

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
July 17, 2014**

The Board of Governors Meeting was held on Thursday, July 17, 2014, at Louise Moore Park in Easton, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 9:19 a.m. by President Christopher M. Reid. 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>	Christopher M. Reid, President
<u> X </u>	Abraham P. Kassis, President Elect
<u> X </u>	Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Vice President
<u> X </u>	Michael P. Shay, Treasurer
<u> X </u>	Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary
<u> </u>	Stanley J. Margle, III, Past President

Board Members:

<u> X </u>	Robert Eyer
<u> </u>	Maura Zajac McGuire
<u> X </u>	Michael A. Santanasto
<u> X </u>	Karley Biggs Sebia
<u> X </u>	Lisa Spitale
<u> </u>	Thomas L. Walters
<u> X </u>	Joseph P. Yannuzzi

Executive Director:

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

Minutes of the previous meeting held on June 4, 2014, were circulated for review. A MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Lopiano-Reilly, and was seconded by Biggs Sebia. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Reid reported on the following matters:

A. Communications

- i. A thank you note from Alicia Langmayer of Liberty High School to those who participated in the recent Career Day event. No further action required.
- ii. A thank you letter from Nick Valletta, recipient of the 2014 Northampton County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Mock Trial Scholarship Award. No further action required.
- iii. Letter of June 9, 2014 from Alan L. Jennings, Executive Director of CACLV with a request for a contribution to the CACLV to support its ongoing mortgage foreclosure program efforts. The request will be discussed later at this meeting.
- iv. Letter of July 7, 2014 from Francis X. O'Connor, President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association with a reminder about the Wills for Veterans program. Reid will respond by letter that the NCBA has made its Members aware of the program and will leave it up to the individual Members whether they wish to participate.
- v. Letter of June 23, 2014, from Judge Paula A. Roscioli thanking the NCBA for the invitation to the Summer Outing, but sending her regrets. No further action required.
- vi. Materials from the Pennsylvania Bar Association regarding Platinum Leaders Banks, which pay a 1% yield on IOLTA accounts. The NCBA will send a broadcast fax to all Members advising them of the program and these banks.
- vii. Letter from Lehigh Valley Faces requesting donations. No further action required.
- viii. Email of June 9, 2014, from Reid to Leeson and Margle regarding his conversation with Gavin Hollihan, President of the Lehigh County Bar Association (LCBA), regarding their efforts to oppose Senate Bill 76 (which would impose a tax on legal services). Hollihan will inquire of the LCBA's legislative liaison Chuck Smith, Esquire, and will be back in touch regarding a potential joint effort by the NCBA and the LCBA to oppose the Bill.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Shay 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 June 30, 2014,

\$1,151,414.48. A MOTION was made by Spitale to approve the Treasurer's Report, and was seconded by Yannuzzi. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 2014. So far sixteen (16) Members indicate they will attend, and representatives from three (3) offices of the local legislators (Hahn, McNeil, and Simmons). There has been no response from State Senator Boscola.
- B. The 2015 NCBA budget is being prepared. Leeson reminded the Board that Judge Roscioli and Judge Beltrami are up for retention, and the Board agreed there should be money set aside for plebiscites regarding retention.
- C. Due to the recent flooding, Leeson has had the carpeting ripped up and removed from the basement of the NCBA office, and had the floors sanded. For the time being, there are throw rugs in place.
- D. There is an upcoming happy hour to support the holiday hope chest. It will be held at the Apollo Grille in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on Thursday, July 24, 2014, and will feature "celebrity bartenders" which will be four (4) Members of the NCBA. All tips provided to the bartenders will be retained by the NCBA and will go toward the annual Holiday Hope Chest program.
- E. The NCBA will host a bus trip to a Broadway show on September 14, 2014, called "It's Only a Play."
- F. The Annual Memorial Service will be held on September 23, 2014, in honor of Members that have passed during the year, Charles Smith and Jacob Kolb.
- G. The Annual NCBA Night at the Iron Pigs was held July 2, 2014 and was well attended.

V. PROGRAMS

Lopiano-Reilly reported that the program at the September NCBA Quarterly Meeting will be with regard to the Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers program. The program for the November NCBA Quarterly meeting will be a presentation by Judge Smith with regard to the federal court system.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. PA Senate Finance Committee – Sales Tax on Legal Services – Reid reported that he has written a letter to Senator Boscola, but received no response. Further, as reported above, he is waiting to hear back from LCBA President Hollihan with regard to perhaps asserting a joint effort between both Associations to oppose SB 76.
- B. Building update – Reid, along with Members Danny Cohen and Paul Harak, met with Member Justin McCarthy and the realty company that he is using, Summit Realty, with regard to the Bechtel Building. McCarthy and Summit voiced an interest in working with the NCBA to come up with a rental arrangement that might suit the NCBA. Harak provided copies of the proposed floor plans prepared for the NCBA to Summit about two (2) weeks ago, and anticipates receiving a response from Summit in the near future with regard to suggested arrangements for rent and fit-out work.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

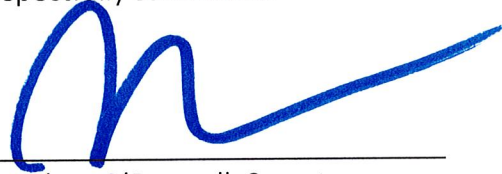
- A. Northampton County Reporter Committee Report – Leeson reported that the Northampton County Reporter Committee recently met to discuss potential changes to the advertising rates in the Reporter. The Committee produced a proposed amended advertising rate sheet, which was circulated to the Board for review. Following discussion of the proposed amendments, a MOTION was made by Kassis to approve the proposed as drafted by the Committee, and was seconded by Biggs Sebia. The MOTION was approved unanimously.
- B. Bench Bar Conference 2014 – A proposed schedule for the 2014 Bench Bar Conference was circulated. The schedule, and potential changes to it, were discussed. Further, the Board discussed the appropriate price for Members and young Members to attend, and there was a consensus that the NCBA should continue to subsidize Members' participation in the event. A MOTION was made by O'Donnell to set the price for attendance at the event at \$100.00 for young Members and \$150.00 for all other Members, and was seconded by Spitale. The MOTION was approved unanimously.
- C. Donation to CACLV – The Board discussed the above-referenced letter from Alan Jennings of CACLV. Reid gave a brief report on the mortgage foreclosure program, and CACLV's participation in it. NCBA has budgeted \$5,000 for 2014 contributions. \$4,500 remains in the line item at this time. Reid proposed a \$5,000 donation to CACLV per the request of Alan Jennings. A MOTION was made to release the current \$4,500 to CACLV, conditioned upon those funds being devoted to use for mortgage counselors in Northampton County, with MOTION being made by Reid and seconded by Spitale. The MOTION was approved unanimously. A second MOTION was made to increase the contribution line item by \$500, to be sent to CACLV, also conditioned upon the funds being used only to fund mortgage counselors within Northampton

County, the MOTION being made by Reid and seconded by Santanasto. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Kassis, and was seconded by Biggs Sebia. The MOTION was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2014.

Respectfully submitted:



Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary