

**MINUTES OF THE
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
November 14, 2013**

A Quarterly Association Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association was held on November 14, 2013, at the Best Western Conference Center, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

The Quarterly Association Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2013, was called to Order by NCBA President Stanley J. Margle, III at 6:07 p.m. A quorum was present when the meeting was called to order. The following officers of the NCBA were present at the time the meeting was called to order:

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

After calling the meeting to order, President Margle welcomed and acknowledged the Judges who were in attendance at the meeting, including President Judge Stephen G. Baratta, Judge Anthony S. Beltrami, Judge Michael J. Koury, Jr., Honorable Robert A. Freedberg, Judge Emil A. Giordano , and Judge-Elect Jennifer R. Sletvold.

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson was also in attendance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 19, 2013 NCBA Quarterly Meeting were distributed and reviewed. A Motion to approve the minutes was made by Member John L. Obrecht, Esq. That MOTION was seconded by Member Paul M. Schaffer, Esq. The 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: Lance M. Gordon, Esq., Courtney Hair, Esq., Katharine Kurnas, Esq., Caitlin Lutz, Esq., Julie M. Macomb, Esq., Rachel Nguyen, Esq., Jason D. Schiffer, Esq. and Rebecca L. Trela, Esq.

After introduction, a MOTION was made by Member John L. Obrecht, Esq. to admit the attorneys listed above into membership of the NCBA. That MOTION was seconded by Member Gregory R. Reed, Esq. The MOTION was unanimously approved and all proposed new members listed above were accepted into membership of the NCBA .

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ceremonial Admissions will take place on Friday, December 6, 2013 for new members of the Bar of the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County. The form for admission is available through the Court Administrator's office.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you letter was received from the PBA for the \$5,000.00 contribution of the NCBA to the PBA PAC.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Esq., reviewed the printed Treasurer's Report which was available for review at the meeting. The balances in the NCBA accounts through October 31, 2013 were noted. The total deposits in all accounts as of that date are \$1,085,229.75.

Member Ronald W. Shipman, Esq. made a MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report. That MOTION had multiple seconds. The MOTION was approved by the membership in attendance at the meeting.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Member Paul J. Harak, Esq., made a presentation on behalf of the Long Range Planning Committee with regard to proposals concerning the NCBA office building.

Initially, Attorney Harak gave a power point presentation concerning the proposed architectural plans and drawings for the renovation and expansion of the existing NCBA building. The range of costs for the renovation and expansion of the

existing building was from 1.2 million to 1.5 million. Attorney Harak indicated that in his opinion this plan was not feasible.

Attorney Harak then stated that the Long Range Planning Committee was considering a potential purchase of the building owned by member John R. Vivian, Jr., Esq., located at 831 Lehigh Street in Easton, Pennsylvania. That building is across the street from the existing NCBA building. That building has a parking lot with 20 parking spaces. He advised the membership that purchase of that building and renovations of the building to suit the NCBA purposes could work. The Board of Governors had authorized proceeding with the investigation of the acquisition and renovation of Attorney Vivian's building.

Members of the Association in attendance at the meeting expressed some opinions and comments about the potential acquisition of the Attorney Vivian building. The comments included observations that the second and third floor of the building would need work. There were also comments concerning whether other sites had been considered, and whether the use of the jury lounge for CLE had been considered. The consensus at the meeting was that the NCBA should proceed with its investigation of the potential purchase of Attorney Vivian's building. At the conclusion of the presentation, thanks were expressed to Member Paul J. Harak, Esq., for his presentation and work.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Initially it was reported that there was no old business to be considered at the meeting. However, the agenda did contain a reference for a report from the Holiday Hope Chest project. Prior to adjournment, a report was given concerning the progress of the Holiday Hope Chest project. In addition to thanking Members for their contributions, it was pointed out that donations could still be made through early the following week. It was also announced that there would be a happy hour with the Young Lawyers Division concerning the Holiday Hope Chest project on Friday at Granny McCarthy's in Bethlehem.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. NCBA New Officers and New Board Members

The nominations report was previously presented at the September 19, 2013 Northampton County Bar Association quarterly meeting. A MOTION was made to accept the nominations report and to elect the proposed new members and officers for 2014. That MOTION was made by Board Member Joel M. Scheer, Esq.; there were multiple seconds. The MOTION passed and the following Members of the NCBA have been elected to the following positions:

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

Maura Zajac McGuire, Esq., Member of the Board of Governors
Michael A. Santanasto, Esq., Young Lawyer Member of Board of Governors

B. NCBA Budget

The proposed budget for 2014 was presented for approval by Treasurer Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly, Esq. A question was presented and discussion ensued, concerning the omission from the budget of an allocation for another North Penn Legal Services contribution. After several proposals for a contribution to North Penn Legal Services during the calendar year 2014, consideration of parliamentary issues concerning the form of the motions, seconds, and amendments to motions, and discussion whether this was a matter to be included in the NCBA budget, the following MOTION made by Board Member Joann Kelhart, Esq., and seconded by Augustine C. Concilio, Esq., was presented to the membership: That the NCBA donate \$60,000.00 to North Penn Legal Services from the Association's reserves.

The MOTION was approved by the membership in attendance at the meeting on November 14, 2013.

After discussion concerning the contribution to North Penn Legal Services from the NCBA reserves, a MOTION was made by Member Barbara L. Hollenbach, Esq. to approve the budget. That MOTION was seconded by Member Ellen M. Kraft, Esq. The MOTION was unanimously approved by the membership.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment, outgoing President Stanley J. Margle, III, thanked the NCBA for the opportunity to serve as its president. Member Ellen M. Kraft, Esq., expressed thanks to President Margle for his service to the NCBA.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Member Allan B. Goodman, Esq. That MOTION was seconded by Member Augustine C. Concilio, Esq. The MOTION was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Following adjournment and dinner, the Program entitled "Meeting Our Ethical Obligations Under Rule 6.1: Pro Bono Opportunities in Northampton County" was presented.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael P. Shay, Secretary