

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

April 1, 2020

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020, via a Zoom Meeting due to the COVID-19 stay at home orders at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m. by President Eyer. 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:

- Robert Eyer, President
- Maura Zajac McGuire, President-Elect
- Paul J. Harak, Vice President
- Steven B. Molder, Treasurer
- Jeremy Clark, Secretary
- Lisa Spitale, Past President

Board Members:

- David M. Backenstoe
- Richard Santee
- Scott Wilhelm
- Douglas Tkacik
- Erika Farkas
- Jill McComsey
- Joshua Fulmer

Executive Director:

- Mary Beth Leeson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting held on March 4, 2020 were circulated for review.

The minutes erroneously stated that Wilhem was present, an amendment was made to correct this error. McGuire then made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Spitale seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Robert Eyer, President, reported no correspondence or matters to report.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven Molder, Treasurer, reported that due to the timing of this meeting on the first of the month the account statements had not yet been prepared by the banks. He did caution the membership that along with the declining revenues noticed in previous meetings, he expected revenue to suffer further due to the shelter in place order and likely resulting economic turmoil.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. Everything is cancelled.
 - a. Law Day
 - b. Foundation event rescheduled for 2021.
 - c. YLD happy hour was shifted to a virtual/Zoom happy hour.
- B. Discussion was had about how to support members during these trying times.

V. PROGRAMS

Vice President Paul Harak, everything is cancelled pending the end of the shelter in place down orders.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foundation update by Fulmer:
 - 1. Event rescheduled to May 25, 2021.
 - 2. Sponsors will be offered the options of (1) roll donation over to next year; (2) donate the funds to the Foundation even without an event; (3) issue a full refund.

3. All gift cards will be returned
4. Funds for Event – a discussion was held on what to do with the budgeted expenses for the Event that will now not be incurred.
Options presented:
 - i. Refund gift cards at double face value to assist local businesses
 - ii. Donate some funds to the three distilleries who had agreed to support the event and were now making hand sanitizer to assist the community
 - iii. Donate other expense funds to the Foundation or other community charity to assist during these times
 - iv. Board discussed the above options in depth. Tkacik questioned if the Board had the authority to donate the expense funds to a charity. Wilhem made a motion to (1) refund the gift cards at double face value; (2) donate \$1,000 to each distillery; (3) table all other expenditures and donations until more information could be provided on the funds available and the propriety of donating said funds. Backenstoe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 - v. Fulmer made a motion to make a \$3,000 donation to the Community Foundation that was to be matched by a yet to be identified organization. Second by Wilhelm. Molder opposed all others were in favor, the motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Reception for the Court. Postponed and date is TBD. A discussion was held about how to reschedule, and if when/where to reschedule the event. Clark motioned to table the reschedule until more information was available, Fulmer seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- B. Membership Townhall. Leeson discussed how other association were holding virtual Townhalls with members of their Board and the Bench to discuss the current climate. There was skepticism about the effectiveness of this style event for the NCBA particularly the Bench's willingness to participate. Santee volunteered to Chair an ad hoc committee with the goal of providing members information about programs to assist lawyers/businesses as well other news deemed relevant to the members. Eyer agreed to start committee and asked for volunteers.
- C. The Board was asked to lend the association's name and support to a petition requesting elected officials add 501(c)(6) groups to the CARES

Act. It was noted that many other bar associations are supporting the measure. Fulmer made a motion to add the NCBA to the list of entities supporting the measure and Spitale seconded. Tkacik and Wilhem abstained all other members voted in favor. The motion carried.

VIII ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Fulmer. The motion was seconded by Molder. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeremy Clark, Secretary