

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
April 29, 2010 Minutes**

The Chair Richard Seidel called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Upon motion made and seconded, the Minutes of the March 2010 meeting were approved.

The Chair recognized Treasurer Joe Prim to present the Treasurer's report. Dues collection has slowed, but the Association revenue through the end of March has exceeded what had been budgeted due to the receipt of significant percentage fees by LRIS. Upon motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report was approved. The Chair stated he attended an LRIS meeting and learned LRIS has exceeded its annual budget and that they should be thanked for their contribution to the Association.

Executive Director Ken Shear recognized Mary Jane Bonfiglio, who has worked with the Association for 11 years, who has done a "wonderful job," and has handled her position with "delicacy" and tact. Ken Shear also recognized Andrea Morris, who has worked with the Association for 10 years as membership coordinator, and handles members' inquiries and billings. Ken Shear praised Ms. Morris for her extraordinary work on behalf of members.

The Chair recognized David Faw, who presented his Independent Audit Report. Mr. Faw stated the Audit Committee met in February and April. Treasurer Prim, as Chair of the Audit Committee, stated that the audit was necessary oversight to prevent potential fraud and to minimize risk and he thanked Mr. Faw and Susan Knight for their work on the audit. The Chancellor complimented Treasurer Prim on suggestions he made during the audit. Upon motion made and seconded the audit was adopted.

The Chair then called upon Zack Stalberg, President and CEO of the Committee of Seventy to present a report. This non-profit group is over 105 years old and was formed to encourage good government in Philadelphia. Its mission now focuses on election activities. Scott Reid is a member of the board. The Committee of Seventy has worked on campaign finances, eliminating "pay to play," and it has been allies with other groups such as the Association and the Chamber of Commerce. They worked on eliminating the Clerk of Quarter Sessions, and are working on local issues such as the election practices of ward leaders. They are looking for volunteers on Election Day.

The Chancellor made his announcements. A month ago they were successful in getting a letter to the Editor in the *Legal Intelligencer* on the issue of the proposed state sales tax on legal services. He met with City Council members and reported that the Association is in good stead there. He participated in a conference call with the Pennsylvania Bar Association about a potential indictment of a Senator in the western part of the state. The Justinian's had a 75th anniversary party which he attended. VIP had an event where they brought in large firm contacts. The President of the Bar from Lyon, France, which is a sister city to Philadelphia, visited recently. He intends to do a lot of traveling and will try to attend the bench bar. The Bar Academy lead by Judge Snyder will be featured in an article in *Bar Leader* magazine. There will

be an Academy event giving attendees a behind the scenes look at KYW, which he urged members to attend.

Charlie Kitsch spearheaded the effort for the PA Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the state of the Criminal Division of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas to be held at the Bar Association offices. A nice letter was received from Senator Greenleaf, who was very appreciative of the efforts. The hearings were on the front page of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Scott Cooper was able to make some comments at the meeting.

The Chancellor reported that Lou Rulli is helping to spearhead a project for pro bono help to the legal community from non-lawyer professionals. The Chancellor attended a Senior Law Center event where immediate past chancellor Sayde Ladov gave remarks. Law Week programming was on going, with Chancellor-Elect Rudy Garcia serving as honorary chair. Mark Tarasiewicz and the Chancellor met with the Editorial Board of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. The Editorial Board is interested in the courts and the economy, and wants to continue to work with the Association.

The Chancellor reported that State Civil Litigation Section Representative Tom Wilkinson filed an amicus brief in *Gillard v. AIG* on attorney-client privilege for the Association; he was commended for the excellent work product. The Association will turn this issue over to the legislative side if this issue is not ruled upon favorably by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court so it can be changed by rule. He also stated that Scott Reid chaired another very good and focused meeting regarding the hiring of a diversity director and commended Scott Reid on this.

The Chancellor and Mr. Shear went to the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and had a good meeting. The Chancellor, Chancellor-Elect and Secretary Kathleen Wilkinson attended the First Judicial District's Celebration of Judicial Education program, which focused on education and thanked the bar for support. A request for funding was submitted for the Ace program (started by former Chancellor Michael Pratt) and a grant for \$10,000 is expected in part due to participation by the judges in that program. The Chancellor also reported he made comments at the Women's Leadership Academy for the ABA, which was attended by the ABA President and women lawyers from around the country, which included programs on leadership on everything from networking to courtroom work. Lastly, he also reminded the Board of Phillies night, with the proceeds going to the Foundation and Senior Law Center.

The Chair discussed the section and division chair meetings which will become quarterly meetings. He reported that Business Law, State Civil, Public Interest, and Workers Compensation Sections, and the YLD in particular are doing amazing programming.

The Chair recognized Bruce Franzel and Lisa Washington, Co-Chairs of the Charter & Bylaws Committee, to present on proposed bylaw changes. Two Resolutions were presented, and since no substantive changes are being made, this does not have to go to membership. The first concerned changes to Sec. 208 and 700, which involved making sure there is a diversity representative to the Board. Upon motion made and seconded, the Resolution passed unanimously. The second concerned Sec. 209 and 215, moving the assistant treasurer or assistant secretary to treasurer or secretary respectively, in the event of vacancy of the treasurer

or secretary. The Resolution provides that they would not be penalized in doing so by having that count as a year of service in that position. Upon motion made and seconded, the Resolution passed unanimously.

Bruce Franzel explained that situations arise which make it necessary to consider changes to bylaws. He stated he wanted to get the sense of the board with regard to whether law school deans should serve as Board Members, either by adding as many seats as are law school deans, such as 5 or 6 seats or one law school with it being a rotating seat. There was discussion of how many law schools would be involved. The Chancellor stated that it might be good for the law schools to have a seat at the table to be part of the discussion; there is a lot going on in academia and we could benefit by having them as part of the board. It gives some benefit to the Association through networking and opportunities for hiring. Even if it is a voting seat, the Chancellor did not see any need to change the quorum requirement. The goal would be to have it be a voting seat but consideration of a non-voting seat was discussed.

There was further discussion that this might encourage more pro bono involvement as well as give an opportunity to attract more members. There is a law student category and more might be encouraged to join as a result. Lee Applebaum from the Business Law Section said steps are being taken in the Business Law Section to make students feel part of the community with students being guests at their annual dinner. They have been working closely trying to get students to write things and give law schools a stake in the process. Immediate Past Chancellor Sayde Ladov suggested an advisory board be looked into, such as the one that was created by the Bar Foundation. The Charter & Bylaws Committee will come back to the Board with further recommendations.

The Chair then recognized Chancellor Cooper concerning a Law Practice Management (“LPM”) Resolution to convert the Law Practice Management Division (“LPMD”) to a standing committee. He reported that Section 801 of the Bylaws allows the Board to discontinue any division. While the Association is not getting out of law practice management, programs could be handled out of a committee format. Also, he stated due to the recession, the Association needs better coordination of programs. Three standing committees of the division, small and solo, medium and large firm committees should be standalone committees. The chairs of larger law firms do not feel compelled to participate, as IT departments and vendor services are provided at their firms. By having LPM as a committee, it can be more flexible. Leadership will be able to do things more quickly without the structure of a division. He also noted that he spoke with former chancellor Alan Feldman, who started this concept; Attorney Feldman indicated that he knew there would be evolution.

Leadership from LPMD was present and Mary Platt, Co-Chair of the Division, was recognized. She thanked the Bar Association for allowing her to serve as Co-Chair of LPMD. She stated that when former chancellor Alan Feldman came up with this idea, it had never been tried before. Different options were explored and in late 2006, division status was approved, run by an executive committee. She quoted from the charter about “building successful bar programs.” Early on they set up a vendor program. The most successful program was last May when they did the lawyers in transition program and it received rave reviews. The LPMD received an award last year from the ABA. While there may be disagreement whether LPM should continue as a division, she recognized that the work must go forward.

The Chair thanked Mary Platt and her Co-Chair Harper Dimmerman and stated he hoped they continue to be active in the committee. Chancellor-Elect Garcia said that the bar is trying to support LPM and help lawyers with their practice. Vice Chancellor John Savoth said he knows how vital the small and solo committee is and that its membership needs the Association's help with programming concerning practice management. Immediate Past Chancellor Sayde Ladov stated the Association has to be able to function in a lean way, so it can partner with other committees and be reactive and proactive. Upon motion made and seconded, the Resolution passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
April 29, 2010

Present:

Scott Cooper
Kathleen Wilkinson
Larry Beaser
Joseph Prim

Rudolph Garcia
Wesley Payne
Sophia Lee

Richard Seidel
John Savoth
Regina Foley

Stacy Tees
Brandi Brice
Mary Platt
Angus Love
Hon. A. Michael Snyder
Scott Reid
Danielle Banks
Sayde Ladov
Andre Denis

Jeffrey Campolongo
Kimberly Ruch-Alegant
Lee Applebaum
Scott Reid
Ken Shear
Karen Detamore
Michael Schaffer
Albertine DuFrayne
Cheryl Gaston

Michael Berkowitz
Scott Sigman
H. Marc Tepper
Tom Wilkinson
Lou Rulli
Jeffrey Gross
Pedro Ramos
Judith Stein

Absent:

Jacqueline Segal
Maria Feeley
Mehrin Masud-Elias
Richard Harris
Sean Sullivan
Gaetan Alfano
Carolyn Chopko
Peter Berson
Shanese Johnson

Alfred Fuscaldo
Daniel Blickman
A. Michael Pratt