

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
February 4, 2015**

The Board of Governors Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at Third and Ferry Fish Market in Easton, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. by President Abraham P. Kassis. 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>	Abraham P. Kassis, President
<u> X </u>	Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, President Elect
<u> X </u>	Michael P. Shay, Vice President
<u> X </u>	Daniel M. O'Donnell, Treasurer
<u> X </u>	Lisa Spitale, Secretary
<u> </u>	Christopher M. Reid, Past President

Board Members:

<u> X </u>	David M. Backenstoe
<u> </u>	Robert Eyer
<u> X </u>	Paul J. Harak
<u> X </u>	Maura Zajac McGuire
<u> X </u>	Michael A. Santanasto
<u> X </u>	Karley Biggs Sebia
<u> X </u>	Scott M. Wilhelm

Executive Director:

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

Minutes of the previous meeting held on January 7, 2015, were circulated for review. The Minutes were accepted.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Kassis reported on the following matters:

- A. Card from the NCBA staff thanking the Board for the holiday bonus and their salary increase/raise

- B. Letter of January 5, 2015, from Victor E. Scomillio, congratulating Attorney Kassis on his election to President of the NCBA.
- C. Letter of January 12, 2015, from Priscilla B. Schueck , Chief Executive Officer of the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley, thanking the NCBA for the \$2,000.00 donation for the purchase of books for the MLK Day of Service program.
- D. Letter of November 14, 2014, from Pam Wallace, Program Coordinator of Project Child requesting that the NCBA be a sponsor for the 22nd Annual Conference for nurses, social workers, educators and other professionals titled “Preventing Intimate Partner Violence & The Effect Intimate Partner Violence Has On Children”. No action taken.

III. TREASURER’S REPORT

O’Donnell presented the Treasurer’s Report which was previously circulated for review by the Members of the Board. He announced the total balance as follows for January 31, 2015: \$1,278,549.87. The report was accepted without amendment.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. The NCBA is currently reorganizing its committees and scheduling committee meetings.
- B. The YLD met on 2/4/15 to discuss upcoming events. They anticipate participation in the Miracle League 2015 Trick or Treat event as well as the 2015 Holiday Hope Chest project.
- C. The Reception for the Court will be held on March 27, 2015. There are currently 2 Fifty (50) year honorees to be honored at this event.
- D. The mock trial regional finals will be held on a date to be determined at the Northampton County Courthouse. Once a date has been determined, volunteers will be needed to participate as jurors at this event.

V. PROGRAMS

Shay reported that he has already identified subject matter and scheduled the programs for the NCBA’s remaining three (3) quarterly meetings in 2015. On March 19, 2015, the program will be “Legends of the Bar I”. May 15, 2015, will be the malpractice avoidance seminar.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Several incidents of the unauthorized practice of law were brought to the attention of the Board involving CPAs and accountants. These matters will be brought to the attention of John Morganelli, Esquire, and/or Victor Scomillio, Esquire, chair of the unauthorized practice of law committee. .
- B. It has been 3 years since the long range planning committee drafted a long range plan. It was agreed that a meeting should be scheduled to update the long range plan at a date in 2015 to be determined.
- C. The Easton Area Middle School has requested members of the NCBA participate in their Conflict Resolution Program. Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly made a motion that the NCBA commit \$999 for training which would allow NCBA members to participate in the Easton Area Middle School Conflict Resolution Program. This \$999 shall encompass the fee for outside speakers to present the training along with waiving CLE fees for members, provided said members donate at least three (3) hours of their personal time to the aforementioned program. This fee shall not include the member's fee to obtain the necessary clearances, as each member participating in the aforementioned program shall be responsible for obtaining his or her own clearances. O'Donnell seconded.

After discussions of the potential liabilities of participation of the aforementioned program, the Board decided to table the issue to obtain additional information.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Kassis discussed the possibility of producing a quarterly membership newsletter. No action was taken.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Harak, and was seconded by Wilhelm. The MOTION was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on Wednesday, March March 4, 2015.

Respectfully submitted:



Lisa M. Spitale, Secretary