

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
QUARTERLY ASSOCIATION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2011**

The Annual Meeting of the Northampton County Bar Association, held at the Best Western Inn, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was called to order by President Kerry Scott Freidl at 6:00 P.M.

**I. QUOROM:** A Quorum was established. The following officers were present:

Officers

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of May 19, 2011, Quarterly Association Meeting were not available to the membership at the time of the meeting. The Motion for Approval was deferred until the next quarterly meeting.

**III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

New members were introduced by President Freidl were introduced to the association membership in attendance. New members and their respective sponsors are as follows:

- Christopher M. Brent, Esq. (sponsored by Roseann B. Joseph and Joseph Lupackino)
- Lisa L. Tresslar, Esq. (sponsored by Samuel P. Murray and Stanley J. Margle, III)
- Frank J. Trovato, Esq. (sponsored by Garrett Benner and Brandon Benner)
- George M. Vasiliadis, Esq. (sponsored by Stanley M. Vasiliadis and Kerry Scott Freidl)

A motion was made for acceptance by Theresa Hogan and seconded by Peter Buddock. The motion was approved by the membership.

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Freidl made the following announcements:

A service honoring the retirement of the Michael V. Franciosa will be held on October 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse followed by a reception in the jury lounge.

The membership was informed that the annual Memorial Service is scheduled for September 27, 2011 in the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas in Courtroom #1. Deceased members to be honored this year are William P. Coffin, Esquire, Andrew L. Herster, Jr., Esquire, and Karl K. LaBarr, Esquire.

A lunch lecture is scheduled on September 30, 2011 on the "Right to Know Law Update" at the Best Western in Bethlehem. The seminar is to be presented by The Honorable Robert E. Simpson, Jr., The Honorable Renee Cohn Jubelirer, The Honorable Mary Hannah Leavitt, and Craig J. Staudenmaier, Esquire.

The annual Red Mass of the Saint Thomas Moore Society will be held on October 9, 2011 at St. Mary's Parish in Kutztown, PA. All members were invited to attend.

Initial notice was provided of the Amicus Soiree and Golf Outing which is scheduled for October 21, 2011 at the Riverview Country Club. Formal invitations will follow.

The membership was reminded that the Northampton County Courthouse Library was under temporary renovation and a temporary location was set up in the Conference Room between Courtrooms #5 and #6.

The Northampton County Prison Law Library is seeking an attorney to act as the Law Librarian.

#### **V. CORRESPONDENCE**

President Freidl presented a correspondence from the Honorable William F. Moran, advising the Association that his last day of service for the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas would be September 15, 2011. President Freidl took the opportunity to congratulate and commend Judge Moran on 24 years of service to the esteemed bench of Northampton County.

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

Chris Reid gave the Treasurer's Report. Motion to Approve was made by Theresa Hogan and seconded by Keene Jabbour. The report was approved unanimously.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

An update on the Holiday Hope Chest program was presented by Joshua Fulmer, once again advising the membership of the service this program provides in giving needy children gifts for the Christmas holiday. The membership was asked to both assist and donate what they could to help in this endeavor.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business discussed at the meeting.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

John Thomas, of the Northampton Community College Paralegal Program was present at the meeting to offer his gratitude to the Bar Association for its assistance and help with the program and noted that he continues to look forward to the continued relationship between the paralegal program and the Northampton County Bar. Also, the program was approved for continued certification by the ABA.

President Freidl introduced Paul Harak to discuss the approval of the purchase of commercial property at 402 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, in West Easton Borough. The membership was advised that an agreement was signed to purchase said property for \$180,000.00, pending the approval of the membership. Attorney Harak summarized the efforts made to date in addressing the need to expand space for the NCBA offices and to provide a more suitable location for large meetings and conferences. The concerns that have arisen regarding the basement of the current office and the issues with water leakage was discussed in detail. Attorney Harak also informed the membership that there was some consideration given to the addition and expansion of the current building on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, of which currently there are existing proposals, but no exact dollar estimates on the actual building costs. The membership was provided with an architectural report and summary of the property being considered for a purchase on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Questions were asked concerning the determination of overhead to maintain the building if used only for meetings and seminars. Discussion was also raised regarding the demand for CLE classes and whether the space afforded by this property would be needed. Further questions were raised regarding the possibility of purchasing a building which would not only be suitable for large meetings, but also house the NCBA offices. After much discussion for and against the purchase of the property, a vote was called to order by President Freidl. A motion was made by Theresa Hogan to not approve the Agreement of Sale and seconded by John Rybak. Said Motion was approved by the members in attendance. Immediately after the vote voiding the sale agreement, Ellen Kraft suggested that the membership consider a directive on what to do and whether the committee should continue in its efforts to find an additional location for the expansion of the Bar Association facilities.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Freidl at 6:45 P.M. upon motion of Philip Hof, which was seconded by Danny Cohen.

Respectfully submitted,

  
ABRAHAM P. KASSIS  
Secretary