

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING
April 6, 2011**

The meeting, held at Sagra Bistro in Hellertown, was called to order by President Kerry Scott Freidl at 5:55 P.M.

ATTENDEES (as marked):

Officers

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

Board Members

- Kevin F. Danyi
- X Michael P. Shay
- X Alyssa Lopiano Reilly
- X Samuel P. Murray
- X Jessica Frisch Moyer
- X Matthew C. Potts
- X Robert M. Donchez

Executive Director

- X Mary Beth Leeson

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Jackie Taschner to approve the Minutes from the March 2, 2011 Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Robert Donchez. Motion to Approve Minutes passed.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Board was advised of the following correspondence that was received since the last meeting:

-A thank you card was received from the Honorable Jack A. Panella in appreciation of his invitation to the Judge's Reception and to commend the hard work done by the NCBA staff in organizing the event.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Victor Scomillio read the Treasurer's Report to the Board. A motion to approve was made by Victor Scomillio and seconded by Matt Potts. There was further discussion updating the Board on the two CD's that had matured the previous month. It was communicated that the cash was deposited in a savings account in Embassy Bank pending a decision on further investment options from the Finance Committee. Due to the very low interest rates being given to CD's at this time, there is consideration being given to invest the money in vehicles which contain more risk. A recommendation will be forthcoming under the guidance of the committee and Don Swan.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented the following:

-The NCBA office had a small number of tickets remaining for the Iron Pigs game on April 21, 2011. This event will be held jointly with the Bar Association of Lehigh County. Mary Beth indicated that she would be communicating with them to determine the manner in which refreshments will be made available to all attendees.

-The Judge's Reception was held on March 25, 2011. The final number of attendees was 145 members, and the consensus was that the event was a success and well received. President Freidl joined with Judge Panella's communication in congratulating the administrative staff of the Bar Association for all of their hard work in organizing this event.

-It was reported that flooding continues in the basement of the NCBA office. The issues appear to be caused by a faulty drain. Steps have been taken to

address the issue, however, the Board expressed concern that the extent of work that would be needed to rectify the situation must be weighed along with the Bar's intent to either renovate the existing office building or seek the purchase of a new property for relocation. It was agreed that the Board will wait for further input from the Long-Range Planning Committee which is set to meet in the near future.

- Mary Beth Leeson reported that the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Committee for County Legal Journals would be continuing their efforts in addressing the issue concerning the publication of notices in county legal journals with the Pennsylvania legislature. Any new developments on this matter will be reported to the Board.

- The question was put to the Board members as to whether the Bar should continue with the practice of creating bound volumes of Northampton County Court Opinions as it appears that the demand for these books has decreased substantially. It was noted that the publisher, who usually credited the Bar \$2,000.00 off of the cost of binding in exchange for the sale of the books, has declined to offer the same credit for the upcoming edition. It was decided that Victor Scomillio would discuss the matter with President Judge McFadden to ascertain the Court's position on this issue.

- Due to scheduling issues, the September Board Meeting scheduled for September 7, 2011, has been moved to occur one hour before the Quarterly Meeting that is scheduled on Thursday, September 15, 2011.

- Input was sought on a decision to do landscaping on the front yard of the Bar office and it was agreed by everyone that this should occur.

- Mary Beth Leeson reminded all members that an invitation was made for anyone to attend the Day on the Hill on April 26, 2011.

- An e-mail correspondence was received from Jill McComsey regarding an event for Bar Association members who are parents to attend with their children. Mary Beth Leeson indicated that she would contact Jill to obtain more information on the event before publishing any notice to the membership through the journal.

V. PROGRAMS

There were no updates regarding any programs at this meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

An update concerning the investment of the recently matured CD's was provided during the Treasurer's Report Update.

An update on the Long-Range Planning Committee with regard to the office building was discussed during the Executive Director's Report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Sam Murray brought to the attention of the Board some concerns that a policy should be put in place to assist law practices that, through either illness or death of the attorney, are dealing with the care of clients who are suddenly unrepresented as a result of an unfortunate circumstance. Specifically, the concern was for whether a practice should be implemented by the Bar to automatically send a letter of instruction to the person responsible for the practice with instructions on how to proceed and communicate with the clients and the steps that need to be taken to have their files properly transferred and handled. The Board agreed to refer this to the Legal Ethics Committee for review.

A discussion was held between the Board members of the importance of maintaining strict confidentiality at the meetings as it pertains to specific statements and discussions held on matters voted upon. Such a policy was agreed to be needed for the purpose of ensuring frank discussions between the Board members.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Michael Shay and seconded by Alyssa Lopiano Reilly, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.P. Kassis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ABRAHAM P. KASSIS
Secretary