

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
June 6, 2018**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at The Sun Inn - at 5:30 P.M. The meeting was called to order at 5:44 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
- X Lisa Spitale, President-Elect
- X Robert Eyer, Vice President
- X 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
- Steven B. Molder
- X Michael A. Santanasto
- Scott Wilhelm

Executive Director:

- X Mary Beth Leeson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 2, 2018 were circulated for review. Backenstoe made a motion to approve the minutes and Eyer seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

President O'Donnell reported on the following matters:

A. O'Donnell reported that he received a letter from D. Michael Fisher, Circuit Judge, US Court of Appeals, Third Circuit, who is the Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Federal Practice Committee advising that there is a Federal Practice Committee and encouraging people to participate.

B. O'Donnell reported that he received a letter from Co-Chairmen of the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee raising two issues that seem to continually arise as complaints before the Committee. First, non-lawyers are representing real estate tax payers in front of County Boards of Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals. Second, is non-lawyers practicing law in the probate process before the Register of Wills. Notices regarding each violation were attached to the letter. A brief discussion by the Governors followed.

C. O'Donnell reported that he attended the Pen Argyl High School Graduation to present the Northampton County Young Lawyer Division Scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 to the winning recipient.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer McGuire presented the Treasurer's Report which was previously circulated for review by the Board. She announced the total balance as of May 31, 2018 was \$1,392,596.87.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

A. The 2017 End of Year Financial Reports were distributed to the Governors for review and potential discussion at the next Board of Governors

meeting.

B. A reminder that the Commonwealth Court will have an argument session on September 17, 2018 and a reception will follow. The site of the reception is currently being explored.

C. Judge Giordano's portrait is not in the budget this year since no one knew he was retiring. It will be placed in the budget for next year. President O'Donnell will discuss this matter with Judge Giordano. The Bar Association typically pays up to \$5,000.00 for the portrait.

D. The summer outing to be held on July 19, 2018 has been advertised. Captains for the softball teams will be Jacqueline K. Holmes and Jeremy F. Clark.

E. Judge Koury's induction as President Judge will occur on Monday, June 18, 2018 with a ceremony at the Courthouse at 2:00 P.M. A reception will follow at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church in Easton.

F. The young lawyer division is holding a "Chopped" competition at the Northampton Community College on June 27, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. The program will run like a cooking show with the hope that multiple teams will participate.

V. PROGRAMS

Nothing to report.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Foundation Update - Santanasto advised that the Foundation is searching for a firm date at the Arts Quest venue. David Akers' representative was hoping to get some children at the event. There has been discussion as to whether the event should be held in the afternoon or evening. The Board briefly discussed the advantages of either time and Director Santanasto stated he would relay the discussion to the Foundation Committee.

B. By-Laws Committee Update – Member, Michael C. Deschler, drafted an Amendment to the By-Laws. President O'Donnell made some suggested revisions. The By-Laws address what action the Association should take when Members are running for various judicial offices. After discussion, President O'Donnell advised that he would redraft the proposed Amendment.

C. Building Committee Update – Harak reported that he spoke with Member Shaughnessy. Member Shaughnessy advised that he met with Andy Daub who is going to seek out an informal appraisal of the Pomfret Club building so that the Pomfret Club could better assess the situation.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Finance Committee Report – Spitale advised that there are funds which exceed the insurable limits in various banks. After a discussion as to interest rates and placing the funds, a motion was made by Clark and seconded by Santanasto, that \$100,000.00 would be moved out of Embassy Bank and into ESSA and invested in a twelve month CD and \$160,000.00 would be moved out of TD Bank and invested in a Money Market or twelve month CD at the discretion of Director Leeson.

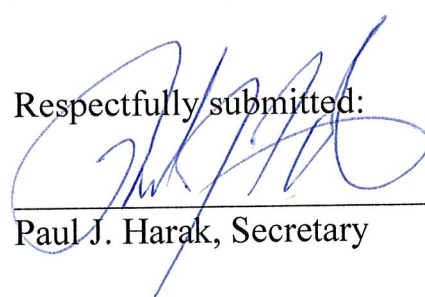
B. Personnel – Personnel issues were discussed by the Governors.

C. Emergency Custody Petitions – McGuire and Spitale discussed a recent problem regarding Emergency Custody Petitions. The forms, which were available to the general public, are no longer accessible. The Northampton County staff is sending people to the Dependency and Children and Youth Offices advising that those agencies would help. After discussion, it was determined that the Family Law and Pro Bono Committees would be put on notice to discuss and attempt to address this issue.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Backenstoe. The motion was seconded by Spitale. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Paul J. Harak, Secretary