

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

**October 7, 2020**

The Board of Governors meeting was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, via a Zoom Meeting due to the COVID-19 stay at home orders. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 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:**

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

**Board Members:**

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

**Executive Director:**

  X   Mary Beth Leeson

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES=**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 2, 2020 were circulated for review. Backenstoe made a motion to approve the minutes and Spitale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Robert Eyer, President.

1. North Penn Legal Services annual requested a donation from the Bar. The request is for 50% (\$30,000) of the typical request and asked that the donation be made in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2021. There was discussion about the request and a motion was made to recommend the membership approve the request by Wilhelm with a second by Backenstoe. The motion passed unanimously. The request will be placed on the November 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly agenda.
2. Correspondence to Chief Judge Sanchez (Pa. E.D.) from Susan Wild regarding her support for filling of Magistrate Perkin's seat expected to be vacant next spring.

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

Steven Molder, Treasurer, reported on the balances shown in the reports; again, noting the decrease in balances. The revenue and expense report showed a lower net income for the year due to COVID restrictions. The report will be submitted to the super-secret audit committee.

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

Executive Director Leeson reported on the following matters:

- A. MBL was pleased with the Quarterly Meeting held at L. Moore Park, particularly the hot dogs. The event went well and was well-attended.
- B. Lunch Lecture series is performing as well via Zoom as it did in live format.
- C. Holiday Hope Chest has received \$2,240 in donations to date.
- D. Miracle League trick or treat is still going but very scaled back. Spitale, Vargo, and Madsen will represent the Association and put together a "Nightmare Before Christmas" theme.
- E. Question about donating to the PBA for its "lobbying group" and if the Association should donate \$5,000 as budgeted. Wilhelm noted his objection due to the PBA taking position on some issues that may be divisive among the members. No motion was made to change the budgeted donation.

## **V. PROGRAMS**

No report.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business.

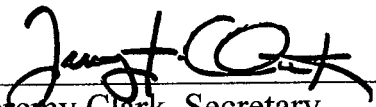
## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 2021 Budget discussion reported by McGuire. The Budget Committee met previously and wanted to balance the budget in light of the expected revenue shortfalls. The committee decided to limit the first two quarterly meetings to virtual only saving the association those funds. Also, the Committee decided to cancel the Foundation event for 2021. Wilhelm moved to recommend approval of the budget, Eyer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- B. CACLV Request. CACLV requested a contribution in the amount of \$5,000 from the association. MBL reviewed the history of these requests from the CACLV and that these funds were typically used to support the mortgage foreclosure diversion program. MBL also reported that the budget currently does not have \$5,000 to donate but only \$3,900. Clark made a motion to deny the CACLV request, but there was no second therefore the motion failed. Farkas made a motion to donate \$2,500, with a second by Wilhelm. Clark voted Nay all others voted Aye, motion carried.
- C. Dues waiver request by a Member for year 2020 and 2021. The Member was having financial difficulties and personal issues discussed by the Board. The need for confidentiality of the Member was also discussed hence the minutes should not reflect the Member's name. Backenstoe motioned to waive said Member's dues for 2020 and 2021 while maintaining the confidentiality of the Member and Tkacik seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **VIII ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeremy Clark, Secretary