

Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting (Organizational Meeting)
January 7, 2021, at 4 p.m.
Meeting held via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chancellor Lauren McKenna at 4:04 p.m.

Chancellor McKenna provided a welcome and opening remarks. Chancellor McKenna acknowledge the events that took place at the Capitol yesterday and stated that society looks to institutions for guidance and stability in such times and that the Association is such an institution.

Chancellor McKenna remarked it is unusual for the first meeting of the Board to take place before the Board retreat but given that this year's retreat will be held in a virtual format it made sense to take care of the organizational issues in a meeting prior to the retreat. The Board retreat will be held on January 16th with more details to follow. There were brief comments about the format of the retreat and drawbacks of a virtual retreat lasting several hours. Chancellor McKenna stated that those issues have been discussed with the retreat planner and they have worked to make the retreat as positive as possible. Chancellor McKenna reiterated that this organizational meeting is typically held as part of the retreat and taking care of some of these issues before the retreat will allow the Board to focus on creative issues and challenges during the retreat.

Chancellor McKenna announced that pursuant to the Bylaws, at the first meeting of the year, a Chair and a Vice Chair of the Board must be selected. Chancellor McKenna nominated Riley H. Ross, III to be Chair of the Board of Governors for a one-year term and asked for a second. The nomination received a second and there were no other nominations. A vote was held and Mr. Ross was unanimously elected Chair of the Board of Governors.

Chair Ross took charge of the meeting and called for nominations of a Vice Chair. Chancellor-Elect Wesley R. Payne, IV nominated Kristine L. Calalang to be Vice Chair of the Board of Governors for a one-year term. There was a second to the nomination. There were no other nominations or discussion and Ms. Calalang was unanimously elected Vice Chair of the Board of Governors.

Chair Ross recognized Chancellor McKenna, who announced the following appointments for a one-year term, which do not require Board approval:

Reginald T. Shuford to continue his service as Diversity Chair.
Larry Beaser to continue his service as counsel to the Board.

Chair Ross also recognized Chancellor McKenna to make the following appointment to the Cabinet pursuant to Bylaw Section 3.14, which requires Board approval of appointees to Cabinet who are not Board Members. There was a second to the nomination and it was unanimously approved:

Louis S. Rulli as Access to Justice Advisor.

Chancellor McKenna also presented the following appointments to the Judicial Commission, which require Board approval. All of the appointments were unanimously approved:

Prince Altee Thomas for a four-year term.
Helen C. Matthews, MD – Lay member for a two-year term.
Stephanie Davis – Lay member for a one-year term.
Shelly Beaser – Lay member for a one-year term

Chancellor McKenna announced appointment of Chair of the Judicial Commission, Kenneth A. Murphy, for a one-year term which does not require Board approval.

Chancellor McKenna then recognized Chancellor-Elect Payne, who announced the appointment of a Vice Chair of Judicial Commission, Niki T. Ingram, for a one-year term which does not require Board approval.

Chancellor McKenna announced that she is appointing Commission Vice Chair Niki Ingram to the Commission to fill the unexpired term of a Commission member who has resigned. The appointment is through the end of 2023 and requires Board approval. The appointment was seconded and was unanimously approved.

Chair Ross then recognized Chancellor McKenna for appointments to the Board of Trustees of the Campaign for Qualified Judges, which require Board approval. Both appointments received seconds to their nomination and were unanimously approved.

Matthew S. Olesh – Chair for a one-year term.
Ernest Holtzheimer – Treasurer for a one-year term.

Chancellor McKenna advised the Board that Amber Racine had served in the Vice Chair position and she is still considering an appointment for that position.

Chair Ross advised that pursuant to Bylaw Section 3.10 each Board member shall take or subscribe to an oath or affirmation of office as prescribed by the Board. Chair Ross then administered the oath.

Chair Ross then announced that the Board retreat will take place via Zoom on January 16th and that all members of the Board of Governors – voting and non-voting – must sign the Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement Form and instructed all to read and sign the previously distributed form and return the executed versions to Secretary Michael Stackow.

Counsel to the Board, Lawrence Beaser, provided a presentation on the fiduciary responsibilities of the members of the Board of Governors.

The meeting was then adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Stackow
Secretary

**Board of Governors Attendance
January 7, 2021**

Voting members present:

Lauren P. McKenna
Wesley R. Payne, IV
Michael T. van der Veen
Matthew S. Olesh
Jennifer S. Coatsworth
Riley Ross
Kristine L. Calalang
Diane Penneys Edelman
Lawrence S. Felzer
Dino Privitera
Erin Lamb
Lauren Banton
Craig R. Levin
Nipun J. Patel
Andre J. Webb
Melanie J. Foreman
Damaris L. Garcia
Angella Middleton

Marc J. Zucker
Michael J. Stackow
Denise M. Mandi
Scott S. Small
Ying Zhou
P. Michael Jones
Ernest Holtzheimer
Marissa Bluestine
Maureen Farrell
Arly Smith-Pearson
Joyce C. Sun
Jordan Strokovsky
James R. Malone, Jr.
Mark Mazzanti
Hon. A. Michael Snyder
Nicholas S. Kamau
Reginald T. Shuford

Absent:

James F. Berardinelli
P. Douglas Sisk
Neelima Vanguri

Wendi Barish
Eileen G. Murphy

Non-voting members present:

Lawrence J. Beaser

Harvey Hurdle, Jr.

Absent:

Wilson M. Brown
Abraham C. Reich

Butler Buchanan, III

Invited guests present:

Louis S. Rulli
Rochelle M. Fedullo

