

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
October 1, 2014**

The Board of Governors Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at Vintage, Morgan Hill, in Easton, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by President-Elect 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:**

_____	Christopher M. Reid, President
<u>  X  </u>	Abraham P. Kassis, President Elect
<u>  X  </u>	Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Vice President
_____	Michael P. Shay, Treasurer
<u>  X  </u>	Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary
<u>  X  </u>	Stanley J. Margle, III, Past President

**Board Members:**

<u>  X  </u>	Robert Eyer
<u>  X  </u>	Maura Zajac McGuire
<u>  X  </u>	Michael A. Santanasto
<u>  X  </u>	Karley Biggs Sebia
<u>  X  </u>	Lisa Spitale
<u>  X  </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 September 3, 2014, were circulated for review. A MOTION to approve the minutes was made by McGuire, and was seconded by Spitale. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

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

Kassis reported on the following matters:

A. Communications

- i. Letter of September 2, 2014, from Judge Franklin S. Van Antwerpen thanking the Board for its invitation to the Bench Bar Conference, but indicating that he is unable to attend. No additional action taken.
- ii. Letter of September 11, 2014, from Francis X. O'Connor, President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, thanking the NCBA for its donation of \$5,000.00 to CPAC. No additional action taken.
- iii. Letter of September 12, 2014, from Barry M. Simpson, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, thanking the NCBA for its donation of \$5,000.00 to CPAC. No additional 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 September 30, 2014: \$1,177,224.50. There were no objections or amendments to the report.

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

Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. The October 3, 2014, CLE at the NCBA on the recent amendments to Pennsylvania's Power of Attorney Law is sold-out, with sixty (60) attendees already signed-up. There is no space for additional attendees.
- B. Leeson is preparing the NCBA's 2015 calendar. The Board discussed whether to hold the July 2015 Board meeting on the morning of the NCBA Summer Outing, as was done in 2014, or to have a separate meeting. The consensus was to have the meeting on the day of the Summer Outing.
- C. Sixty (60) people are currently signed up to attend the 2014 Bench Bar Conference, including six (6) Court of Common Pleas judges, Judge James Hogan, and Judge Edward Smith.
- D. The first 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
- E. 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.

- F. Leeson received a response from Judge Paula Roscioli indicating that she would like the NCBA to include the question of her retention on a plebiscite to the Members.
- G. The NCBA YLD was nominated and won the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley's Spirit of Volunteerism Award for 2014. A dinner event will be held on November 5, 2014, at Blue from 5 to 7 p.m. That is the same night as the Board's November meeting. Following discussion on the matter, the Board agreed to hold its November 2014 meeting at 4 p.m. on the day of the November NCBA Quarterly Meeting, November 13, 2014, at the Best Western in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

A MOTION was made by O'Donnell, and was seconded by Spitale, to have the NCBA purchase a table (consisting of eight (8) seats) at the event and to invite various Members and Leeson, who have been active in the Holiday Hope Chest and other programs with the Volunteer Center. The MOTION passed unanimously.

- H. The YLD is again participating in the Volunteer Center's Holiday Hope Chest program for 2014 and is soliciting donations and shoe boxes.

## **V. PROGRAMS**

Lopiano-Reilly reported that 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. Spitale reported that she and Sebia met with a representative from the Easton Middle School to discuss whether NCBA Members would participate in the school's Conflict Resolution Program. Participants would have to pay about \$80 for a background check and participate in a training program, for which they could receive CLE credit. The obligation would require being available approximately twice per week for an hour to provide conflict resolution assistance for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders in 2015. After discussion, the Board agreed to present it to the Members to see if there is interest before taking any further action.
- B. Leeson circulated an amended draft of the NCBA 2015 Budget. A MOTION was made by Lopiano-Reilly, and was seconded by Yannuzzi, to forward the Budget to the Members for a vote at the November NCBA Quarterly Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously.

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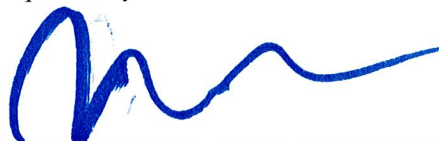
## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Leeson indicated that Member Alex Ward has sent an e-mail to the NCBA indicating that he is chairing the 2014 Holiday Hope Chest Program efforts for the NCBA YLD. He requested a donation from the NCBA in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the program. A MOTION was made by Spitale, and was seconded by Eyer, to approve a \$1,000.00 donation from the NCBA to the YLD Holiday Hope Chest Program for 2014. The MOTION passed unanimously.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Walters, and was seconded by Santanasto. The MOTION was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2014, at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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Daniel M. O'Donnell, Secretary