

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting
June 24, 2004**

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the May meeting were approved as submitted. The Chair recognized the Treasurer to give her report. Ms. Platt noted that the Association remains in good financial shape and is ahead in dues collection. Also, LRIS continues to have a very good year. To date, expenses are running below budget. Upon motion made and seconded, the financial report was approved.

The Chancellor took the floor to give his report. Mr. Bevilacqua noted that he and Mr. Chirls had met with the editorial staff of the Inquirer with regard to the many issues we are addressing as an Association. The Chancellor noted that he had recently participated in the dedication of the newly renovated PBEC. Many judges from the first judicial district were present as well as a large contingent of Pennsylvania Bar Association members.

Chancellor Bevilacqua noted that the June Quarterly luncheon featuring Juan Williams was an inspiration

The Chancellor feels that recognition of the voting members of the Board is long overdue and as a token of recognition and appreciation, he ordered a pin struck with the Bar Association seal and had them distributed to the voting members of the Board.

The Chancellor moved the appointment of Mary Gay Scanlan and Michael D. LiPuma to the Board of the Philadelphia Legal Assistance Corporation. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

The Chair then made his report noting that on July 15th, YLD and the Workers Comp Section are co-hosting a Casino night and that June 30th is Bar night at the Phillies.

The Chair introduced Kathleen Wilkinson, Richard Seidel and Robert Szostak, who moved for the creation of a State Civil Litigation Section. The section will consist of the former Compulsory Arbitration Committee, the State Civil Committee and the Medical Legal Committee. This idea has long been percolating. It has been discussed with many committees of the Association. It has also been discussed outside of the Association with the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association and the Philadelphia Association of Defense Counsel. Mr. Garcia drafted a set of proposed bylaws for the new section. A friendly amendment was made by Mr. Cooper which was accepted by the proponents, requiring section elections by December 31, 2004. The resolution creating the section was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Chair introduced Bruce Franzel, Chair of the Charter and Bylaws committee. Mr.

Franzel had several proposed bylaw amendments for the Board to consider. It was determined by consensus to table the bylaw amendment requiring board members to perform one pro-bono case per year.

Bylaw proposal 1100 meant to streamline the process by which bylaws are changed was acknowledged with the consensus to move forward with this amendment

Bylaw proposal 903 (b) which would permit sections to have co-chairs was also acknowledged with the consensus to move forward with the amendment.

The Chair introduced Margie Klaw and Carolyn Zack of the Family Law section who presented a resolution drafted by a committee within the section to oppose the amendment of the United States Constitution restricting the rights of states to prescribe the qualifications of civil marriage. Upon motion made and seconded, a brief discussion ensued. The resolution then passed unanimously.

The Chair introduced Judy Berkman who presented two resolutions. The first resolution was to reduce the statute for adverse possession to 10 years and the second being a request that Congress extend the ban on semiautomatic weapons. Upon motion made and seconded, both resolutions passed unanimously.

Ken Shear, Executive Director, reported on the status of the negotiations to reconstruct the Bar's web site. The search committee determined Maskar Design, Inc was the best vendor. The cost will be \$190,000 payable over two years. Upon motion made and seconded, the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract with Maskar to reconstruct the Bar's website was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Sayde Joy Ladov
Secretary