

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

September 2, 2020

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at the Kingfish Restaurant. 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 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 July 3, 2020 were circulated for review. Santee made a motion to approve the minutes and Spitale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Robert Eyer, President, had a number of correspondence

- A. A letter from Amyloidosis Foundation thanking the NCBA for its donation in memory of Jeffrey Gober.
- B. A letter from Families First letter thanking the NCBA for its donation to the Families-In-Need program.
- C. A letter from Victory House thanking the NCBA Charitable Fund for its donation to help assist homeless veterans.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven Molder, Treasurer, was not present so McGuire read the report and total of all accounts from the recent report .

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. A summary of the NCBA finances. We are not spending much due to cancelled events but also not earning much now due to decreased income from the Reporter. According to the annual budget we are about \$50,000 ahead. CLEs are generating some revenue but the Reporter is not bringing much in due to halt in foreclosures.
- B. Lehigh Valley Community Foundation thanked the NCBA within their monthly news letter for its donation.
- C. The Memorial Service has been rescheduled for November 24th in Courtroom 1 due to COVID related restrictions. Three individuals will be remembered at the proceeding: Hon. William Moran, Raymond DeRaymond, Esq., Gilbert Negrete, Jr., Esq.

- D. Holiday Hope Chest is still a go and letters will go out to members. Plans are still being developed so everyone will just need to be flexible.
- E. 2021 Calendar is being developed. Question was put to the Board whether we schedule events as normal or cut some events due to budget issues or COVID concerns. Board was generally in favor of scheduling the year as normal but being flexible given the circumstances as they arise.

V. PROGRAMS

MBL raised the issue that the CLE Financial Hardship Policy provides 5.5 free credits to members which are usually given at the Quarterly meetings. We have given 2 already at meetings and two more credits are scheduled. We will need one more free course to offer to the members.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foundation update by Fulmer, no report.
- B. Quarterly Meetings. September Meeting will be conducted outdoors at Louise Moore Park to amend the bylaws to permit virtual quarterly meetings going forward. The meeting will be brief for this purpose alone and there will be an optional "Happy Hour" event afterwards if some members wish to socialize.
- C. Discussion of the Ad-hoc ADR committee chaired by Giordano.
- D. By-laws update/amendments included allowing virtual meetings at discretion of the President. This will be put before the membership at the September quarterly meeting.
- E. Juvenile Justice Center re-naming a courtroom in honor of Judge Moran. President Eyer has spoken with the PJ. No answer as of yet but believed it was received favorably.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Nomination's Committee report regarding officers and Board members for 2021 was reviewed with the Board.
- B. Federal Magistrate Judge position in Allentown. It has been recommended to not replace Mag. J. Perkin when he retires. The Lancaster, Berks, Lehigh and Northampton Bar Associations have sent

out joint correspondence to the President Judge of the Eastern District as well as our State Senators and Congresswoman Wild. There was also some discussion that this information may not be correct or at least not final.

VIII ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tkacik. The motion was seconded by Backenstoe. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeremy Clark, Secretary