

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

September 4, 2019

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, September 4, 2019, at Marblehead Chowder House in Easton, Pennsylvania at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 5:49 p.m. by President Lisa Spitale. An Agenda for the meeting was circulated to the Members of the Board of Governors prior to the meeting. Members of the Board of Governors in attendance at the meeting were as follows:

ATTENDEES (as marked):

Officers:

- Lisa Spitale, President
- Robert Eyer, President-Elect
- Maura Zajac McGuire, Vice President
- Paul J. Harak, Treasurer
- Steven B. Molder, Secretary
- Daniel M. O'Donnell, Past President

Board Members:

- David M. Backenstoe
- Jeremy F. Clark
- Jacqueline K. Holmes
- Richard Santee
- Michael A. Santanasto
- Scott Wilhelm
- Douglas Tkacik

Executive Director:

- Mary Beth Leeson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting held on July 10, 2019 were circulated for review. Mike Santanasto made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Maura McGuire seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was passed.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

President Spitale reported on the following matters:

- A. Received a thank you from the Greater Valley YMCA.
- B. Email from Dave Ceraul requesting \$1,000 for Holiday Hope Chest. Motion was made and seconded. It was voted to approve.
- C. A note from V. Coyle about reduced associate dues. A discussion ensued. S. Wilhelm made a Motion to approve and D. Backenstoe seconded the motion to approve.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lisa Spitale indicated no report was available as of the time of the meeting.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. Attorney Referral – Real Lawyer program cancelled but she is going to meet with Lehigh County for Joint marketing.
- B. Martin Guitar asks for donation to their foundation in place of a fee for their space to hold the Soiree. Dan made a Motion for \$1,500 from Community Donations; seconded by M. Santanasto and approved.
- C. A question arose about a Bylaw for a whistleblower policy. We have it as an employment policy. Decided not to proceed.
- D. Should we start a Membership Committee to look in what people want as a member – L. Spitale will form an ad hoc committee.

E. Mary Beth gave a report on Heather's health.

F. Memorial service coming up on Tuesday, September 7, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Courtroom #1. Honorees are: George Baurkot, Paul Florenz, Harold Funt, Robert Littner, Walter Morrissey, Eric Shimer, Charles Wilkinson.

G. Federal Court Admission are coming up on Friday, September 13, 2019, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Allentown Federal Courthouse. Eastern, Middle and Western District Courts will be available for admission.

H. People's Law School currently has low sign up.

I. PBI is restructuring their payment schedule again. New Memo of Understanding has not been sent out yet with the details.

J. A temporary employee, Jean Magilton, has been hired to assist with ARIS while Heather is still out on medical leave.

K. Only 15 people are outstanding on payment of membership dues. Letters will be going out from the Treasurer.

L. Mary Beth and Mike Santanasto went to present the Foundation Grant to the Greater Valley YMCA on July 10, during their Lehigh Valley Camp Day.

M. Summer Outing – attendance was and is getting lower each year. Review this event during the new Membership Committee meetings.

N. Iron Pigs game – this is the last year we will be acquiring the four dugout suites for the Iron Pigs game. Not all of the tickets were sold this year and we had to go to the N.C. employees to sell most of the tickets. Instead, purchase group tickets for a L.V. Phantoms game in the early winter months.

O. Amicus Soirée invitations were mailed out yesterday. Event will be held at Martin Guitar this year. Looking for acoustic guitar players for entertainment.

V. PROGRAMS

Vice President Maura Zajac McGuire reported that she scheduled a September Quarterly Meeting program on Stress in the Courtroom.

November Quarterly Meeting program is on Inherent Bias with Kerri Schantz.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Foundation update – planning to partner with Meals on Wheels May 28, 2020 at Musikfest Café. Board agreed the Grant proposal Foundation can be as broad as possible.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Next meeting Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at The Bayou Easton.

B. Nominations Committee Report. Jeremy Clark proposed to become Secretary. YLD Members Erica Farkas, Jill McComsey, Josh Fulmer as Board members.

C. Budget. Dues increase proposed, reduced Reporter income to realistic expectations and reduce other expenses to balance.


D. North Penn requested donation of \$60,000. M. Santanasto made Motion to forward this request to the membership in the November meeting. J. Clark seconded Motion and was approved.

E. Ricky Santee Building Fund idea. Create a capital account to set aside for future building purchase or repairs. S. Wilhelm made a Motion and D. Backenstoe seconded to have R. Santee come up with a proposal.

VIII ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by J. Clark. The motion was seconded by David Backenstoe. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Steven B. Molder, Secretary