

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
April 3, 2013**

The Board of Governors Meeting for April 2013 was held on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at Sagra Bistro, 620 Main Street, Hellertown, Pennsylvania 18055. The meeting was called to order at 5:43 p.m. An agenda for the meeting dated April 3, 2013 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:**

- Stanley J. Margle, III, President
- Christopher M. Reid, President Elect
- Abraham P. Kassis, Vice President
- Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Treasurer
- Michael P. Shay, Secretary
- Victor E. Scomillio, Past President

**Board Members**

- Robert M. Donchez
- Robert Eyer
- Daniel M. O'Donnell
- Karley Biggs Sebia
- Lisa M. Spitale
- Thomas L. Walters
- Joseph P. Yanuzzi

**Executive Director**

- Mary Beth Leeson

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the previous meeting on March 6, 2013, were circulated and reviewed. A **MOTION** to approve the minutes was made by President Elect Christopher M. Reid, and seconded by Member Robert Eyer. The **MOTION** to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

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

President Margle gave the following report:

- a. President Margle reviewed a letter sent by President Judge McFadden. In that letter President Judge McFadden indicated that Judge Paula Roscioli will be the court representative on the Bench/Bar Conference Committee for the Bench Bar Conference scheduled for 2014.
- b. The NCBA received a thank you letter from Judge Susan Peikes Gantman, Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, thanking the association for the "beautiful dinner" and asking the Executive Director to thank the officers of the association for her.
- c. Judge Jack A. Panella sent a letter dated March 11, 2013 to President Margle thanking the NCBA on behalf of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania for the planning of the Superior Court's session at the Northampton Community College, as well as the Court dinner at Moscato's Tuscan Trattoria.
- d. The Service to the Public Committee report on behalf of Member Karley Biggs Sebia was presented during the President's Report. The report described possible programs discussed at a committee meeting held on March 22, 2013.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly presented the Treasurer's Report which was previously circulated for review by the Members of the Board. The account balances were described by the Treasurer. The total account balance as of March 31, 2013, was \$1,031,389.86. A **MOTION** was made by Vice President Abraham P. Kassis to approve the Treasurer's Report. A second to that Motion was made by Board Member Lisa M. Spitale. The **MOTION** to approve the Treasurer's report was passed and approved unanimously.

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

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson reviewed various items with the Board of Governors during her report.

- a. The Executive Director indicated that we have in excess of \$300,000.00 in accounts with National Penn Bank. It was suggested that a portion of those account funds be transferred to Lafayette Ambassador Bank. The figure of \$125,000.00 was suggested. There was no formal Motion made with regard to this suggestion.
- b. The upcoming annual Reception for the Court scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2013 was discussed. There are 164 attendees for the reception, which is a relatively high number. The Executive Director also reminded the Members of the Board that the Young Lawyers' Reception prior to the Annual Reception for the Court would take place at 6:00 p.m.
- c. There was a report concerning a Zone 2 Young Lawyers' Caravan involving the Lehigh Valley Zoo scheduled for June 22, 2013.
- d. The issue of payment for NCBA events on behalf of the Judges' law clerks was brought to the attention of the Board. The NCBA pays for attendance by the law clerks to the Annual Reception for the Court. With regard to the Summer Outing, that issue has to be addressed on an annual basis. Without a formal Motion it was agreed that the NCBA would pay for attendance by the law clerks to the 2013 Summer Outing.
- e. The Executive Director wished to have a formal notation in the Minutes for the Board of Governors' Meeting on April 3, 2013, that Member Candy Barr Heimbach will receive the Lynette Norton Award at the Pennsylvania Bar Association Annual Conference on May 9, 2013 at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown Hotel. The award will be presented by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession during the Commission's 20th Annual Conference Program entitled "You and the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession: Opportunities and Challenges." The Norton Award which member Candy Barr Heimbach will be receiving was created in memory of Lynette Norton, a founding member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession. The award is designed to recognize and encourage female attorneys who excel in litigation skills and who are devoted to mentoring female lawyers.

## V. PROGRAMS

Vice President Abraham P. Kassis indicated that he is working on a program for the fall quarterly meeting of the NCBA. He will give an updated report at a subsequent Board of Governors meeting.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was an extensive discussion concerning the location for the Soiree. This issue was first addressed at the Meeting of the Board of Governors on February 6, 2013 when it was ascertained that the Soiree has been scheduled at the Riverview Country Club and the owner and developer of the Riverview Country Club had filed lawsuits against current members of the NCBA. Vice President Abraham P. Kassis, and Member Carly Biggs Sebia, have checked on alternative sites for the Soiree, including the Crayola Factory in Easton, and the Crayola gallery at the Banana Factory in Bethlehem. The proposed alternative site which received the most consideration was the outdoor dining area of the Blue restaurant. Vice President Abraham P. Kassis discussed information he had received about the charges for the Soiree at Blue. President Elect Christopher M. Reid made a **MOTION** that we hold the Soiree at the Blue outdoor patio dining facility. Member Joseph P. Yanuzzi seconded the **MOTION**. There was discussion concerning the fact that we could lose our deposit of \$500.00 previously submitted to Riverview Country Club. President Elect Christopher M. Reid indicated that he would personally reimburse the Association the sum of \$500.00 for the lost deposit, if we cancelled the event at Riverview Country Club, and held it at Blue in accord with his **MOTION**. Following further discussion, a vote was taken, and the **MOTION** failed.

Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano Reilly then made a **MOTION** that we hold the Soiree at Riverview Country Club, and that we review the matter in two years to determine if there should be a change of location. Member Lisa M. Spitale made a second to the **MOTION**. This **MOTION** also failed.

A final **MOTION** on the topic of the location of the Soiree was made by President Elect Christopher M. Reid. He made a **MOTION** that we look further into the cost of Blue for the Soiree. Member Daniel M. O'Donnell made a second to this **MOTION**. This Motion was unanimously approved.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Pennsylvania Bar Association has a new Admittee Conference for the Young Lawyers' Division. The PBA pays for one young lawyer from each county bar association to attend the conference. A **MOTION** was made by Member Daniel M. O'Donnell to have Peter McEvoy be the young lawyer representative for the Northampton County Bar Association at the

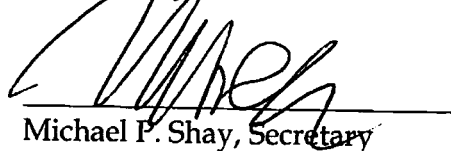
new Admittee Conference. This **MOTION** was seconded by President Elect Christopher M. Reid. This **MOTION** was unanimously passed.

- b. A packet of information concerning the NCBA Fee Dispute Committee was provided to the Board of Governors by NCBA Member Alan D. Williams, III who succeeded NCBA Member Herbert G. Litvin as the Chairperson of the NCBA Fee Dispute Committee. The packet of information suggested new procedures for the Fee Dispute Committee. Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson advised the Board that there are guidelines in the NCBA Bylaws. She suggested that the Bylaws would have to be amended and changed if new procedures for the Fee Dispute Committee were adopted. It was decided that the matter would be referred to the Bylaws Committee for review to determine if there should be a change in the NCBA Fee Dispute Procedures and Bylaws.
- c. President Elect Christopher M. Reid brought up the subject of providing lunch for golfers at the Summer Outing. The golf is scheduled for Northampton Country Club. President Elect Christopher M. Reid indicated that for an additional \$10.00 charge per golfer, the Northampton Country Club would provide lunch for golfers at the club. President Elect Christopher M. Reid suggested that the NCBA subsidize the \$10.00 per golfer cost of the lunch. A motion was made by President Elect Reid for the budget for the Summer Outing to be increased by the sum of \$320.00 to provide lunch for golfers at the Northampton Country Club the day of the Summer Outing. This **MOTION** was seconded by member Robert Eyer and upon vote of the Members of the Board of Governors was approved.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

At the conclusion of business at the Board of Governors meeting for April 3, 2013, a **MOTION** was made by Secretary Michael P. Shay to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Abraham P. Kassis provided a second to that **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Governors will take place on Wednesday, May 1, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael P. Shay, Secretary