

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
November 2, 2016**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, at Kingfish, 3833 Freemansburg Avenue, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. by President Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly. 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:**

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| <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>  X  </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>  X  </u> | Maura Zajac McGuire   |
| <u>  X  </u> | Steven B. Molder      |
| <u>  X  </u> | Michael A. Santanasto |
| _____        | Scott Wilhelm         |

**Executive Director:**

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| <u>  X  </u> | Mary Beth Leeson |
|--------------|------------------|

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting held October 5, 2016, were circulated for review. Backenstoe made a motion to approve the minutes. Shay seconded the motion. The motion passed with O'Donnell abstaining.

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

President Lopiano-Reilly reported on the following communications:

Thank you card from Judge Paula A. Roscioli complimenting the planning and execution of the Bench Bar Conference and thanking the Bar for hosting.

October 11, 2016, correspondence from President Judge Stephen G. Baratta complimenting the Bench Bar Conference.

October 11, 2016, correspondence of Judge Craig A. Dally complimenting the Bench Bar Conference and thanking the Bar for hosting.

Thank you card from Heather Rizzotto-Stefanik of the Bar Association for paid medical leave.

October 17, 2016, correspondence from Josh Fulmer requesting a donation to Holiday Hope Chest. A motion was made by Eyer to donate the sum of \$1,000.00. Spitale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

October 11, 2016, correspondence of President Judge Stephen G. Baratta responding with respect to meeting space in the Courthouse and inviting further meeting to discuss options.

November 1, 2016, correspondence from Vice President O'Donnell enclosing correspondence of Suzanne Gorman, Executive Secretary, Department of Administration, Northampton County, regarding charitable donations in connection with the Dress Down Days. The matter was referred to Santanasto for further action.

October 10, 2016, correspondence from Anita D. Mitchell, Executive Director of Safe Harbor of Easton, seeking interest in having Safe Harbor present

“ARISE Program” for homeless and low income members of the community targeted on reducing outside distractions while promoting a focus on engagement, learning, and new skill development. The same correspondence further requested a donation to Safe Harbor of Easton. This was referred to the Foundation Board.

### **III. TREASURER’S REPORT**

Spitale presented the Treasurer’s Report which was previously circulated for review by members of the Board. Spitale announced the total balance as of October 31, 2016, as follows: \$1,372,137.02. The Treasurer’s Report was accepted and submitted for audit without amendment.

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

It was reported that the People’s Law School was scheduled to conclude with a final program on Thursday, November 3, 2016. This class was very well received by the attendees and the attendees enjoyed all of the speakers.

It was reported that appointments are continuing to be accepted for photographs for the new NCBA photo directory.

It was reported that the Bench Bar Conference was uniformly regarded as a success among those who attended. It was further reported that the next Bench Bar Committee is forming and participation was urged.

It was reported that the Holiday Hope Chest is concluding preparations for shopping and donations by Friday, November 4, 2016, were urged.

It was reported that Friday, November 4, 2016, is Donut Day in the Jury Lounge starting at 8:00 a.m. It was further reported that this date is also recognized as Love Your Lawyer Day. Attendance by all members was encouraged.

It was reported that members again participated in the Miracle League Trick or Treat and were awarded second place for the Star Wars costume design. Members Spitale, Kassis, Vargo, and Santee participated. Judge Sletvold also participated.

It was reported that the Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. Attendance was urged.

It was reported that the next Board of Governors meeting will be held December 7, 2016, at The Café in Bethlehem.

It was reported that there has been a continuing decrease in revenue from advertisements for Sheriff's Sales.

## **V. PROGRAMS**

O'Donnell reported that the program from the Quarterly Association meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2016, would be "Cloud Computing – Avoiding the Ethical Pitfalls" presented by Daniel J. Siegel, Esquire, President of Integrated Technology Services, LLC. O'Donnell was recognized for an excellent year of programs.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. NCBA Foundation Update.**

Santanasto provided a Foundation update, including a report that meeting of the Foundation Committee is scheduled for December 16, 2016. Discussion was held concerning a program or approach to obtain consistent donations from membership, including the possibility of encouraging donation to the Foundation on receipt of referral of any case from another Bar member. These efforts are directed at maximizing involvement in charitable contribution to the Foundation.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Executive Director Leeson reported on the fact that printer constraints for the Reporter occasioned the need for a change in the Reporter deadline. The current deadline of Tuesday at 12:00 noon will now be changed to the preceding Friday at 4:00 p.m.

The dispute with USI BBC Sponsorship level for the Bench Bar Conference was referred to Kassis to address.

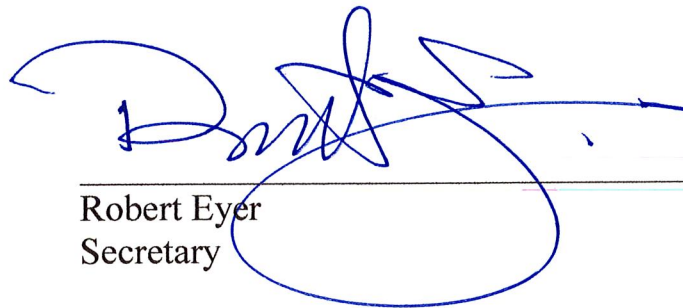
It was reported that the Bar Association in conjunction with Penn State Lehigh Valley will present a program entitled "Lehigh Valley Veterans: Their Story, The Challenges and How We Can Work Together" on Thursday, December 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus at 2809 Saucon Valley Road in Center Valley. Participation was encouraged.

President Lopiano-Reilly reported on a meeting that she was requested to attend with member John M. Morganelli. Member Morganelli indicated his intention to appear at the upcoming November Quarterly Association meeting in order to address issues relating to compensation and employment of law clerks.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eyer. The motion was seconded by Kulik. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. at The Café, 221 West Broad Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 18018.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Eyer  
Secretary