

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
October 10, 2018**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, at River Grille - at 5:30 P.M. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 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:

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

Board Members:

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

Executive Director:

Mary Beth Leeson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 5, 2018 were circulated for review. Shay advised that the reference to “King Fish” should be “Kingfish”. Spitale made a motion to approve the minutes, as amended, and McGuire seconded the motion to approve the minutes, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

President O’Donnell reported on the following matters:

A. A letter was received from Lori Molloy, Acting Executive Director of North Penn Legal Services requesting a \$60,000.00 donation, as has been customary in the past. After discussion, Shay made a motion to recommend that the matter go on the Quarterly Association Meeting to approve the request and McGuire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. An email communication was received from Judge Robin Simpson thanking the Association for its hospitality at the dinner at The Sun Inn. The email also inquired if the Board of Governors would be interested in developing ties with the in house counsel for Lehigh, Lafayette and other institutions. O’Donnell advised that he would follow-up on that issue directly with Judge Simpson.

C. Communication was received from Gail C. Calderwood, Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, encouraging attendance at their winter meeting and conference to be held on January 18-20, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

D. Communication was received from Judge Panella thanking the Association for his invite to the 2018 Bench-Bar Conference and sending his regrets regarding his attendance.

E. Communication was received from Judge Zito thanking the Association for his invite to the 2018 Bench-Bar Conference and sending his regrets regarding his attendance.

F. Communication was received from Renée Cohn Jubelirer, Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania thanking the Association for the dinner at The Sun Inn.

G. Communication was received from Judge Mary Hannah Leavitt thanking the Association for the dinner at The Sun Inn.

H. A letter addressed to Michael Vargo, Esquire, was received by the Association, drafted by North Penn Legal Services requesting an updated appointment letter for Michael Vargo to extend his term on the North Penn Legal Services Board through February 28, 2021. Motion was made by Shay and seconded by McGuire to approve the drafting of a letter for the reappointment of Michael Vargo to extend his term on the Board of North Penn Legal Services through February 28, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Communication was received from Lehigh University requesting a donation to support their Mock Trial Team. After discussion, the matter was tabled to the next meeting.

J. A letter was received from North Penn Legal Services thanking the Association from the donation in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Raise a Glass to Justice fundraising event.

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 September 30, 2018 was \$1,395,606.88.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

A. The Bench Bar Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York was a success. Discussion was had about forming a committee for the next Bench Bar Conference.

B. The comments regarding the Commonwealth Court dinner at The Sun Inn were all positive.

C. The Peoples' Law School at Northampton Community College has been presented and will continue to be presented over the next few weeks and the program is receiving positive feedback.

D. Adriane K. Cousens, Member, is requesting participants to help the Service to the Public Committee's Book Buddies Program. Volunteers are needed to go into classrooms and read to the students. Members are encouraged to participate. Also, the cost of the books will be paid for out of the Community Grants line item of the Budget.

E. November 2, 2018 is Doughnut's Day at the Courthouse. All are encouraged to attend.

F. November 6, 2018 is the memorial services for all members who died in the past year at the Northampton County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M. in Courtroom No. 1. All are encouraged to attend.

G. Judge Freedberg is being honored by the Boy Scouts on November 15, 2018 at a breakfast at the Pomfret Club. The Association is getting at least one table and doing a full page in the Program. Anyone interested in attending the breakfast should contact Executive Director Leeson.

H. A personnel issue was raised by Executive Director Leeson and discussed by the Board.

V. PROGRAMS

Eyer is working on an ethics program with Attorney Miller, more details to follow.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Foundation Update - Santanasto advised that all previous plans discussed regarding the Foundation having an event at Arts Quest on May 1, 2019 have been confirmed. The YMCA Summer Program is thankful for being the beneficiary of the event. Sub-committees are forming and David Akers will hold a kicking clinic for children. He has also decided to cut his appearance fee in half.

B. By-Laws Committee Update – Article VIII of the By-Laws was redrafted by President O'Donnell and presented to the Board. The Board discussed including Magisterial District Judges; discussed the amendments as a whole; and Wilhelm made some edits to the document. A motion was made to accept Wilhelm's edits and not to include Magisterial District Judges within the revised policy. Motion was made by Clark and seconded by Spitale. The motion passed by a majority, 11-1, with Kulik in opposition.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lehigh University Mock Trial Request – Previously addressed in the Executive Director’s Report.

B. North Penn Legal Services Request – Previously addressed in the President’s Report.

C. North Penn Legal Services Board Appointment – Previously addressed in the President’s Report.

D. 2019 Proposed Budget – Spitale presented highlights of the 2019 proposed budget. The Board discussed various aspects of the budget. After discussion, Wilhelm made a motion to recommend to the Membership to approve the budget as discussed with changes and Shay seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Judge Simpson Lehigh University - Previously addressed in the President’s Report.

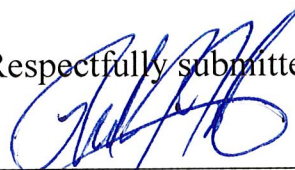
F. Building Committee – Harak advised that the Building Committee may meet in the future since an appraisal has been received for the Pomfret Club property.

G. The Association is participating in the Miracle League Trick or Treat on October 20, 2018 with the theme “Toy Story”.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wilhelm. The motion was seconded by McGuire. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Paul J. Harak, Secretary