

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
November 6, 2013**

The Board of Governors Meeting for November was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at Sagra Bistro in Hellertown, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m. 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:

- ☒ 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. Scmillio, 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 held on October 2, 2013, were circulated and reviewed. A **MOTION** to approve the minutes was made by President Elect Christopher M. Reid. That **MOTION** was seconded by Member Lisa M. Spitale. The **MOTION** to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

President Stanley J. Margle, III, included the following in his report:

A. Thank You Note from Regina Mugavero

A thank you note was received from Regina Mugavero for the gift given to her by the NCBA upon her retirement from the Court Administrator's Office. She expressed thanks for the very generous gift presented to her at the September Quarterly Meeting of the NCBA.

B. PBA President Correspondence

The NCBA received a letter dated October 25, 2013, from PBA President Forest N. Myers thanking the association "for the generous contribution of \$5,000.00 made to support the legislative efforts of the PBA."

C. CACLV Correspondence-October 21, 2013

Alan L. Jennings, Executive Director, of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley sent a letter dated October 21, 2013 to the NCBA expressing thanks to the Association for its continued support in the amount of \$3,000.00. That letter expressed thanks for the contribution to the effort by the CACLV to protect homeowners from foreclosure.

D. Letter from President Judge Stephen G. Baratta Concerning Statewide Policies for Access to Electronic Records

President Stephen G. Baratta sent a letter to President Stanley J. Margle, III, Esquire dated October 8, 2013, advising him that the Supreme Court has adopted state-wide policies for access to electronic records under its case management system. The letter stated that a committee "composing of judges and attorneys has been appointed" to develop implementation of the policy.

E. Notice to Defend Amendment

A letter dated October 4, 2013 was sent from President Judge Stephen G. Baratta to Board Member Daniel M. O'Donnell, Esquire concerning the Notice to Defend. That letter enclosed a copy of Administrative Order 2013-6.

F. Ellen M. Kraft, Esquire Retirement as Master in Domestic Relations

President Stanley J. Margle, III, Esquire announced that Ellen M. Kraft, Esquire will be retiring as a Domestic Relations Master effective December 31, 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. She announced the account balances of the various NCBA accounts. The total deposits on account as of October 31, 2013 is the sum of \$1,085,229.75. A **MOTION** was made by Past President Victor E. Scomillio to approve the Treasurer's Report. That **MOTION** was seconded by Member Joseph P. Yanuzzi. The **MOTION** was unanimously approved.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented her report which included the following items.

A. Peoples Law School

The Peoples Law School for this year at Northampton Community College has been completed.

B. Amicus Soiree

The Amicus Soiree took place on Friday October 18, 2013 at the Riverview Country Club in Easton, Pennsylvania. Some disapproval was expressed by members of the NCBA in attendance at the event concerning the drink policy of the Riverview Country Club.

C. Liquor Liability Insurance

The Executive Director reported that there would be a meeting with insurance agent Tim Kean on November 7th to discuss our options with regard to providing liquor liability insurance coverage for NCBA events.

D. YLD happy hour fundraiser

A YLD happy hour has been scheduled for Friday November 15 at McCarthy's in Bethlehem. It is a fundraiser for the Holiday Hope Chest Project.

E. Mock Trial Program

It has been proposed that the Members of the Board of Governors serve as the jury for the Mock Trial finals in Northampton County with President Judge Baratta presiding. No date has yet been set for next year.

V. PROGRAM

The Quarterly Association Meeting Program for November 14, 2013 is "Meeting our Ethical Obligations Under Rule 6.1: Pro Bono Opportunities in Northampton County".

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Miracle League Trick-or-Treat Booth

Board Member Lisa M. Spitale gave a report concerning the Miracle League Halloween Trick-or-Treat Night. Approximately 200 children attended the event. Vice President Abraham P. Kassis gave credit to the success of the event on behalf of the NCBA to Board Member Lisa M. Spitale.

B. NCBA Investment Policy Update

Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly indicated that there would be another meeting in December of the committee responsible for implementation of the NCBA Investment Policy.

C. Long Range Planning-Building Update

Past President Victor E. Scmillio, Esquire gave a report concerning long range planning with regard to the NCBA building. NCBA Board Member Paul Harak will give a report at the upcoming NCBA November Quarterly Meeting concerning the proposed renovation and expansion of the existing building. He will be presenting a power point program depicting the proposed renovation and expansion plans involving the current building.

There was also discussion concerning the acquisition of the building owned by NCBA Member John R. Vivian, Jr., Esquire at 831 Lehigh Street in Easton, Pennsylvania. Attorney Vivian has indicated that his building is for sale. Past President Victor E. Scmillio, along with the Executive Director and other Members have viewed the building. The building would need a lot of work to fill our needs. It does have additional parking in the rear of the building in a parking lot. The consensus among the Members of the Board in attendance at the meeting was the acquisition of the building is worth considering. A MOTION was made by President Elect Christopher M. Reid to hire "Nu Space Cor Management" to inspect the building and prepare rough drawings and cost estimates for development and renovations of Attorney Vivian's building for use by the NCBA. That MOTION was seconded by Past President Victor E. Scmillio. The MOTION was unanimously approved with one abstention by Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano-Rielly.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Statements

A copy of the Independent Auditor's Report prepared by Abraham, Borda, Corvino, Butz, LaValva & Co. P.C. was presented to each Member of the Board at the meeting. The Opinion of the Independent Auditors was that the financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2012 presented fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and assets of the NCBA as of December 31, 2012.

B. 2016 Bench Bar Conference

Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly indicated that consideration is being given to Bedford Springs for the 2016 Bench Bar Conference.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made by President Elect Christopher M. Reid. That **MOTION** was seconded by Member Lisa M. Spitale. The **MOTION** to adjourn was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m. The Board of Governors will convene again for the next Board Meeting on December 4, 2013, at the Cherubina Restaurant on Northampton Street, in Easton, Pennsylvania beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael P. Shay, Secretary