

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING  
April 4, 2012**

The meeting, held at the Sagra Bistro in Hellertown, was called to order by President, Victor E. Scomillio, at 6:00 PM.

**ATTENDEES (as marked):**

**Officers**

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

**Board Members**

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

**Executive Director**

<u>  X  </u>	Mary Beth Leeson
--------------	------------------

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Robert Donchez to approve the Minutes from the March 7, 2012, Meeting with correction, as noted. The Motion was seconded by Chris Reid and unanimously approved 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 was received from 50 year honoree, Sam Litzenberger.

-A request was received from Marge Coffin the widow of William P. Coffin, Esquire. She requested that the Bar Association grant a one-time free space in the Northampton County Reporter to encourage Bladder Cancer Awareness. Mr. Coffin passed away of bladder cancer. The Board approved this free publication.

-President Scomillio received a request to sponsor the "Rav Rumble," a motorcycle cruise to benefit the Third Street Alliance & Victory House. No decision was made by the Board.

The President reported that he received multiple positive responses from the Bench and the Bar regarding the Reception for the Court.

-A suggestion was received from Judge Zito for the Board's consideration. He suggested that in order to encourage greater attendance in future years, perhaps the Bench could honor members of the Bar for exemplary or outstanding performance or service.

## **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 Christopher Reid and seconded by Stanley Margle. The report was approved unanimously by the Board.

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

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented the following:

-The Annual Reception for the Court was a success. The limited cocktail half-hour for attendance by young lawyers, common pleas judges, minor judiciary, and the Board of Governors was well received. We had approximately 150 members attend the event. Thank you to the Board members who attended.

-Stan Margle, Esquire, and Mary Beth Leeson attended the ABA Bar Leadership Institute in Chicago in mid-March. Stan Margle confirmed that much was learned that can be implemented next year.

-Reminder that the NCBA Board of Governors retreat with Jennifer Lewin from the ABA (to discuss long-range planning) will be held from 8:30 AM until 3:30 PM on Friday, June 29, 2012 at the Sayre Mansion in Bethlehem. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

-The Young Lawyers Division CLE and Weyerbacher Tour was well attended. More than 50% of the attendees were older lawyers.

-Reminder that the Bar Association is going to Broadway to see Harvey on June 9, 2012. All tickets are now sold out.

-Lunch Lectures are getting very busy.

-The Young Lawyer Division is suggesting a CLE to Atlantic City on Friday, September 7, 2012.

## **V. PROGRAMS**

-The Pro Bono committee is working on the Modest Means Program. Two main questions need to be decided : (1) Who screens applicants for the Program? (2) Is there going to be consultation/referral fees similar to the ARIS Program?

-The Young Lawyers Division is planning a "Happy Hour" and golf at Bethlehem Municipal Course on June 1, 2012. Look for the advertisement in the Reporter.

-Jill McComsey, Esquire, is the chair of the Legislative Committee. She will attempt to plan a breakfast meeting again with Legislators in July, 2012.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

-Vicky Coyle was told that the Board is not interested in sponsoring North Penn Legal Services with their CLE programming. But, the Board requested that Vicki Coyle contact us for ideas on how the Association could help her fundraise for North Penn Legal Services.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

-The Solo Practitioners Committee will sponsor a seminar entitled, "Practicing Law Dead or Alive." This is particularly geared to small firms and solo practitioners.

The presenter of the program will have travel expenses between \$750 - \$1,000. The Bar Association has applied for a grant to cover the expenses. However, the grant may not be received in a timely manner and/or may not be approved by the PBA. Upon Motion made by Lisa Spitale and seconded by Chris Reid, the Board unanimously agreed to advance the funds.

-Stan Margle and Victor Scomillio were at the Chrin Center in Palmer Township recently to discuss the Miracle League. This program will allow disabled people to play baseball on a specially designed field. Discussion was held as to whether or not the Board is interested in turning any of our events into a potential fundraising opportunity toward this cause? No decision was made.

-Discussion was held on how the Board can encourage our members to donate to North Penn Legal Services. A suggestion was made that the Board encourage the Bar Association Members to donate their arbitration fees, at a minimum.

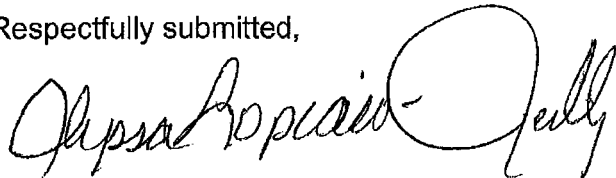
-Abe Kassis reported that the Boys & Girls Club of Easton is going to be benefitting from a fund raiser supported by Lafayette College. Specifically, they are showing a movie called, "Thurgood Marshall Coming." A motion was made by Abe Kassis and seconded by Stan Margle to authorize Mary Beth Leeson to donate up to \$500 for this event which is to occur on April 26, 2012. The Motion passed unanimously.

-Given the regular requests received by the Bar Association and our current funds, discussion was held as to whether or not the Bar Association should form an Ad Hoc committee to investigate charitable contributions by the Bar Association. Victor Scomillio will put together a committee to begin discussion on charitable giving.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Abe Kassis and seconded by Lisa Spitale, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the end.

Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly, Secretary