: Okay. So I'll address the first question, then we'll get to the second one. As of now, rules and regulations do not allow green burial. We are aware that increasing numbers of individuals are interested in that, so we're considering it for the future. It's more of a -- you know, we don't have it right now, but if people are interested in green burials, please let us know. We're always looking to be innovative and provide whatever type of interment and memorialization that people are interested in at the time. But as of right now, we don't have green burials, so we wouldn't be able to do those.

MS. MCGOVERN: What is a green burial, please?

MR. PARISI: Green burial is a fully natural burial, no vault, no casket. It's very, very different, like very natural. It appeals to people with I think more of an environmental mindset. So we watch these trends, and it's starting to become more popular, and if there's interest for it, you know, we'll consider whatever the public is looking for, but we don't have that yet, not a full green burial.

And then you had a second question?

MR. NORMAN: I see in the report an issue with taxes dating back to 2016. How long does it take for that to resolve? Sales taxes.

MR. PARISI: Okay. I'm not exactly sure what you're referring to. Kensico's a not-for-profit cemetery corporation, so we're tax exempt in many, many respects.

Ray was not here back in 19 -- whatever year it was. I don't know that he'd be familiar with this tax reference,

but he can address it.

MR. NORMAN: 2016, on page 21.

MR. PLANELL: That got started by an audit on a cemetery upstate back in 2016, and the issue came to the fore and hasn't been resolved. The issue really has to do with not Kensico paying sales tax, because, as Matt said, we're non-profit, we don't have to pay sales tax, but do we have to collect sales tax. So the question is with regard to certain services provided by Kensico, is a sales tax required to be paid.

Now, most cemeteries in the state throughout the decades have been operating under the -- kind of the guidance which we thought was out there that when you rendered services, you weren't charging sales tax. If you were selling things, you would. For instance, if Kensico had a flower shop and we were selling flowers, we would have to collect sales tax, but we don't have a flower shop. So the issue as far as it relates to Kensico is whether there's a potential requirement to collect sales tax on services. So we haven't been doing that, but with our auditors we've discussed it, so we've disclosed it, that there's still this issue floating around, and we haven't had any kind of resolution from the State Tax Commission about this. It's been the topic of conversation among cemeteries, the New York State Association of Cemeteries, which is the organization that represents cemeteries in a lot of these kind of legislative, regulatory type areas, but there's been no definite resolution, but we're all kind of in the same

place and taking the position that we don't owe sales tax on services type issues.

The one exception in terms of Kensico is as it relates to our new mausoleum, and we have an arrangement for people who buy the new mausoleum and when you have inscriptions related to the new mausoleum, we have an outside vendor that provides that, and sales tax is collected on that. But, again, you're selling a product basically, and that's why we're dealing with the sales tax. But we're not dealing with it on services, and we're still waiting for this to be resolved, and it hasn't been resolved. But we still carry it in our financial statements, and the auditors tell us that's what we should be doing.

MR. NORMAN: That's a long time.

MR. PARISI: Yes. So just to be clear, it's not a Kensico-specific issue, it's an industry-wide issue. I'm on the Board of the New York State Association of Cemeteries. Ray's a former board member. Chet is the former President, both of them. So we're actively involved in those issues, but it's -- so it's something we have to disclose. We're hoping the legislature will see it our way, but we'll see.

Any other questions? Yes, someone in the back.

MS. WONG: Does the cemetery have a service to clean the tombstone? Because after the pandemic, there's a lot of greenish, yellowish is on both of the stones.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Just for the record, can you state your name and spell it? Can you state your name?

MS. WONG: My name is Sarah Wong.

MR. PARISI: Okay. So your concern is there's an issue on your headstone?

MS. WONG: Not only my stone, but do you have a service to clean it, or can you give me a recommendation?

MR. PARISI: So Jack Cunha is standing right next to you; he can come and talk to you. Generally speaking, with 175,000 interments, there are a lot of headstones out there, so we do the best we can to keep track of them. Different sections have different rules and regulations as far as maintaining headstones. Some places outside services come in and do it. Other areas we can do it for a fee. So it depends on where in the cemetery you are. But let Jack know, and he can actually go to your lot with you and take a look at it and tell you what we can do and give you options. Jack will also, while he's out there, check out the other ones in the area. We do, on occasion, if there are issues with a monument, reach out to the lot owners to let them know that there's an issue because we try to address it as best we can.

MS. WONG: Thank you.

MR. PARISI: You're welcome.

There's another question, I think, in the back corner.

MS. WILLIAMS: My name is Marilyn Williams, and I just want to know if there's a delay in the deeds that we're supposed to receive.

MR. PARISI: Yes. So I mentioned it a little bit.

We are a little bit delayed in issuing deeds. Are you asking if it affects your rights at all?

MS. WILLIAMS: No, I just want to know if I can obtain one.

MR. PARISI: Right. All right. So, yes, you will obtain one. We are doing them in order from the oldest to the newest, so we're catching up with that as best we can. We're sorry about the delay. It's part of the conversion that we talked about earlier. And so we're working through all of that and we're getting to them now as fast as we can. For a while we weren't able to issue them for various reasons. We're now issuing them and we're working very hard to catch up on it.

But I do want to assure everyone here and if they're online and listening in, if you have a lot and you paid for the lot, you're in our permanent records as the owner of the lot, so you still have the right of burial, you still have the right to put in a foundation. You still have all of those rights. So the piece of paper doesn't affect you rights once you're in our system, but we are working hard to get you that piece of paper so you can have the comfort of knowing what you have. And if you have a question about the deed, please call the office and we can tell you where we are in the process and when we expect to issue that particular deed. We can reassure you, if I haven't already enough, that you're in your records and we're prepared for you in case you need the lot for any reason. Thank you.

Any other questions?

(No response.)

Okay. So now we need a report from the Inspectors of Election. Andrea's approaching with the critical piece of paper with all the statistics for the vote.

Okay. So we have the three nominees. Eric Chen received a total of -- I'll be honest, I'm not as young as I used to be, I have to put on the glasses every once in a while. Eric Chen received 3,568 votes. Elizabeth Payne, 3,569 votes. Richard Schnall, 3,569 votes. So all three are overwhelmingly elected, so congratulations.

(Applause.)

Okay. It's now time to adjourn the meeting. I understand the buses are ready to get people back to the train station, so we'll do this right away. So do I have a motion from anyone to adjourn the meeting?

MR. DAY: I make a motion that the 135th Annual Meeting be adjourned.

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Chet.

Any seconds?

MRS. NORMAN: I second.

MR. PARISI: What's your name?

MRS. NORMAN: Joyce Norman.

MR. PARISI: Okay. I'll take a third because I pointed back there first. What's your name?

MS. MCMILLAN: Bernice McMillan.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. So I have three seconds. Everone in favor?

(Aye.)

Okay. Anyone opposed?

(No response.)

Great. All right. Thank you for coming.

The buses will be available. The next train out of North White Plains is 2:34. Another one at 3:01, 3:05 and 3:28. Thank you for coming, and we hope to see you next year and during the year.

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