

**Philadelphia Bar Association  
Board of Governors Meeting  
February 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 3:59 p.m. by Vice Chair Amber Racine.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Board's December 12, 2017 and January 19, 2018 meetings carried unanimously.

Treasurer Regina Foley presented the preliminary Treasurer's Report for the period ending December 31, 2017 and the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2018. The bar association's net assets as of December 31<sup>st</sup> were in the black at \$191,161, with a gain on investments of \$339,202 to offset the operating deficit. The net loss from operations for the year was \$148,041, less than had been projected. A motion to approve the latter report carried unanimously.

Chancellor Platt presented an *in memoriam resolution* in memory of the Honorable Thomas N. O'Neill, Jr., highly respected federal district judge and former chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, who passed away on January 16, 2018. Judge O'Neill was a mentor to Chancellor Platt when both of them practiced at the Montgomery McCracken law firm. Judge O'Neill's wife, Jeanne and daughter Ellen O'Neill Deitrich, as well as Judge O'Neill's courtroom deputy/secretary, Deborah Owens, and his permanent law clerk, Meredith DuBarry Huston, were present for the reading of the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution carried unanimously.

Former chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson, in her capacity as ABA Alternate Delegate, delivered a report on the 2018 ABA Midyear Meeting in Vancouver. The ABA is planning to streamline its multi-tiered dues structure and include two section memberships with base dues. Resolutions addressed included a resolution to encourage law firms to give women lawyers more opportunities for courtroom experience, advancing well-being in the legal profession, discouraging the use of solitary confinement for detainees, encouraging the extension of Batson challenges to bar peremptory challenges of jurors on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, urging that the death penalty not be imposed upon minors, and providing court-appointed counsel for all proceedings that may result in a loss of liberty, in order to reach "quasi-criminal" matters, akin to Civil Gideon.

Andrew Christy, Independence Foundation Intern for the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, presented a [resolution](#) regarding proposed rule changes with respect to incarceration of the indigent for failure to pay in summary cases. Following debate, a motion to approve the resolution carried with a majority voting in favor, three Board members opposing the resolution and one abstention.

Molly Tack-Hooper, immediate past chair of the Public Interest Section, presented a [resolution](#) to amend the Public Interest Section's bylaws. A motion to approve the resolution carried unanimously.

Legislative Counsel Anthony Crisci delivered a report on legislative matters at the state level. Key issues currently before the state legislature include property tax reform and merit selection bills.

Chancellor Platt nominated Priscilla Jimenez whose appointment was announced at the Board retreat but not voted upon. Chancellor Platt also nominated Kenneth Murphy to a four-year term on the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention, Lauren McKenna as Chair of the Campaign for Qualified Judges, and Valentine Brown, Renee Garcia, Amber Racine, Sara Richman and Dina Schlossberg to the Philadelphia Legal Assistance Board. Motions to approve all the nominations carried unanimously.

Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz delivered a report on membership. Dues revenue of \$807,095 has been collected. Widener Law School has agreed to pay for its students to join the bar association. He thanked Chancellor-elect Rochelle Fedullo and Andrea Morris-Tracey for their work on this project. The Bar is inviting additional firms to join the Large Firm Management Committee. Vendor Court Call agreed to provide discounted services to our members. Sponsorships with MyCase and other vendors are being negotiated. The bar association sponsored a successful CLE event at the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline Institute of Trial Advocacy in conjunction with all area law schools. He thanked Tara Phoenix for her efforts in planning this event and developing a partnership with area law schools.

Chancellor Platt announced the creation of a strategic vision task force and working group to address such goals as financial sustainability, technology and modernization, membership retention and recruitment, relevance and member engagement, community service and such other goals as the task force may identify. She congratulated former chancellor Deborah Gross on receiving the Excellence Award of the National Conference of Bar Foundations (NCBF), presented at the NCBF annual meeting held in conjunction with the American Bar Association's midyear meeting in Vancouver. The YLD held a successful expungement clinic and has launched a mentoring program with the Senior Lawyers Committee. Chancellor Platt reviewed numerous projects underway, including the creation of a separate Midsize Law Firm Management Committee and a Wellness Committee, immigration clinics, revisions to the Bar's personnel handbook being drafted by the HR Committee, a U.S. Supreme Court induction ceremony and many others. Chancellor Platt also congratulated Superior Court Judge Anne Lazarus who will be receiving the Anne X. Alpern Award at the Pennsylvania Bar Association's annual meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the Board went into executive session at 5 p.m. and adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc J. Zucker  
Secretary

**Board of Governors Attendance  
February 15, 2018**

**Voting members present (by phone or in person):**

Mary Platt	Francesca Iacovangelo
Rochelle Fedullo	Nicholas Kamau
Hon. A. Michael Snyder (Ret.)	Alisha Lubin
Marc Zucker	Michael van der Veen
Jennifer Coatsworth	Dominique Ward
Regina Foley	Kevin Mincey
Matthew Olesh	Vincent Barbera
Amber Racine	Michaela Tassinari
Maureen Farrell	Eric Siegel
James Funt	James Berardinelli
Adam Taylor	Ann Funge
Hon. Sandra Mazer Moss (Ret.)	Timothy Holman
Maureen Olives	Molly Tack-Hooper
Jennifer Seme	David Shapiro
Meghan Claiborne	Hon. Tina Rago

**Absent:**

Katayun Jaffari	Susan Lin
Edward Beitz	Neil Maskeri
Angela Giampolo	Benjamin Barnett
Wendy Hess	Deborah Gross
Teresa Rodriguez	

**Non-voting members present:**

Mark Tarasiewicz	Abraham Reich
Priscilla Jimenez	Wesley Payne
Harry Reichner	

**Absent:**

Lawrence Beaser	Mary-Kate Martin
Gaetan Alfano	Patricia Infanti
Thomas Brophy	Robyn Addis
Niki Ingram	Butler Buchanan