

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
January 6, 2016**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, at The River Grille, 243 Northampton Street, Easton, Pennsylvania, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 5:51 p.m. by President Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly. On calling the meeting to order, President Lopiano-Reilly welcomed the newest members of the Board of Governors, Steven B. Molder and Rebecca Kulik, thanked all members of the Board of Governors, and encouraged participation at all Bar events. An Agenda for the meeting was circulated to the Members of the Board of Governors prior to the meeting. Members of the Board in attendance at the meeting were as follows:

ATTENDEES (as marked):

Officers:

<u> X </u>	Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly, President
<u> X </u>	Michael P. Shay, President-Elect
<u> X </u>	Daniel M. O'Donnell, Vice President
<u> </u>	Lisa Spitale, Treasurer
<u> X </u>	Robert Eyer, Secretary
<u> X </u>	Abraham P. Kassis, Past President

Board Members:

<u> X </u>	David M. Backenstoe
<u> X </u>	Paul J. Harak
<u> X </u>	Rebecca Kulik
<u> </u>	Maura Zajac McGuire
<u> X </u>	Steven B. Molder
<u> X </u>	Michael A. Santanasto
<u> X </u>	Scott Wilhelm

Executive Director:

<u> X </u>	Mary Beth Leeson
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I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting held December 2, 2015, were circulated for review. Backenstoe made a motion to approve the minutes. Kassis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Eyer, Molder, and Kulik abstained as not having attended the meeting held December 2, 2015.

II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

President Lopiano-Reilly reported on the following matters:

December 2, 2015, correspondence from David Rose, Appointed Crier for Easton American Guild of Town Criers, thanking the Bar for the time and consideration in reviewing the request to serve as sponsor for the American Town Crier Championships to be held at Riverside Amphitheater in Easton on Saturday, July 9, 2016.

December 2015, correspondence from President Wendy Born and Executive Director Debbie Zoller of the Jewish Family Service of the Lehigh Valley requesting contribution. No action was taken as the time to contribute was passed.

December 24, 2015, correspondence from Zachary J. Cohen, President of the Bar Association of Lehigh County, to Representative Gary Day, stating that the Bar Association of Lehigh County unanimously passed a resolution opposing proposed legal notices legislation. President Lopiano-Reilly requested Wilhelm to review the matter for determination as to whether the Northampton County Bar Association should take similar action.

Undated correspondence of Nikki Giannaras, Grade 4 Teacher/PTA Teacher Representative at Hanover Elementary School requesting contribution toward Guardian Lockdown Kits. No motion was made to approve such contribution. No further action was taken.

December 18, 2015, email correspondence from Barry M. Simpson of the Pennsylvania Bar Association to Pennsylvania bar executives regarding statement in opposition to American Bar Association's Law Connect pilot program launched by the American Bar Association in partnership with Rocket Lawyer. No action was taken.

December 16, 2015, email correspondence from Barry M. Simpson of the Pennsylvania Bar Association to Pennsylvania bar executives regarding the decision of Washington County Bar Association to terminate its unit county status with the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Discussion was held regarding the meaning and significance of unit county status and no action was suggested to change Northampton County Bar Association's unit county status.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Shay presented the Treasurer's Report which was previously circulated for review by members of the Board. Shay announced the total balance as follows for year end: \$1,282,084.75. The Treasurer's Report was accepted without amendment.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Leeson reported on the following matters:

The required Conflict of Interest form was circulated for signature by members of the Board of Governors.

The Summer Outing has been scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2016.

Appropriate check will be forwarded in the amount of \$300 to begin the \$300 monthly payment to Morgan Stanley to increase equity holdings, all consistent with prior vote of the Board of Governors.

Tickets remain for the Bar Association trip to the Philadelphia Flyers game January 16, 2016.

The annual meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association will take place on Thursday, January 21, 2016.

The March of 2016 Board of Governors meeting will be held Monday, February 29, 2016, at a location to be determined as a result of the unavailability of Leeson.

V. PROGRAMS

O'Donnell reported that the program for the annual meeting in January will consist of Dianna Sorrentino, Ph.D., security and intelligence professional from Lehigh Valley Paladin, LLC addressing risks of workplace violence. O'Donnell reported that the program for the March Quarterly meeting will be Ellen Freedman regarding law practice management including file management and file retention issues. O'Donnell further reported that the May Quarterly Association Meeting will again consist of the malpractice avoidance seminar. O'Donnell reported that programs for the balance of the year are being developed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

The final version of the personnel manual was addressed. There were no further comments. Shay made a motion to approve the final version of the personnel manual. Harak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Leeson reported on the Conference of County Bar Leaders scheduled for State College February 25 through February 27, 2016. Attendance was encouraged. Prompt registration and hotel reservation was encouraged.

President Lopiano-Reilly introduced discussion on improving relationships and contacts between Bar members. Discussion regarding ideas to improve relationships and contacts between Bar members took place. Discussion included improvements to the website with photographs of Bar members available on the members only site. Discussion also include development of a "buddy system" for new Bar members where members of the Board of

Governors would be assigned to a new Bar member to encourage that new Bar member to attend events and participate. There was also discussion regarding all members of the Board of Governors to actively encourage attendance and participation by all Bar members. There was also discussion regarding the use of name tags at Bar events and this was viewed favorably by the Board in order to encourage familiarity and comradery between the membership.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Backenstoe. The motion was seconded by Harak. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., at Valenca.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Eyer', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Eyer
Secretary