

**MINUTES OF THE 136th ANNUAL MEETING
OF LOT OWNERS OF
THE KENSICO CEMETERY**

Thursday, October 23, 2025

Prepared by Dawn Cassara

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 23, 2025, AT 1:00 P.M.

Mr. Matthew G. Parisi, President, welcomed all present at the 136th 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:

David Amerling
Kevin Anderson
Kok Au
Wai Chun Auyu
Heidi Banziger
Cynthia Barrington
Palla Berg
Jonathan Berg
Ronna Blau
Thomas Briggs
Elicia Briggs
Catherine Buchan
Robert Buchan
Norberto Cartagena
Christina Chan
Hwei Chan
Wen Chen
Xiang Chen
Chuang G. Chen
Pui Yu Cheung
Victor Chung
Deborah Ciresi
Luis Corretger
Ayn Crawford
Mary Cripps
Laurie Day
Daniel DeVos
Gerald Diamond
Lowell Diamond
Kenneth Dillon
Herbert Chin Din
Michael Dompierre
Jodanis Dompierre
Pamela Dumich/Schienze
Eugenie Fardellone
Angela Fardellone
Richard Fardellone
Elizabeth Flanagan
Ellen Freiburger
Gary Freiburger
Evan Friedman
Jacqueline Friedman
Janiece Gad
Lance Gad
Wei Gao
David Gellman
Constance Gist Gunindo
Robert Gordon
Ellen Gordon
Lillian Green
Joseph Grossman
Stephanie Grossman
Ruth Guffee
Elvia Gumbs
Xiomara Gumbs
Susan Heyel

Howard Heyel
John Hoffman
Sherrell Holderman
Marilyn Hollwegs
Thyra Hollwegs
Deborah Houston
Cynthia Howard
Dorothy Hurst
Elaine Hylton
Jennifer Johanson
Arvid Johanson
Pui Fong Kam
Geoffrey Katin
Deborah Kershaw
Adriana Kierszenbaum
Byung Kwon Kim
Taesook Kim
Alexandra Krauss
Peter Lai
Ellen Lauria
Dana Lauria
Shu Muk Lee
Susan Levitsky
Angela Lippollis
James Lockhart
Carolyn Lockhart
James Lowen
Jayne Luceno
Alana Lutchien
Justine Lyss
Elaine Mack
Kimberly Mack
Tsun Mak
Aurea Mangual
Kenneth Martin
Ingrid Martin
Vernon Martin
Sharon Martin
Aurora Martinez
John Maxwell
Judy Maxwell
John McCarthy
Vernice McMillian
Ray McMillian
Pamela Millian
Virginia Mills
Man Mok
Sheryl Moskowitz
David Moskowitz
Richard Yin Hon Ng
June Nickerson
Joan O'Brien
Donald Pagel
Patricia Pagel
Garry Partelow
Howard Paul

Edward Paul
Craig Payne
Marcy Pellenberg
Noelle Pesante
Elizabeth Popoola
Daniel Popoola
William Powers
Gregory Qualles
Linda Rice
Robert Rice
Arthur Rollins
Joseph Rosenbaum
Renee Ross
Nancy Ruggiero
Jerlean Rush
Sydney Russell
William Ryan
Jurgen Sackolwski
Natesha Salmon
Jacqueline Sandberg
Joan Schafer
Christian Schienle
Margie Schiff
Debbie Schnapper
Jerrold Schwartz
Evelyn Seastrand
Adriana Seigel
Jin-Fa Shen
Mark Shenkman
James Shepperd
Katherine Shepperd
Jeffrey Shingle
Jacqueline Silkowitz
Eleanor Sloane
Michael Smalls
Patricia Smith
Mary Smith
Caleb VanWyck Smith
Helen Song
Minnie Sun Shen
Andrea Sutherland
Elizabeth Tillson
Christine Tralongo
Peter Tsang
Teresa Tsang
Carol Tsui
Christine Tsui
George Valentino
Eleanor Valentino
Yasmin Virillar
Ingrid Wallace
Marilyn Chris Wallace
Charlene Weisler
Ireta Williams
Brenda Williams
Marilyn Williams

L. Wilson
Timothy Wilson
Joan Witter
Wendy Witter
Caslone Witter
David Wolff
Jenny Wong
Sarah Wong
Sidney Yanick
Helen Yuen
Donna Zavattiere
.....?

DIRECTORS

Mary Ann Alonso
Kevin J. Bannon
Catherine U. Biddle
Eric G. Cheng
Elizabeth Payne
Raymond M. Planell
Richard A. Schnall
Howard Weintraub
..... 8

OFFICERS

Michael H. Cook, Jr.
Theresa M. Doran
..... 2

SUPERINTENDENTS & FOREMAN

Jack Cunha
Luis Espinal
Manuel Ferreira
Carlos Lopes
Pasquale Pugliese
Guy Robbins
Luis Rodriguez
Jose Sabio
Luis Salazar
Jorge Sanchez
..... 10

STAFF

Cathy Alexander
Bob Ayo
Taylor Buress
Barbara Cardany
Patricia Carter
Kathy Caucci
Stephanie Chan
Lillian Collado
Natalie Craig
Vi Engles
Daniel Gaito
Andrea Gallagher
Tatiana Infante
Liz Kowalewski
Sindy Martin
Natasha Miller
Iwona Mroz
Mike Ryan
Peter Telfer
..... **19**

INVITED GUESTS

Emmanuel Blugh
Kerry Forezzi
Larry Massaro
Dave Malane
Kerry McGovern
Judith Mitchell
Louis Palmerini
Louis Polishook
..... **8**

STENOGRAPHER

Dawn Cassara
..... **1**

MR. PARISI: Good afternoon. My name is Matt Parisi, I'm the President of Kensico Cemetery, and I'd like to welcome everyone to the 136th Annual Kensico Lot Owner Meeting. I'd like to do a special welcome to those of you who are attending your first Annual Meeting. I'm sorry you missed our first 135 meetings, but I'm glad you're here for this one. Thanks for being a part of today's event, everyone.

To start the meeting, I ask Sindy Martin, she's a Kensico employee since 2018, and our accounting manager, to place a bouquet of flowers next to the flag in memory of all of our family and friends who are no longer with us.

Before we move on from that, I'd like to pause for a moment to reflect upon the passing of Henry Barrett, III who died earlier this year. Mr. Barrett served for more than 40 years at Kensico, including as President from 1991 to '97, and as Chairman of the Board from 1998 to 2006. His father, Henry Barrett, Jr. was longtime Counsel, Secretary, and member of the Board. And his grandfather, Henry Barrett, also served as President and Chairman of Kensico. Together, the three generations of the Barrett Family contributed over 100 years of leadership and counsel to Kensico. I'd like to dedicate this meeting in honor of the Barrett Family, and Mr. Henry Barrett, III in particular, and also take a moment of silence to reflect upon their contributions and upon all of our family and friends who are no longer with us.

(Moment of silence.)

Thank you, Sindy. Thank you, everyone.

I'll now ask Jack Cunha, Deputy Superintendent here at Kensico, many of you know, who's worked here since 1994 to lead us in

the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Please rise.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

Thank you, Jack.

A few housekeeping items before we begin. I want to point out the exits. Usually these doors are open, but we're keeping them lower to keep it a little bit warmer in here. If there's an emergency, we'll open them real fast. The back door is open, and there are exit signs pointing to the exits throughout this building. I just want to remind everyone that this is a no-smoking building as well. We appreciate your cooperation with all of that.

I'd like to begin again by welcoming everyone to Kensico Cemetery and Arboretum. I hope you had a chance today to go on a bus tour, see the beauty of the grounds, visit your loved ones, speak to Kensico staff, and grab a bite to eat, of course. Welcome more specifically to what we call the Kensico Maintenance Building. This building here and this room, for 11 months of the year, looks completely different. It's filled with dump trucks, regular trucks and heavy landscaping equipment, like Wacker DW30, Mustang, and Amita front-end wheel dumpers, front-end loaders, cement buggies, water tanks, power washers, casket carts, John Deere ProGators, Toro utility vehicles, snow-moving equipment, and more. Nearly 30 pieces of equipment are operated out of this exact space, with even more stored in the eight bays downstairs to this building.

But for the past month, we've been hard at work transforming this area, like we do every year, into something else entirely, a space fit for this meeting and for our upcoming 5K event. We clean it. We wash it. We scrape it. We repaint the floors every year. We take care of the walls and entrances. I think it came out pretty

good this year. I'd just like to point out for those who have been here in the past; it may look a little bit different. We also replaced the outer roof, and we replaced the skylights, which means we can finally see the sky from inside the building again. We also installed new LED lighting. It's a bright day outside, but you can really tell the difference when it's dark outside how much brighter it is in here. We hope you like what we've done with this unique space here at Kensico.

Now, before we go any further, I want to make sure everyone has a meeting folder. They were left on the chairs. If anyone doesn't have a meeting folder or needs one, just raise your hand and one of the staff members will come bring it to you. There's one in the back, in case they can't see.

Before we introduce the Kensico team, I want to acknowledge some invited guests from the New York State Division of Cemeteries. The Division of Cemeteries is a State agency that oversees not-for-profit cemeteries like Kensico. We're very honored that they come and attend the event, and they'll be available for questions afterwards, if anyone has any questions of them. If you could stand up. Division Investigator Kerry McGovern, Division Senior Accountant Kayvon Butler, and Division Associate Accountant Natesha Salmon.

Moving on with the agenda items. Agenda item number two is the introduction of Kensico Directors, Officers, and employees. I'll start on my far left at the dais.

First is Pastor Elizabeth Payne; she's Chair of the Pension Committee, and serves on the Sales, Development, and Environment Committee. She's been a Board member since 2001.

Next to Liz is Kevin Bannon; Vice Chair of the Finance

Committee, serves on the Pension Committee. Board member since 2014.

Howard Weintraub is next; Chair of the Audit Committee, and serves on the Finance Committee. Board member since 2016.

Ray Planell, who I think many of you know; Chairman of the Board, Chair of the Finance Committee, and Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. Member of the Kensico Board since 1996.

Starting now on my right, first is Richard Schnall; Vice Chair of the Board, Chair of the Sales, Development, and Environment Committee, and serves on the Executive Committee. He's been a Board member since 2001. He's also a member of the Board of the Friends of Kensico Cemetery.

Next to Richard is Catherine Biddle; Vice Chair of the Audit Committee, serves on the Executive Committee, Board member since 1999, and also a Board member of the Friends.

Next to Cathy is an empty chair. That's for Eric Cheng. He's our newest member. He's actually in our Administration Building on a conference call. He has a job other than being on the Board here at Kensico. He'll be back shortly. He's a member of the Audit Committee and a member of the Sales, Development, and Environment Committee.

On the far end of the table is Mary Ann Alonso. She's Vice Chair of the Pension Committee, serves on the Audit Committee, and is Corporate Secretary, and somehow has been a Board member since 1990.

I'd also like to introduce a few other people. First is someone I think probably everyone here knows pretty well. He's Kensico's former Comptroller, Director, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Secretary, Corporate Treasurer, President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board, and that's Chet Day.

Chet, can you stand please?

Chet recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of his association with Kensico. Chet was instrumental in so many positive ways at Kensico over the years. We really appreciate you coming here today again. I don't think you'd miss it. I think you've been coming for 50 years or so. Thanks, Chet. Chet is presently Chairman of the Friends of Kensico Cemetery, our 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

As I've mentioned in the past, Kensico formed the Friends to support its mission to facilitate educational programs and otherwise spread the word about the historic, cultural, architectural, and horticultural significance of the grounds. The Friends has become more and more active each year.

In the past year, I'll just go through some of the events that the Friends hosted. In April, they hosted a Tree Care 101 seminar dealing with pests of ornamental trees and shrubs, and also our Arbor Day celebration and tree planting. In May, the Friends hosted a private family Ossipi Loop walking tour, an Ossipi Loop public walking tour, a Tower Loop walking tour, the Memorial Day Weekend Veterans Remembrance Ceremony, and an Arboretum tree walking tour. In June, they hosted two Lakeview walking tours. And in September, hosted a trip with the volunteers, I think they're called docents, from Caramoor on a private tour, and also the Barrett Memorial plaque dedication. So I want to say to Chet, thank you for your leadership with respect to the Friends of Kensico.

I'll say thank you also to other Friends Board members who are in attendance today. Ray Lou, I saw earlier. I'm not sure exactly -- oh, he's sitting next to Chet. Ray Lou is on our Friends

Board. You may remember he was on the dais before this. He was a Kensico Board member from 2005 to 2025. I mentioned last year that he was a former IRS tax attorney way back in his career, and nobody liked that, so I'm not going to mention that today, Ray.

And then, I'm not sure, I didn't see, but is Leanne Freda here? Leanne's a new member of the Friends of Kensico Board. I think she's not here, but she may be stopping by a little bit later.

And also, of course, Judy Mitchell. I saw Judy standing in the back in the yellow jacket. Wave, Judy, so everyone can see you. Judy's not only a member of the Board of the Friends, but she has, for 20 plus years, including this year, put together Kensico's Annual Report. This year's report again focuses on the Kensico Cemetery Arboretum. Judy designed it as an invitation for all to enjoy the grounds and all they have to offer. I hope you take us up on that offer to come and visit the grounds. Judy is, along with Chet, a true Kensico Cemetery historian. Her passion for Kensico shines through each year in the Annual Report. I think she outdid herself with this year's amazing report. Thank you, Judy, for all you do to support Kensico Cemetery.

Our corporate officers are Theresa Doran in the back. She's our Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer. And Mike Cook, who's probably standing in the back, he's Vice President and Superintendent.

We also have former Officer Mike Farmer. Mike's hiding out in the back too. Hi, Mike. Mike was instrumental in the development of the grounds during his long career at Kensico. He retired earlier this year from his position as Vice President of Sales and Development Manager after 35 years with Kensico. So it's good to see

Mike. Even after retiring, he comes back to visit. So thanks, Mike.

A few other introductions. Back again on my left is our stenographer, Dawn Cassara. She can't wave because she's typing.

We have our sales representatives spread throughout the room. First is Mike Ryan who's our Sales Manager. Mike's up front here. We also have Barbara Cardani, Peter Telfer, Lillian Carter, and our newest Sales Representative, Bobby Ayo. So they're around. I think probably sooner or later you've all met one or more of them.

We have our Information Technology Manager here, Jim Neal. Jim's in the back near these cameras here.

And we have Accounting Manager, who you've already met, Sindy Martin, up front.

We have Customer Service Supervisor Daniel Gaito at the table in the back.

We have, of course, our excellent Executive Administrative Assistant, Andrea Gallagher. She's behind the table as well.

Standing next to Andrea is Natalie Craig, our Communications Coordinator. Natalie started here just back in December of '23, but she's already had a significant positive impact on Kensico. Among other things, she's updated the Kensico website and established an excellent social media presence for Kensico. If you look in the folders, there are QR codes, which, when you use your camera, you can click and join up and follow us on Facebook or on Instagram. Natalie's been great with posting stories there; they're very interesting. They include interesting historical photo essays and information about memorials on the grounds, such as the Pinkney Pyramid, the Shriners lot, and the final resting place of the legendary Sergei Rachmaninoff. She also posts fantastic pictures of

the scenic arboretum and cemetery grounds, and occasionally the wildlife that visits here as well. She posts remarkable stories about the famous and some infamous individuals who are memorialized out on Kensico's grounds. She even recently did a three-part post on a lightning strike that struck in an evening on a northern spruce tree. When we came in the morning, the tree was still smoking, and there was actually a fire inside the bark internally with the tree. If you want to learn more about how that happened and what we did to address that very quickly, take a look at our Facebook or Instagram pages. And, of course, she also provides information there about our upcoming events, like our tours, and many of the posts recently are about our 5K event which we're going to host on Sunday.

Turning to our Buildings and Grounds Department, we have our experienced team of Superintendents: Deputy Superintendent Jack Cunha is up front. Deputy Superintendent Joe Sabio I see in the back corner. Assistant Superintendent Carlos Lopes is wearing a nice black suit, but he must have stepped outside for a moment. And our newest Assistant Superintendent Lou Rodriguez.

We also have our excellent Section Foremen here today, Guy Robbins, who incredibly started at Kensico in 1979. We also have Lou Salazar; Pascual Puglisi; Manny Ferreira; Lou Espinal; and Jorge Sanchez. I think they do a tremendous job. I hope that you're all actually familiar with them because they're out on the grounds every day and can address a lot of questions that you have right out on the grounds.

Of course I'd like to thank our entire grounds crew, our security crew, and our administrative and accountant staff. Kensico's operations would not be possible without the loyal and

efficient service of the men and women who serve the lot owners and are the Kensico organization.

One other introduction, I think it's someone that most people know, but our former Superintendent Larry Massaro is here. He's in the back. I think they all want to hang out in the back. I'm going to make them stand up front next year. Larry was Superintendent from 2006 to 2020 and was instrumental in developing major portions of the Kensico grounds. It's good to see you today, Larry, as well.

Last but certainly not least, I'd 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 have had an opportunity to visit the graves of your loved ones, meet with our sales, office, and grounds staff, and maybe take a tour of the grounds and enjoy the treats. I'd also like to welcome anyone who is joining us from afar via our internet stream of the meeting. Just so everyone knows, we'll also post a video of the meeting at our website kensico.org in the coming days.

I'm pleased to report that again this year we are joined online by lot owners from around the country, including folks living in the State of Florida, Pennsylvania, Maryland, North Carolina, California, and Virginia, and of course, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. For those of you on the internet feed, thank you for joining us, but I wish you were here to see the cemetery and arboretum grounds, and we hope you will visit soon. Every season at Kensico is unique and beautiful in different ways, but the colors of autumn really highlight the grounds, making this a particularly beautiful time of the year. 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 to this year's Annual Lot Owner Meeting.

Continuing on with our Annual Meeting, this is item number three. As required by State law, the notice of this meeting was published in the Journal News and placed on Kensico's website. We also mailed notices to 47,516 lot owners of record for whom we have correct addresses. The Affidavit of Mailing and Publication will be filed with our permanent records.

The Inspectors of the Election are Kensico employees Kathleen Caucci, Stephanie Chan, and Andrea Gallagher. Their oaths of office have been taken and will also be filed in our records. The Inspectors of Election have informed me that we have sufficient proxies and that a quorum is present.

Our next order of business, of course, is to approve the minutes from our last Annual Meeting of Lot Owners, held on October 24, 2024. The minutes are in the folders in your meeting materials, and they also have been posted online. We customarily have a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, with a condition that if you find anything that needs to be corrected, let us know, and we will make the correction. So I would ask if I could please have a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Yes, sir. Can you state your name for the stenographer?

MR. GELLMAN: David Gellman. I move that we dispense with the reading of the minutes from last year's meeting.

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Mr. Gellman.

Do we have a second to the motion? Yes, ma'am.

MS. GROSSMAN: I motion to second, and my name is Stefanie

Grossman.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Great. Thank you, Ms. Grossman. Any opposed to dispensing with the reading of the minutes?

(No response.)

Okay. Good. All right. The motion passes. Thank you, everyone.

Now, agenda item five are my remarks and reflections for the past year. For this year, I want to speak about the importance of Kensico's 136-year commitment to its remarkable collection of trees and shrubs. Kensico was founded on January 19, 1889, on what was once a tract of farmland. The founders envisioned a rural cemetery, removed from the congestion of Manhattan, rooted in the idea of a peaceful, natural reconciliation between life and death. They developed the grounds with winding roads, open lawns, ponds, and carefully placed plantings to provide beauty, shade, and habitat, creating a landscape designed to endure for generations. While Kensico's primary purpose is the burial of human remains, we have always recognized the importance of preserving the natural beauty of the land.

Back in 1911, Board member Reese Carpenter put it this way: "My notion is that nature needs no improvement. All we need to do is smooth the rough places and make our roads not in straight lines but following the easiest line of ascent, just as the cow paths lead."

The Kensico Cemetery Viewbook of 1905 described Kensico as, "An area of beauty with hills and dales, flowers that bloom and fade, typifying life and death, suggesting the immortality revealed as the destiny of man." For over a century, Kensico has honored this vision that the landscape should be merely nature-assisted, not changed. We

still believe that a beautiful, natural setting is one of the most meaningful ways to memorialize the departed. Our current Board, management, and employees are deeply committed to carrying this legacy forward, not only maintaining Kensico's beauty but enhancing it so that future generations can do the same.

One of our most important recent steps has been the formation of an in-house arborist team. An arborist is a trained professional who specializes in the care and maintenance of trees. Their work includes pruning for health and safety, diagnosing disease and pests, removing hazardous trees and limbs, improving soil and root conditions, and advising on planting and species selection.

Our team is led by Michael Cook, Jr., our Grounds Superintendent, and a certified arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture. Mike brings over 40 years of experience in the horticultural field and holds a BS degree in Resource Management from the Environmental Science and Forestry College at Syracuse University. Before joining Kensico, he led tree care work for private preserves, corporate campuses, and renowned golf and country clubs throughout the region. His thoughtful approach and talented vision are evident throughout the grounds.

Since joining us in 2020, Mike brought to our team three talented arborists, Juan Romero, Juan Aragon, and Domingo Martinez, each with more than 20 years of experience in professional tree care. We actually have a table in the back with some of the tools of the trade for our arborist team, including some AirSpades and some other equipment that they use. If you haven't checked it out, it's in the back corner.

Having an in-house team allows us to respond immediately to

issues, whether it's storm-damaged limbs, treating a diseased tree, or shaping the canopy for visual appeal and turf health, our arborists manage it daily, not quarterly. This proactive approach ensures that Kensico's trees, perhaps our greatest living asset, continue to thrive.

We also work with trusted partners for large-scale needs; Davey Tree Expert Company for major pruning, disease treatment, and tree removal; Alpine Tree Service for tree removal and debris removal; Central Tree Service for mulch for our garden beds; and Rosedale Nurseries for all tree and shrub installations. I mentioned Rosedale Nurseries. They've been a longtime partner to Kensico. One of its former leaders was C. Powers Taylor, a former Kensico Board member. He helped shape not only Kensico but many iconic landscapes, from PepsiCo's headquarters, to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, to The Cloisters. His horticultural expertise lives on in Kensico's parklike tranquility.

Today, and for the past 24 years, we've been fortunate to have Richard Schnall on the Board. Among his many accomplishments, Richard worked at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx as Arboretum and Grounds Manager, Director of Horticulture, and as Vice President. There, he was responsible for planning, budgeting, and implementing the horticultural program for the 250-acre Botanical Garden. His horticultural experience and dedication to Kensico have been keys to maintaining our standard of excellence. Just last week, and as he's done many times, Richard passionately advocated for the introduction of two new tree species to enhance Kensico's ecological value. That's, to me, a perfect example of how Kensico continues to honor the past while planning for the future. This dedication to the

landscape led to Kensico's recognition as a certified Level II arboretum. However, that designation, while we're very proud of it, was not our final goal but rather a milestone in our ongoing journey to honor and remember those interred here through nature's beauty.

To close, I'd like to share a passage from Kensico's 1987 Annual Report: "The area of improved land is now upwards of 50 acres. They are constantly becoming more attractive because of the assiduous and careful attention given to the lots and the cultivation and growth of the trees and shrubbery selected with reference to the adaptability of the land." This tradition lives on in Kensico's dedication to the natural landscape and in its recognition as a certified Level II arboretum.

The principles from Kensico's 1906 Annual Report are just as true today as they were when written 120 years ago: "The aim has been to give it the aspect of a beautiful park, to create in the mind a sense of rest, peace, and beauty, and no one can behold this lovely spot without finding solace in these surroundings."

So we, the Board, management, and staff of Kensico are proud to carry that vision forward. Through careful stewardship, science and respect for nature, Kensico has been, is, and will always be a place of beauty, peace, and serenity, and, most importantly, a place to remember and honor your loved ones. Thank you.

Turning back to the agenda for our Annual Meeting. As always, the folders on the chairs contain the audited financial statements for the Cemetery. The financial statements cover the years 2024 and 2023. 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 December

31, 2023 and December 31, 2024. That opinion letter can be found starting on page two of our financial report.

Your folders also contain our unaudited financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 which provides you with a snapshot of more current activity. As outlined in the financial report, 2024 was another very successful year for your Cemetery. Sales totaled \$20,350,340. 2024 sales included 1,336 individual lot sales, of which 55 percent were sold pre-need and 45 percent were sold at need, or immediate need as we call it. 2,016 interments took place during 2024. Just by way of comparison, back in 2019, there were 1,890 interments at Kensico. And as of the end of 2024, the total interments at Kensico now total an incredible 174,600 interments.

As for Kensico's finances, 2024 was overall a positive investment environment. As of the end of 2024, Kensico's investment funds had surpassed \$402 million. I'll say that again because the train went by. We don't notice it when we work here because it goes by every 15 minutes all day. As of the end of 2024, Kensico's investment funds surpassed \$402 million.

Kensico's Finance Committee, in consultation with investment managers from some of the area's leading banking and financial and investing institutions, will continue 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 never end.

The returns so far in 2025 have been excellent as well. As of September 30, 2025, investment funds have risen to approximately

\$442 million. The even better news is that cash flow remains positive. As my predecessors Chet Day 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.

I am pleased to report that lot sales continue to be high this year. We are projecting to again be in the \$17- to \$19-million range in lot sales. We anticipate interments to again exceed 2,000 for the year. We're actually, through September, 150 more interments than we were through September of last year. As always, all those interred in our hallowed grounds or entombed in our sacred spaces will be memorialized, permanently recorded, and be part of our historical permanent record. In addition, their place of permanent residence will be taken care of forever, in tribute to the lives that they lived.

Turning to item six on our agenda, it is the motion for nomination of management's recommendations for three directors to the Board. If you turn again to your meeting materials, you will see information regarding management's nominees for the Class of 2026. Management recommends three people for election to the Board of Directors for a three-year term. They are Kevin Bannon, me, Matt Parisi, and Howard Weintraub. The biographies of each of us are provided in the meeting materials.

Just for a little bit of background, Howard is an accountant by trade. He's two down from me. He's also a thespian, so you may have seen him on a local television commercial or two or in an area theater production.

Kevin, next to Howard, is a former chief investment officer for the Bank of New York, who in that role was responsible for

managing assets in excess of \$100 billion for institutional and private clients. Both are long-serving members of the Board, as Kevin joined the Board in 2014, and Howard joined the Board in 2016. I'm the newer guy; I joined the Board in 2020. Kevin, as Chair, and Howard, serve along with me and Kensico's Chairman Ray Planell on Kensico's critical Finance Committee. Kevin and Howard have been instrumental in decision-making that has resulted in Kensico's excellent financial condition.

As I mentioned, all three of our bios are in your meeting materials. They've also been posted online. So this year management recommends Kevin Bannon, Howard Weintraub, and Matt Parisi to serve as members of the Board of Directors for a three-year term. At this point I would ask for a motion from the floor in support of the nomination of management's recommendation for Directors. Would anyone like to make that motion?

MR. DAY: I make the motion.

MR. PARISI: Do you want to state your name? No. Chet Day moves. Is there a second?

MR. BARETH: I second.

MR. PARISI: Can you state your name?

MR. BARETH: Jim Bareth.

MR. PARISI: Thank you. All right. All in favor?

(Aye.)

Okay. Anyone opposed?

(No response.)

Okay. Thank you. So the motion passes. We'll now ask are there any nominations from the floor for individuals other than the three management recommendations?

(No response.)

Okay. Seeing none, we'll move on to a motion to close the nominations and conduct the election. I need two more people to move. Anybody who would like to make a motion to close the nominations? Yes, go ahead.

MS. LEVITSKI: I make a motion to close the nominations.
Suzan Levitski.

MR. PARISI: Is there a second? Thank you.

MS. PESANTE: I second that motion; Noelle Pesante.

MR. PARISI: Thank you. All in favor?

(Aye.)

Okay. Any opposed?

(No response.)

Okay. So the motion carries, and the nominees for the Board are Kevin Bannon, Matt Parisi, and Howard Weintraub. Agenda item seven is the vote of lot owners for the election of Directors. In your folders, there are green paper ballots. Any lot owner who did not vote by proxy through the mail should use the ballot. If you already voted by proxy, you don't need to use the ballot because we already got your vote and we've already counted it. We will pass pencils out, if anyone needs it. Just raise your hand, and you can mark your ballot. I'll give you a minute. If you need a pencil, raise your hand and the staff will come by with pencils in case you need it to mark your ballot. I'll keep going, but if anybody needs a pencil, just raise your hand. I see Stephanie and some others are coming down to help out. We'll collect them in a minute.

While you're voting, we'll proceed to agenda item eight, and I will ask Kensico Director Richard Schnall to bring us up to date

regarding the Cemetery's grounds, plants, and trees with his annual environmental report.

MR. SCHNALL: Good afternoon. Thank you, Matt, for the kind words.

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, arborists, foremen, assistant and deputy superintendents. They work with the foundation supervisor, machine operators, and mechanics. 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 Cemetery. The early winter was again mild, with almost no snow. Then February and March finally brought snow and very cold conditions. Unfortunately, last year's drought, which continued into early winter, combined with the late winter's low temperatures, resulted in the demise of several evergreen trees and shrubs.

Spring was mild and at times wet. In summer, we continued with the drought, and extreme heat in August, and lack of rain in September and right on up to mid-October. We did experience an incredible six-inch rain storm in mid-July. 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.

In the area of tree maintenance, we continue to care for the important collection of trees planted over the last 136 years. As mentioned in our outstanding Annual Report, our collection of trees

and shrubs has been recognized and granted status as a Level II arboretum by ArbNet. We are the only arboretum in Westchester County with that status. This year, we conducted two tree walks that focused on the collection. In addition, a class on identifying insects and disease pests of trees and shrubs was held. These tours and classes were open free to the public and helped fulfill our role as a recognized arboretum.

Trees, like people, do not live forever. This year we had to remove eight older tree 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 were removed were on lot owners' property. When possible, we contact the owners to give them the opportunity to replant.

In mid-July, we experienced a lightning storm that caused a large Norway spruce to burst into flames. The fire was extinguished by the Mount Pleasant Fire Department, and the tree was removed. A new tree will be planted in its place next spring.

This year, in order to ensure safety and tree health, and with our in-house arborists, over 200 mature 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 ensure they have wonderful, abundant blooms next spring. Some of the flowering trees are pruned two or three times a year, depending on growth.

Using a device called an AirSpade, which is on display in the back, 75 young and older trees are being treated to reduce soil compaction, eliminate encircling roots that 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. Lime is applied, as needed, based on soil tests. With our woody plants, insect, disease, and pest controls have been applied as needed. We continue to focus on protecting ash trees from emerald ash borer, boxwood shrubs from boxwood blight and leaf minor, and beech trees from beech leaf disease. We're on the lookout for boxwood tree moths, and we continue to scout for spotted lanternfly and will treat as needed. So far, they've proven only to be a nuisance.

We've begun actively removing and replacing our Callery pear trees, when possible, because they've proven to become invasive. We have also rescinded a policy that stopped the planting of boxwoods. Boxwoods may now be planted, provided they are varieties proven to be boxwood blight resistant. All plantings in the cemetery require prior approval by the Cemetery's Superintendent and Vice President.

In the middle of the cemetery there's a five-and-a-half-acre woodland with a stream running through it. This year, we continued to battle to remove non-native, invasive plants. In the future, with the help of 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, the plan was accepted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is under review by the Town of Mount Pleasant. These approvals are required because parts of the area are considered wetlands.

The cemetery's buildings, roads, paths, above and

underground infrastructure, and monuments continue to receive excellent care, as we continue repaving paths and roads, widening roads where needed, repairing and replacing water lines, and improving drainage throughout the cemetery.

This year, in honor of Arbor Day, we planted a dove tree on the hillside near the Administration Building. This tree is native to China and not often seen. In addition, we planted 102 trees and 45 shrubs. These plants now become part of the landscape that makes Kensico Cemetery a beautiful place of remembrance. Thank you.

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Richard.

If anyone has a ballot, please raise your hand, and we'll have some of the folks in the back come pick them up.

While we're doing that, I'll open the floor to any questions. I will make a note that if there are questions of an individual nature, I may refer you to one of Kensico's employees who can address questions regarding issues specific to a particular lot or lot owner. But if you have a general question, I'd be happy to answer them now. I see a couple of hands up; I'm not sure if that's for collecting the ballots or asking questions. Okay, you're for the ballot. Anyone have any questions? Mr. Gellman, he likes to start.

MR. GELLMAN: On page 22, note 7 of the report, it mentions a contract to purchase a 10-acre parcel adjoining the cemetery.

MR. PARISI: Yes.

MR. GELLMAN: Where relative to the campus? And what is the issue, the environmental issue, and what were the tenants beforehand that needed to be removed? Might they have caused the environmental issue?

MR. PARISI: The property is located adjacent to the

cemetery up Lakeview Avenue. It's about a 10-acre parcel. We've conducted a Phase I and Phase II and Supplemental Phase II environmental site assessment and have recently determined that the environmental issues are not -- I think environmental issue is too strong a word. There was some barium that was found, which is not considered hazardous and isn't expected to travel. The property had been used for many years as -- there are some warehouses there and there was a lot of parking there for landscaping vehicles. We're frankly quite surprised with how clean the property was through our environmental site reviews. We're proceeding still with the property. We're under contract. We received approval from the New York State Division of Cemeteries to proceed with the purchase, and we're expecting the closing to happen, I'm crossing my fingers because none of these deals are done until they're done, but we should be able to acquire the property by the end of the year and have our closing.

MR. GELLMAN: And the intended purpose?

MR. PARISI: There are several intended purposes, I would say. We don't have any specific plans for it right now, so I'd consider it kind of investment property. It's not presently cemetery property. In order for it to become cemetery property, which essentially means you can bury on it, there would be a number of steps that would happen. We think there may be other uses for it going forward, if Kensico kept it, or it would be, we think, a good investment for the future if Kensico doesn't ever need it. We could potentially convert it to cemetery property. The zoning for that property allows a lot of different uses. It had been a bit of, I'd say, an eyesore for some of the lot owners because it really joined

the property as it was being used. We put some screening in. Our short-term intention is to make it look natural again, and then we're going to see what we can do with it in the future. But we think it's a very sound decision going forward to invest in that additional property.

MR. FREIBERGER: So the property you're referring to, I think, is on the western boundary where that construction yard was, is that the property, or is it past there, west of there?

MR. PARISI: It's on the western side, but I'm not aware of any construction. There were a lot of landscaping trucks parked there.

MR. FREIBERGER: Yeah, it was like a yard.

MR. PARISI: Yes, it was like a yard.

MR. FREIBERGER: That's the property you're talking about?

MR. PARISI: Yes.

MR. FREIBERGER: And the screening had been placed in there prior, evergreens, right?

MR. PARISI: Yes.

MR. FREIBERGER: Which have done a nice job.

MR. PARISI: Oh, thank you.

MR. FREIBERGER: Over the years of screening that area. Our lot is on Seneca, right in that area.

MR. PARISI: Good. Yeah. Can you just state your name for the record?

MR. FREIBERGER: Gary Freiburger.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. In the middle here.

MS. MANGUAL: Hi. Good afternoon. My name is Aurea Mangual. My mom is buried in the Mohegan area over there, and I was

always wondering if there's a possibility to plant a tree by her grave, and how much would it cost, and how can we go about finding out? Thank you.

MR. PARISI: Okay. I can answer it generally, and I want you to speak to our Superintendent afterward about the specifics. Generally, it depends on if there's land, if there's space for a tree, if there's space in a private lot, whether it can be endowed. There are some issues with it. As I've talked about and Richard's talked about, we love the trees here. We want to make sure they're ones that are typically native and not invasive and are going to present well both to an individual lot owner and all the neighbors around it. So we're happy to speak with anybody individually who's looking to do that. We don't have a specific program for that, so we treat it on a case-by-case basis. I would just say we're open to it, but it's got to work for the lot owner, for Kensico, and for everybody around it for it to work out. But we're always interested in more trees, I would say, so thank you. Mike Cook is in the back; he's wearing a winter hat. Look for him after the meeting. You can talk to him. He's hiding in the back corner. He's now taken off his hat, but he's in the back corner.

Any other questions you have?

MS. GRANT: My name is Stacy Grant. What about vandalism? I know several years ago we had that issue, but you have not talked about it in the last few meetings. Are we all secure here with looking out for cameras and protecting the vandalism that could potentially happen? Thank you.

MR. PARISI: All right. I think fortunately it's been some time since we've had any real vandalism issues here. We have two

public roads that go up through the cemetery. We don't have gates and fences. We really can't do that because of those public roads. We do have security that's on the grounds in the evenings, so they're here to look after the cemetery. We also have installed cameras down at the office building and up by the Tower where you can see who's coming in and who's going, so we can kind of track that kind of thing. Fortunately, we haven't had any real issues in a long, long time. If anybody notices anything, please let us know right away, and we'll address it right away. I hate to say it on camera, on the internet and everything, but so far so good lately, and we're hoping it will stay that way. But we do constantly monitor that as best we can, considering it's 460 acres that we can't really secure, but we do keep after it as best we can, so thank you.

MS. GRANT: Thank you.

MR. PARISI: All right. Now in the back corner there.

MS. GIST-GUINDO: I wanted to follow up. My name is Constance Gist-Guindo. Following up on the question about the Gardens, my family's part of the Garden of the Apostles, and I saw planted plants in that area. Is that allowed? Can we plant plants that are there, perennials?

MR. PARISI: We have different section rules for each section of the cemetery. There's many advantages and some disadvantages to that; one is that there are so many different sections. I don't have the section rules in my head at all times. But, again, talk with the foremen or one of the superintendents about that section and what's allowed and what isn't. It also should say on the back of your deed, and we can give you a copy of the deed and your contract, what's allowed in a section and what isn't. So we can

work that out depending on what it is. I will say it's a conflict sometimes because, similar with a tree, we want something that's suitable for you, but we don't want to offend anybody around you. We want some individuality, too, but uniformity looks nice, too, so we're always trying to balance that. We'll be happy to talk to you about it, though, and see what we can do in your area. Okay? All right. Who's next?

MS. HOUSTON: This is just a general question. I was just wondering if any of the trees on this property has ever had an experience with Asian beetle or any other invasive type of beetles?

MR. PARISI: I think the answer is yes, but Richard?

MR. SCHNALL: Fortunately, we haven't had Asian longhorn beetle here. We have had beetles that have attacked other trees. We've lost elm trees from elm bark beetle. I'm drawing a blank of other beetle insects that we've had, but we're constantly scouting to make sure that whatever the latest invasive pest and insect or disease, that we're going to catch it early and treat it quickly.

So our eyes are open, and the men are looking for the problems before they become excessive.

MR. PARISI: Can you state your name, please, for the stenographer? Who asked the question? Who asked the last question? Can you just say it louder?

MS. HOUSTON: Deborah Houston.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. There's a question up here.

MR. POPOOLA: My name is Daniel Popoola. Before a member is approved for a nomination or for any election, for those people that are not aware of who they are, will it be advisable for a person to have a word or two in this organization before he's approved or voted

for as a member of the executive?

MR. PARISI: Okay. I think what you're asking is do we let everyone know who the Board members are before they're --

MR. POPOOLA: Yes.

MR. PARISI: So how we do that is in the proxy letters, we include bios for each of the members. We also post that information online, and it's available throughout the year when anybody's looking for that information. If you have any specific questions about a Board member or anyone, you can call our office, and we'll give you information about that as well. I talk a little bit about what they've done in the past up here, but that's our process in trying to inform everybody who the Board members are and who's up for election.

And I do have to stand corrected. I said Class of '26. It's a three-year term, so it's Class of '28 for this year's election. So that's our process, and all of that information is available. It should be actually in the folders that you have in your hand as well, in the proxies, and online.

MR. POPOOLA: What about you put it in the paper? Reading them is not a problem, but seeing them and knowing them physically would have advantages.

MR. PARISI: Okay. We'll think about that. I think the one time when everyone's here is at this Annual Meeting. I know Kevin and Howard and I were outside as well. Just so you know who it is, this year it's me, Howard, and Kevin, and we're outside every year before the meeting. We'll be available afterward as well if you want to talk to any of us. Maybe we can put pictures on the bios, too; that might help. I don't know if everybody will agree to that on the Board, but we can try that. Okay? Thank you.

Question in the back?

SPEAKER: First, I'd like to thank the Board and the administrative staff for the excellent job they continue to do every year. My question was for Richard. I heard you mention that the pear trees are going to be removed. I have family in the Valley View area next to a pear tree. It hasn't been removed yet, but would we be notified? Would that involve disrupting the gravestone and the graves if that's done? It's the first I'm hearing of this.

MR. SCHNALL: We're not doing this aggressively. We're only addressing trees that have reached the end of their natural lifetime or are damaged in some way. We're not going to clear-cut every Callery pear in the place. Certainly, if it comes to the necessity to remove one on your property, you would absolutely be notified prior to that removal.

SPEAKER: Would it involve having to move the graves, disturbing them?

MR. SCHNALL: Hopefully -- whenever we have problems with trees and monuments, we try to catch those problems before that becomes an issue so that if the tree has to be removed, the monument would not be damaged. But in the case where there might be some interference and the monument would be removed, the tree would then be removed and the monument put back because we absolutely want to protect the monuments.

SPEAKER: Thank you.

MR. PARISI: Up here.

MS. SONG: Oh, hi. I'd like to ask Richard to please assess our family lot. The burial was not leveled with the natural ground. And this is in Section 70. So part of the area, I think, is

designated for mausoleums because there are likely boulders, big boulders in the ground. So I'd really appreciate, as soon as possible, if Richard can assess this finally. And also, is it standard and automatic for Kensico to provide chairs and tents for burials, or is that something that needs to be requested specifically?

MR. PARISI: Okay. You didn't state your name. You're Helen Song, correct?

MS. SONG: Yes.

MR. PARISI: And as we've explained, you're not a lot owner, correct? We've had a lot of communications over the last several weeks about this, but let me explain the answer to you. The lot was designed in accordance with your father's wishes.

MS. SONG: No, it wasn't. That's a lie. That's a false claim.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Miss, I let you speak.

MS. SONG. Both Larry Massaro and Mike Farmer both assured my dad that the burial would be level with the natural ground.

MR. PARISI: Miss. Okay. Miss. Miss.

MR. PAGEL: This is out of order.

MR. PARISI: Thank you.

MR. PAGEL: This is out of order.

MR. PARISI: Thank you.

MR. PAGEL: This is out of order.

MR. PARISI: I'm going to answer the question generally. Ms. Song, we've addressed this numerous times. The lot, like all lots, are in accordance with the directions with the original lot owners and with the present lot owners.

MS. SONG: No, it wasn't. No, it wasn't. My dad --

MR. PARISI: Thank you, Ms. Song. Let's move on. Does anyone else have any questions?

MS. SONG: Why can't Richard Schnall --

MR. PARISI: Yes, ma'am.

SPEAKER: How many more years --

MS. SONG: Are you going to answer my question about the chairs and --

SPEAKER: Let him do it privately with you because --

MS. SONG: He didn't answer my question about the chairs and tents either.

SPEAKER: He can talk to you about the chairs and tents, but I think your matter should be dealt privately.

MS. SONG: No, because they're not responding.

MR. PARISI: Thank you. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Right, but the other shareholders --

MS. SONG: But they're not responding.

MR. PARISI: Ms. Song, please, can we move on. We're responding to the lot owners; you're siblings.

MS. SONG: Why can't Richard Schnall assess this?

MR. PARISI: Go ahead, Miss.

SPEAKER: Let me ask my question. I'm just curious, how many more years of interments can this cemetery --

MR. PAGEL: Mr. Chairman, please respond.

MS. SONG: Thank you. Thank you. Unbelievable.

MR. PARISI: Go ahead, ma'am.

SPEAKER: I'm just curious. How many more years of interments can this cemetery maintain before it runs out of space?

And then what do you do, do you use the reserves that you have for maintenance?

MR. PARISI: Yes. So to answer both questions, it's hard to predict how lot sales will continue going forward, but we anticipate decades of land sales being left. That, of course, will depend on burial trends and interment trends, such as if more people are getting cremated, that takes up less space and things. But we anticipate 30 to 40, maybe 50 years of sales left and burial land left for that.

In addition to that, when I talk about the funds, those are the funds for the future. The plan now, and the plan has been for 136 years, to invest the funds in a way that Kensico will be able to maintain the cemetery forever. So those funds are here. If there's no longer any sales, those funds are what would be used to maintain the cemetery and take care of the trees, mow the lawns, and do that forever. So that's where the Finance Committee and the entire Board is focused, I'd say constantly, on taking care of those matters and preparing for forever, essentially. Okay? Thank you.

I don't want to miss the trains. Let's just do one more, and I'd be happy to answer afterwards, but somebody has a question.

MR. SMALLS: I'm Michael Smalls. Is it possible maybe next year, the financial statement booklet, can we make the printing a little bit bigger? I mean, I need a magnifying glass, and I shouldn't have to do that.

MR. PARISI: All right. We will try. Our Chief Financial Officer, Theresa Doran, is in the back. She may object because there's so many columns now, but we will do the best we can.

MR. SMALLS: Just a little bigger.

MR. PARISI: And also, if you look at it online, you can zoom in a little bit, so that might help as well.

I know there are a bunch of people who want to catch the trains. Do you want to do one more question in the back?

MS. HOLDERMAN: Yeah. This will be quick. My name is Sherell Holderman. I was just curious, now that more and more people are being cremated, about what percentage of the interments here are from cremated remains?

MR. PARISI: I don't have an exact percentage, but the number keeps increasing nationwide. Kensico has a lot of available in-ground burial and we have a lot of land for that, so the levels here haven't gotten as high as other areas. I think out in California the percentage is over 50 percent and rising. But the percentage of cremated remains here is far lower than that. We could get the exact figure for you after the meeting if you want. Okay?

Agenda item 10 is the Report of the Inspectors of the Election. Andrea, if you could approach with the calculations. The vote tallies are, by proxy 4,296, and in person 49, totaling 4,344 votes each for Kevin Bannon, Matt Parisi, and Howard Weintraub. Congratulations to you two, and I guess to me. Thank you.

So we can get to the trains, the next thing I'm looking for is a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anyone open for that?

MR. BARETH: I motion we adjourn.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. One more.

SPEAKER: I second the motion.

MR. PARISI: Okay. Thank you. All in favor?

(Aye.)

All right. Good. Thank you. The motion carries.

Thank you all for coming. Buses will be ready outside. The trains, the first one's at 2:34, and then 3:00, and a few thereafter, from North White Plains. Thank you, folks.

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