

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

**March 8, 2018**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at the Best Western Conference Center, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania - at 4:15 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 4:35 P.M. by President Daniel M. O'Donnell. 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:**

X Daniel M. O'Donnell, President  
   Lisa Spitale, President-Elect  
X Robert Eyer, Vice President  
   Maura Zajac McGuire, Treasurer  
X Paul J. Harak, Secretary  
X Michael P. Shay, Past President

**Board Members:**

X David M. Backenstoe  
X Jeremy F. Clark  
X Jacqueline K. Holmes  
X Rebecca Kulik  
X Steven B. Molder  
X Michael A. Santanasto  
X Scott Wilhelm

**Executive Director:**

X Mary Beth Leeson

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on January 3, 2018 were circulated for review. Backenstoe made a motion to approve the minutes and Eyer seconded the motion to approve the minutes, with one change, Scott Wilhelm was not present at the meeting, and Eyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS**

President O'Donnell reported on the following matters:

A. O'Donnell reported that he received correspondence from the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society thanking the NCBA for its donation in the name of former member Richard Luse.

B. O'Donnell reported he received a thank you note from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society thanking the NCBA for its donation in the name of former member Edward Feege.

C. O'Donnell reported he received communication from Louann Bell of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Collaborative Law Committee regarding the Peace Institute being hosted and sponsored by Pennsylvania Bar Association Collaborative Law Committee looking for sponsorships and attendees.

## **III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Vice President, Robert Eyer, presented the Treasurer's Report which was previously circulated for review by the Board. Eyer announced the total balance as of December 31, 2017 was \$1,492,546.49. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and submitted for audit without exception.

## **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

A. The new Membership Applications, which were previously circulated for review by the Board, are ready for implementation and use.

B. There are five new security cameras installed outside of the Association building.

C. The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation Annual Report mentions the NCBA and its Holiday Hope Chest Project, the Report was circulated for the Board's review.

D. House Bill 1903 is running next week in the House Judiciary Committee. The Bill deals with advertising letters testamentary. The Bill, in its current form, would eliminate the requirement to advertise in a newspaper of general circulation in favor of the official website for the Register of Wills of the county granting letters. The Register of Wills could charge a small fee approved by the President Judge of the County. The Bill does not appear to impact county legal journals. Leeson went on to discuss that there is a state wide legal journal and Northampton County posts to the state wide legal journal for free.

E. President-Elect Lisa Spitale and Leeson are going to Chicago for the Bar Leadership Conference next week.

F. Leeson advised that the NCBA may replace its current accountant and she asked for any recommended potential replacements.

G. The time of the May Board of Governors meeting is changing from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and will now be at the NCBA building on the same date, May 2, 2018.

## **V. PROGRAMS**

Eyer reported that the program for the Quarterly Meeting would be presented by Michele S. Haggerty, Esquire. She is the legal community specialist for Retreat Premiere Addiction Treatment Centers. Eyer is exploring other programs for future presentation.

## **VI. FOUNDATION UPDATE**

Matt Millen was eliminated as a possible individual to approach regarding the Foundation. The Foundation continues to attempt to line up five prominent individuals to give a ten minute presentation reflecting significant moments in their lives. The Foundation is attempting to come up with a list of approximately twenty people to approach.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. The Board decided to send Member, Jordan Knisley, to the 2018 Young Lawyers Division Summer Conference.

B. President O'Donnell is going to present a plaque to an outstanding student from the Northampton County Community College Paralegal Course along with a \$500.00 check.

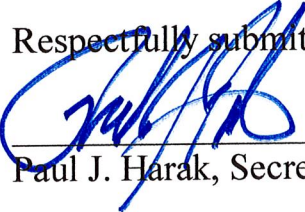
C. Amy R. Van Varick also asked if the Northampton County Community College could circulate a survey to the Members of the Association through Leeson. They survey would give her insight on what local attorneys are looking for in new hires.

D. A reminder was made to attend the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Reception For The Court on March 23, 2018.

E. Member, Philip D. Laurer, is being honored by Two Rivers Brewing Company by having a new beer released and named in his honor, Laurer's Legal Limit. A portion of the sales made at Two Rivers Brewing Company on March 20, 2018 will go to his selected charity, Pennsylvania Prison Society.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eyer. The motion was seconded by Santanasto. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
  
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Paul J. Harak, Secretary