MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING July 31, 2013

The meeting, held at the Northampton County Bar Association Office in Easton, was called to order by President, Stanley J. Margle, III, at 8:06 AM.

ATTENDEES (as marked): Officers Χ Stanley J. Margle, III, President _X_ Christopher M. Reid, President Elect X Abraham P. Kassis, Vice President __X Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Treasurer Michael P. Shay, Secretary Victor E. Scomillio, Past President **Board Members** X Lisa M. Spitale <u>X</u> . Robert Eyer X Karly Biggs Sebia ___X Thomas L. Walters ___X Joseph Yannuzzi Robert M. Donchez Daniel O'Donnell X **Executive Director**

Mary Beth Leeson

X

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Reid to approve the Minutes from the June 5, 2013 Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Bob Eyer and unanimously approved by the Board.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stanley J. Margle, III, gave the following report:

- Previously our Association, via a letter over President Stanley J. Margle's signature, communicated to Senator Greenleaf, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, our Association's support of the nomination of Superior Court President Judge, Correale Stevens to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. A letter was received dated July 15, 2013 from Judge Stevens to the Officers and Members of the Northampton County Bar Association thanking the Association for its support of his nomination to the Supreme Court.
- -A letter was received from Michael Mohn of the Deputy Sheriffs' Association, soliciting donations for its upcoming convention. The motion was made by President Elect, Christopher Reid, and seconded by Daniel O'Donnell to provide the Deputy Sheriffs' Association with a donation of \$100.
- -A thank you was received from retired Bar Association employee, Gloria Robison, for our retirement gift.
- -A thank you note was received from Lauren Paulis, one of the children who participated in the My Favorite Places in America drawing contest.
- -A thank you was received from Elviria LaBarre for the memorial sent to Halifax Hospice Center in memory of Elviria's husband, deceased member, Mark Refowich.
- -Likewise, a thank you note was received from Halifax Health Hospice for our memorial on behalf of Mark Refowich.
- -Anticipating the upcoming criminal sentence of one of our members, Chrystyna Fenchen Hawrylak, which will likely result in imprisonment, the Bar Association was contacted by President Judge Baratta to request that we consider instituting the procedure whereby we request that the Court appoint a conservator to handle the winding down of Attorney Fenchen Hawrylak's practice in the event that she does not arrange for a private attorney to take over her files. The Board unanimously agreed that when the sentence takes place, we will communicate our request to the Court that a conservator be appointed.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly gave the Treasurer's Report to the Board. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted was made by Christopher Reid and seconded by Joseph Yannuzzi. The report was approved unanimously by the Board.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented the following:

- A. A reminder to all Members that the Memorial Service for deceased members of the Bar Association will occur on September 24, 2013. It is anticipated that Elviria LaBarre will be here in memory of her deceased husband, Mark Refowich. It is strongly suggested that all members of the Board and as many members of the Bar Association, as possible, attend the ceremony.
- B. On June 22, 2013, the Zone II YLD Caravan hosted the day at the Lehigh Valley Zoo. Over 100 people attended and the wolf feeding was apparently a big success and highly educational.
- C. On July 9, 2013, the Iron Pigs game was also a success. President Stan Margle threw out the first pitch, which was reportedly a strike down the center of the plate. All members of the Association and families and friends who attended had a good time.
- D. The Summer Outing was again held at Louise Moore Park on July 18, 2013. All members who attended had a very good time and we thank the Bar Association staff for all of their hard work.
- E. Mary Beth confirmed that the Board of Governors took a vote in July, 2013 via email communication concerning the purchase of liquor liability insurance at a cost of \$575 for the Summer Outing. The vote via electronic communication was 12 Board members in favor and 1 Board member not responding. The liquor liability insurance was purchased prior to the Summer Outing. Discussion was held directing Executive Director Leeson to continue to purchase liquor liability insurance for any events at which the Association intends to serve alcohol.
- F. The Service to the Public Committee invited Northampton County Superintendents and Curriculum Supervisors to a breakfast meeting at the Hotel Bethlehem. The purpose was to share information on what programs we are offering to the schools. In addition, there was discussion about any suggested programs the schools might need to help support their current curriculum. It was a very productive meeting and those who attended were very appreciative and will be contacting us for attorneys to go into the schools.

- G. A suggestion was made that we use only a P.O. Box rather than the Bar Association's physical address for our ARIS Program. It was unanimously agreed that for the safety of our staff this would be a prudent measure. Board Member, Dan O'Donnell, has agreed to provide a revised Local Rule with the new post office box address for presentation to the Court so that an Order can be entered changing the ARIS Program address and so that all future Notices to Plead will contain the correct post office address.
- H. There was a reminder that the Miracle League Softball Game is scheduled for August 25, 2013 and all are requested to attend. Again, Executive Director Leeson will obtain a liquor liability insurance policy for that day.

V. PROGRAMS

There were no reports on programing.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Joseph Yannuzzi and seconded by Karly Biggs Sebia for the Bar Association to donate \$999 to the Miracle League Softball Game being held on August 25, 2013. This donation will help purchase items for the game including, but not limited to, tee shirts and food. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Breakfast with the Legislators was held on July 23, 2013 at the Hotel Bethlehem. It was reportedly an important and successful event. Two of the items discussed at that breakfast were as follows:
- (1) The Pennsylvania Bar Association supports an attempt to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to increase the judicial mandatory retirement age from 70 to 75. This measure has already passed the House of Representatives. The Board authorized President Stan Margle to write a letter to our Lehigh Valley Senators supporting the amendment which has been adopted by the House.
- (2) There is an attempted amendment to the law that would cause lawyers to become mandatory reporters of child abuse. This measure has already passed the House of Representatives. The Pennsylvania Bar Association supports the measure provided that a simultaneous amendment is made to the Professional Code of Conduct, which would protect lawyers from breaches of confidentiality in instances where lawyers must report child abuse. There was some discussion concerning whether or not the Northampton County Bar Association should support such a measure. President Stan Margle agreed that he would draft and circulate a letter to the Board for further discussion.

B. Christopher Reid reported that he was approached by Lehigh County Bar Association members and a Lehigh County judge about, again, holding a joint Northampton County and Lehigh County Bar Association dinner in 2014. It was proposed that this would be dinner with CLE credits and, perhaps, the keynote speaker would be the first female African American Federal Judge Petrese Tucker. The Board agreed to have the dinner with both Associations.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Lisa Spitale and seconded by Joseph Yannuzzi, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly, Treasurer

Secretary of the Meeting