# MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday, September 18, 2014

The Quarterly Association Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association was held on September 18, 2014, at the Best Western Conference Center, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

## I. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

The Quarterly Association Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association was called to Order by NCBA President Christopher M. Reid at 6:10 p.m. A quorum was present at the time the meeting was called to order. The following officers of the NCBA were present at the time the meeting was called to order:

Christopher M. Reid, President Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Vice President Michael P. Shay, Treasurer Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson was also in attendance.

# II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 8, 2014, Quarterly Association Meeting were distributed and reviewed. A MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Member John L. Obrecht, and was seconded by Member Ellen M. Kraft. That MOTION was approved unanimously by the Members in attendance at the meeting.

#### III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The following proposed new members appeared at the meeting for admission into membership of the NCBA: John J. Buckley, Jenna M. Fliszar, and Rachel R. Stevens.

After introduction, and identification of sponsors, a MOTION was made by President Reid and seconded by Member Daniel E. Cohen to admit the attorneys listed above into membership of the NCBA. That MOTION was unanimously approved by the Members in attendance at the meeting, and all proposed new members listed above were accepted into membership of the NCBA.

#### IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Memorial Service – September 23, 2014 in honor of Jacob Kolb and Charles Smith.

- B. NCBA 2014 Bench Bar Conference October 24-26, 2014 at the Seaview Resort outside Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- C. A copy of the Calendar of NCBA events through the end of the year was circulated to each Member.

#### V. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

#### VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Shay presented the Treasurer's Report which was previously circulated for review by the Members in attendance at the meeting. He announced the balance of each NCBA account, and announced the total balance of all accounts through August 31, 2014, is the sum of \$1,168,644.27. A MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Member Keene Jabbour and was seconded by Member Michael C. Deschler. The MOTION was approved unanimously by the Members in attendance at the meeting.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. YLD Member Richard E. Santee reported on the YLD's continued participation in the Volunteer Center's annual Holiday Hope Chest Program. The committee is collecting shoeboxes, and will be accepting monetary donations in order purchase toys and wrapping paper to fill and wrap the boxes for donation to needy children in the community.
- B. Bench Bar Relations Committee A revival of "Donut Day" will be held on November 14, 2014, at 8 a.m. in the Jury Lounge of the Courthouse, prior to the call of the Miscellaneous List. Coffee and donuts will be available. Members of the Bench and Bar are encouraged to attend. More information will follow in the Reporter.

# VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Building Update Reid reported that the Board of Governors has recommended ceasing discussions on renting space at the Bechtel Building in Bethlehem. After investigation and discussion, it does not appear it would be in the best interests of the NCBA to enter into a long-term lease of that space in light of the anticipated fit-out costs and rental rates. The NCBA will continue to be mindful of open spaces that may become available.
- B. PBA Legislative Alert SB76, which would impose a tax on attorney services, has come out of Senate Committee and will be up for vote before the Senate in the near future. Members are encouraged to stay aware of the status of the Bill and contact their representatives to voice opposition to the Bill.

## IX. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

- A. Nominations Report The Nominating Committee offered its recommended panel of candidates for the 2015 NCBA Officers and Board. The list was circulated to Members and will be voted upon at the November Quarterly Meeting of the NCBA.
- B. First Annual NCBA Charity Quoit Tournament Member Kerry S. Freidl announced that an NCBA Quoits Tournament will be held October 17, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion in Easton. Entry fee is \$50 per two-person team, and spectators are encouraged to donate \$10 each. All proceeds will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Program
  - A MOTION was made by Member Ellen Kraft and was seconded by Member Keene Jabbour for the NCBA to donate \$2,500 to the event for the Wounded Warrior Program. The MOTION was approved by the Members.
- C. Raise a Glass to Justice Reid reported that the event will be held November 20, 2014, from 6 9 p.m. at the rooftop bar at Melt at the Saucon Valley Promenade. A ticket costs \$50 per person and includes a beverage and appetizers. All proceeds will be donated to North Penn Legal Services (NPLS).

A MOTION was made by Member Joel M. Scheer and was seconded by Member Ellen M. Kraft for the NCBA to donate \$2,500 to the event for NPLS. The MOTION was approved by the Members.

Member Victoria A. Coyle spoke about the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) and an event she recently attended in Washington, DC. Coyle encouraged support for the LSC and NPLS, and spoke about new and creative ways that NPLS is reaching out to the community to provide representation and help.

#### X. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Member John T. Hand, and was seconded by Member Alexander O. Ward. That MOTION was unanimously approved by the members in attendance at the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary