

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING  
February 1, 2012**

The meeting, held at the Marblehead Grille in Easton, was called to order by President, Victor E. Scomillio at 5:45 PM.

**ATTENDEES (as marked):**

**Officers**

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

**Board Members**

  X   Lisa M. Spitale  
  X   Michael P. Shay  
  X   Joseph Yanuzzi  
  X   Thomas L. Walters  
  X   Jessica Frisch Moyer  
  X   Robert M. Donchez  
  X   Matthew C. Potts

**Executive Director**

  X   Mary Beth Leeson

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Kerry Freidl to approve the Minutes from the January 4, 2012 Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Jessica Moyer and unanimously voted upon by the Board.

## **II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Board was advised of the following correspondence that was received since the last meeting:

-A thank you note from the Northampton County Bar Association staff for their raises and Christmas bonuses.

-A letter from the Northampton County Community College paralegal program seeking our customary award for the 2012 Paralegal Program and inviting a representative of the Board of Governors to the award ceremony on April 26, 2012. We will continue with the award at \$500 and President Scomillio will attend the awards ceremony on behalf of the Bar Association.

-A thank you letter from CACLV for the donation from the Bar Association.

-A letter to Mary Beth Leeson from Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc., asking the Northampton County Bar Association to sponsor the awards dinner they are hosting on March 27, 2012. The Board decided not to sponsor the event.

-A thank you note from Vicki Coyle, Esquire, thanking the Bar Association for our donation to North Penn Legal Services.

-An email from the Erie County Bar Association enclosing a memorandum dated January 30, 2012 to Pennsylvania's ABA Delegates expressing concern over the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (See New Business).

## **III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Abe Kassis gave the Treasurer's Report to the Board. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted was made by Stanley Margle and seconded by Christopher Reid. The report was approved unanimously by the Board.

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

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented the following:

-A reminder that the CCBL Conference is being held in February in Lancaster.

-A reminder that the Annual Reception for the Court is scheduled to be held on March 30, 2012. This year's honorees will include Attorneys Richard Schubert, Hank Barnett, and Sam Litzenberger.

-Mary Beth received a letter from the Lehigh County Bar Association asking if we wanted to have a joint event between Lehigh County and Northampton County to attend an Iron Pigs' game this summer. Mary Beth responded that we have already booked 4 suites for June, 2012. Discussion was held over possible Lehigh County and Northampton County joint bar events or field trips and it was decided that we will not include Lehigh County in the Iron Pigs event in June, 2012. However, we will consider inviting Lehigh County to our other sporting events provided that any subsidy for those events is then equally shared between the two bar associations.

-The Northampton County Bar Association is going to Broadway! Mary Beth reported that she has obtained tickets for the June 9, 2012 production of Harvey. More details will follow.

-The Northampton County Bar Association Young Lawyers' Division was honored for their Holiday Hope Chest Project through the Lehigh Valley Volunteer Center. Specifically, they received "The Someone Special Award" and received a radio mention for this community service award.

-Mary Beth raised the issue over the copier in the Law Library. Currently, because of the asbestos problem, no one can access the copier. The copier is owned by the Northampton County Bar Association. It costs us approximately \$800 per year to maintain and we receive approximately \$300 per year in revenue from the copier. Up until this point, the County has been supplying the paper for the copier (See New Business for discussion on same).

## **V. PROGRAMS**

No discussion was held concerning programs.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

-Michael Shay handed out the Northampton County Law Clerk Dues Resolution that he prepared. A motion was made by Jessica Moyer to approve the Resolution as written. The motion was seconded by Lisa Spitale. Discussion was held and the Resolution was passed unanimously.

-President Scomillio confirmed that we, as a Board, voted unanimously via email to decline to sponsor the Resolution of the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce requesting the appointment of a Federal Judge from the "Lehigh Valley." Rather, President Scomillio responded to the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce in this way:

he respectfully declined the invitation and invited the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce to support our request that a Federal judge be appointed from Northampton County. President Scomillio has heard no response to this request from the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce.

-The bar membership survey created in consultation with the American Bar Association is completed. We have agreed to send the survey via email list serve to all members who have provided email addresses to the Bar Association. In addition, the announcement concerning the survey will be faxed to every member of the bar inviting bar-wide participation. Again, the survey deals with Long Range Planning for the Bar Association in three major categories including the physical facility/building, membership involvement, and potential new revenue streams should we lose the revenue from the Northampton County Reporter.

-As part of the services provided by the American Bar Association to us for Long Range Planning (as reflected in the survey discussed above), the ABA will assist us, as a Board, with a retreat. We have chosen Friday, June 29, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM for the retreat day. All board members are asked to mark their calendars.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

-Discussion was held concerning the Law Library's asbestos problem. In addition to the copier (raised by Mary Beth Leeson in her report, above), the new furniture purchased by the Northampton County Bar Association may be unusable. Query whether these items are covered under the County's insurance policy. Mary Beth Leeson will begin to investigate that issue. It was decided that in the event the copier is not safe due to the asbestos problem and even without County insurance coverage, the Bar Association will investigate providing a new copier to the Law Library as a public service and as a service to our members.

-Discussions continued concerning the memorandum dated January 30, 2012 to the Pennsylvania ABA Delegates from Pennsylvania's Conference of County Legal Journals. A motion was made by Christopher Reid and seconded by Joe Yannuzzi to send a letter from our Bar Association to the ABA Delegates from Pennsylvania supporting the Memorandum from Pennsylvania's Conference of County Legal Journals dated January 30, 2012.

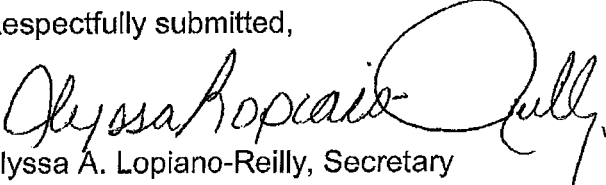
-Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly suggested that we again discuss how we are going to utilize the Law Library bequest that we received from a member many years ago. Specifically, Alyssa raised a request that the Board consider purchasing laptops or stand-alone computers for placement at the Bar Association building with a monthly subscription to West Law and other legal periodicals so that our members can have access to legal research in addition to sharing the Law Library resources with members of the general public. It was decided that this concept of utilizing the Law Library funds for this purpose will be referred to the Long Range Planning Committee.

-Discussion was held that the Bar Association will invite the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley to submit a request to the Bar Association to sponsor books for elementary schools. This is a program whereby high school volunteers go into elementary schools on Martin Luther King Day to mentor and educate the younger children. The sponsor who had been providing books for this program is no longer doing so.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Abe Kassis and seconded by Christopher Reid, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly, Secretary