

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Quarterly Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association, held at the Best Western Conference Center in Bethlehem, was called to order by President Victor E. Scmillio at 6:01 PM.

**II. QUORUM.**

A quorum was established. The following officers were present:

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

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made for the approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2012 Quarterly Association Meeting, which were made available to the membership for review. The Motion was made by Scott Wilhelm to approve the minutes and seconded by Louis Minotti. Said Minutes were approved.

**IV. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Upon motion made by Don Klein and seconded by Kerry Freidl, the following new members were admitted to the Association unanimously:

Peter Benjamin McEvoy (sponsored by Jonathan Huerta and Stanley Margle)

Kathryn A. Williams (sponsored by Michael Santanasto and David Williams)

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Scmillio made the following announcements.

A. The Membership was reminded that the Bench Bar Conference will be held on Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13 in Philadelphia. President

Scomillio discussed the program briefly and he encouraged all members to attend. Thus far, we have a commitment of 9 out of 10 of our Judges to attend.

B. The Membership was reminded that the Annual Memorial Service for the deceased members of our Bar is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 9 AM. Everyone is asked to attend to remember and honor our deceased members. This year we remember fondly Gene F. Roscioli and Frank R. Barnako.

C. All members were reminded to look at the 2012 calendar for the months September, October, and November. All members in attendance were provided a copy of that calendar.

D. President Scomillio had no correspondence to report.

## **VI. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Abraham Kassis, presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion was made by Michael Shay to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted and seconded by Raymond DeRaymond. The Association unanimously voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Rebecca Kulik, Esquire, discussed the Annual Holiday Hope Chest Program. Last year the Association created over 300 boxes of gifts for needy children. The Bar Association hopes to create more boxes this year. Attorney Kulik asked for both monetary donations and donations of extra shoe boxes.

2. Michael Santanasto, Esquire, gave a report from the Bench Bar Committee discussing the CLE programming scheduled for 2012 Bench Bar Conference in Philadelphia on October 12-13. The programming includes Judge Johnson, the author of Boardwalk Empire regarding corruption in Atlantic City, and Judge Grimm, who adjudicated the Luzerne County juvenile cases as a result of the Cash-for-Kids scandal.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

1. The membership was reminded that the Bench Bar Conference will be held on Friday, October 12, and Saturday, October 13, 2012 in Philadelphia. He discussed that program briefly and he encouraged all members to attend.

2. President Scomillio explained the results of the Long Range Planning Survey conducted of the entire Association in the Spring and the Long Range Planning

Retreat held in June, 2012. President Scomillio highlighted for the Bar Association the results of the survey and the key objectives that the Bar is going to continue to be focused on for the next 3 years. These objectives include:

- (a) The physical building (whether expanding the current building or moving our location to a new facility).
- (b) Improving communication with Bar members including our electronic website and other electronic forms of communication.
- (c) Continuing to improve and hold in high regard Bench Bar relations.
- (d) Finding alternate sources of revenue in the event the Association loses revenue if the Northampton County Reporter is no longer an available source.

3. By way of update, the Long Range Planning Committee is now focused on improving and expanding the current building and President Scomillio hopes to have a report for us at the November meeting as to status.

4. Discussion was held concerning a request that had been made at a prior meeting by Past President Michael Deschler to consider funding a full-time employee for North Penn Legal Services on a 3-year commitment at a cost of approximately \$180,000. President Scomillio explained to the Membership present the various motions that went through the Board of Governors before being presented to the general membership. Upon motion made by President Scomillio (arising out of a recommendation from the Board of Governors) that a one-time \$25,000 donation be made to North Penn Legal Services from the Bar Association for the year 2013. This motion was seconded by Gregory Reed. The motion was amended by Ellen Kraft to increase the one-time donation to North Penn Legal Services for the year 2013 from \$25,000 to \$50,000. The amendment was accepted. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously minus approximately 3 members. Vicki Coyle, on behalf of North Penn Legal Services, thanked the Bar Association for the generous gift.

5. Barbara Hollenbach made a suggestion that we send a letter from the Northampton County Bar Association (in conjunction with North Penn Legal Services) to all of the counties that are supported by North Penn Legal Services. The letter should announce the generous gift for 2013 from the Northampton County Bar Association and invite other counties to make similar contributions.

6. Ann Achatz recently retired as the Northampton County Recorder of Deeds. The Bar Association has given her a generous gift certificate in grateful recognition of her many years of service to our County and our attorneys.

7. Fred Cabell, Jr., Esquire, the Director of Legislative Affairs from the Pennsylvania Bar Association, spoke briefly to the membership explaining how he, as our lobbyist, is working on many areas of interest on Capitol Hill to practitioners all over

the state including, but not limited to reforms to corporations/business law, revising uniform laws including the Notary Act, unauthorized practice of law issues, revising the Pennsylvania Code of Justice, protecting bar journals, and attempting to avoid sales tax on legal services. He asked that members consider supporting the Pennsylvania Bar Pack.

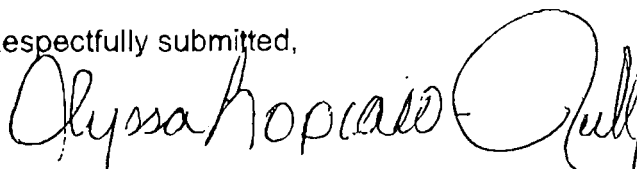
**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

A resolution of the Northampton County Bar Association endorsing the American Bar Association's Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System as the best practices standard was presented to the membership for review and vote. Upon Motion made by President Scomillio to adopt the Resolution as written and was seconded by Peter Buddock. The resolution passed unanimously.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion made by James Zulick and seconded by Theresa Hogan, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Alyssa A. Lopiano-Reilly, Esquire, Secretary