

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting
July 25, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 4:18 p.m. by Chair Marc Zucker.

Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson began the meeting by reporting on her recent activities, including the following: provided remarks at a July 2 naturalization ceremony presided over by Judge Norma Shapiro, in honor of Freedom Week; along with Chief Justice Castille who was the keynote speaker, provided remarks at the July 9 Large Firm Management Committee Summer Associate Reception, which was attended by over 200 people and well-organized by Committee Co-Chairs Vince McGuinness from Cozen and Ben Barnett from Dechert; and, along with Terry Sacks, met with the Americans for Democratic Action Committee on July 8 to make a presentation about the Judicial Commission's process. NOW has also invited Chancellor Wilkinson to discuss the Judicial Commission's process.

Chancellor Wilkinson announced upcoming events including the following: July 29, Chancellor's Leadership Institute on generational diversity; August 7, Chancellor's Leadership Institute with the Presidents of the Trial Lawyers, the Brandeis Society and the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania; September 10, Chancellor's Forum on Diversity with CEO of the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession Sandra Yamate, Association Secretary Sophia Lee and Treasurer Wes Payne, who are also the Co-Presidents of the Philadelphia Diversity Law Group, and Brennan Torregrossa, Co-Chair of the Corporate In-House Counsel Committee. The Education Law Committee has put together a program for September 12 with Justice Todd, Judge Brooks-Smith and Judge Shapiro.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the June 27, 2013 Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Wesley R. Payne IV presented the Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2013. He reported that we are over-budget in revenue by \$142,500. LRIS has brought in \$170,000 more than anticipated and special events have brought in an additional \$60,000. Our expenses are below budget by almost \$52,000. Other sources of revenue are also doing well and, overall, we are in a good financial position for now. After consideration, the Treasurer's Financial Report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chancellor Wilkinson provided additional announcements including that she attended the 170th Anniversary Dinner for *The Legal Intelligencer*, wherein Vice-Chancellor Al Dandridge and Larry Beaser were honored for their service as esteemed members of the legal community. She also reported that the Cabinet decided that the Association will not sign on as amicus on the legal malpractice issue discussed at a previous meeting because there was lack of consensus among the members of the State Civil Litigation Section.

Chancellor Wilkinson presented on the formation of a Committee on Insurance Practice. She explained that there has been ongoing discussion about which committee to assign attorneys whose work is in insurance practice. Board members Eric Weitz and Jen Coatsworth, as well as Sean O'Donnell from Cozen will participate on the new committee. Upon consideration by the Board, the motion to establish the Committee on Insurance Practice unanimously passed.

Chancellor Wilkinson sought to appoint members to the Elections Committee as follows: Jennifer Coatsworth, John Encarnacion, Regina Foley, Nikki Johnson-Huston, Aneesh Mehta, Ourania Papademetriou, Scott Reid, James Rocco, Eric Weitz and Marc Zucker. Upon consideration by the Board, the motion for the appointments unanimously passed.

Art Read and Mary Catherine Roper presented a Resolution to Co-Sponsor the Resolution of the American Bar Association Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities on Repeal of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (18 U.S.C. §43). Ms. Roper, a senior attorney with the ACLU, explained that the Act generally applies to animal processing and animal testing facilities and that the legislation puts the force of the federal government on one side of the public debate. Under current legislation, one case has been brought in California, while others have been prosecuted under previous versions of the legislation. This resolution comes from the Civil Right Committee, and the Public Interest Section. It has also been considered by the Pennsylvania Bar Association. First Amendment advocates say this legislation has a serious chilling effect on free speech and could possibly reach activity that is legal. The resolution asks that Congress reconsider and repeal the portions of the legislation that are unconstitutionally broad and that, secondly, pending process, the Justice Department does not take action under the Act. Following a discussion among the Board about various aspects of the legislation and the resolution itself, the sense of the Board was that our ABA delegate should vote to support the resolution at the ABA House of Delegates meeting.

Abe Reich also received the sense of board that our ABA Delegates should move forward to co-sponsor a resolution urging the President and Congress to move forward with the process of appointing federal judges.

LGBT Rights Committee Co-Chairs Rebecca Levin and Michael Viola presented a Resolution Supporting Legislation to Address Student Bullying in Pennsylvania Schools. Jason Goodman, Executive Director of Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition, who was also present, brought House Bill 156 to the attention of the LGBT Rights Committee. Mr. Viola reported that various sections and committees have received the resolution. The purpose of the bill is to toughen up legislation on bullying in schools, including cyber-bullying. While bullying is not defined, it does expand the scope of who is protected by the anti-bullying statute and puts pressure on schools to report bullying. It does not change criminal liability, but it does seek to increase accurate reporting of bullying. The resolution is supported by the Criminal Justice, Family Law, Workers Compensation and State Civil Litigation Sections as well as the Employee Benefits, Immigration and LGBT Rights Committees. The Education Law and Legal Rights of Children Committees support the bill in principle, but could not formally support the resolution because they have not had a chance to meet. Ms. Levin reported

that each school district is to have its own policy and that a centralized database will receive the reports. Upon consideration by the Board, the resolution passed. Mark Cohen abstained from the vote.

Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson reported on the ratification of the Friendship Agreement between the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Barcelona Bar Association. Executive Director Ken Shear received a call from the President of the Barcelona Bar Association to enter into a Friendship Agreement, wherein the two bar associations have agreed to share information with one another. Charlie Klitsch has been designated as the liaison on behalf of the Association and the bar associations have agreed to meet once a year. Additionally, an exchange program is enabled through the Agreement. Upon consideration by the Board, a motion to ratify the Agreement unanimously passed.

Chancellor Wilkinson reported on the Association's response to the mistreatment of lawyers and judges in Turkey. She acknowledged that Joe Sullivan from Pepper Hamilton did the heavy lifting on the research in support of the Association's letter addressed to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, and expressed gratitude to Mr. Sullivan and the International Law Committee for their work on this matter.

Philadelphia Bar Foundation President Deborah Gross announced that the Board will be receiving an invitation from the Bar Foundation to attend a meeting on September 19 wherein conceptualizations of a civil justice center will be presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sophia Lee
Secretary

**Board of Governors
Attendance
July 25, 2013**

Voting Members:

Present:

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
William P. Fedullo
Albert Dandridge
Sophia Lee
Jacqueline Segal
Wesley Payne
Mary Platt
Marc Zucker
Eric Weitz
John Encarnacion

Gina Rubel
Jennifer Coatsworth
Ourania Papademetriou
Natalie Klyashtorny
Brad Shuttleworth
John Savoth
Edward Beitz
Mark Cohen
Christian Petrucci

Absent:

Nikki Johnson-Huston
Brian Chacker
Scott Reid
Rachel Branson
James Rocco
Kay Yu
Rachel Gallegos
Rachel Kopp
Emily Marks
Dawn Tancredi

Brandi Brice
Aneesh Mehta
Barbara Sicalides
Kevin Mincey
Meredith Brennan
Gordon Wase
Sara Jacobson
Richard Vanderslice
Howard Goldberg

Non-Voting Members:

Present:

Kenneth Shear
Louis Rulli

Deborah Gross
Judy Stouffer
Abraham Reich

Absent:

Lawrence Beaser
Michael Hayes
Rudolph Garcia
Justine Gudenas
Heather Austin

Hilda Thompson
Richard Alonso
Cheryl Disch
A. Michael Pratt
Sayde Ladov

