

**PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
MAY 27, 2004**

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair asked for approval of the Minutes of the May 4th 2004 meeting. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were approved.

The Chair of the Board introduced the Treasurer, Mary Platt. Ms. Platt reported that the Bar Association is running at a positive variance. She explained that the dues have been paid earlier than in prior years. Upon motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report was approved.

The Chancellor took the floor to make his announcements. He praised Andrew Chirls, Alan Feldman, Ken Shear, all of the lawyers in the Tax Section, and the staff for all of their assistance in persuading City Council to vote in favor of the tax reform measure that will benefit partnerships. He explained that the vote was 9 to 8 and although it may not survive the Mayor's veto, it has established a precedent for future efforts. He explained that the Tax Section's efforts were huge and significant and he viewed this as a great success for the Bar Association.

The Chancellor also noted that he had a meeting planned to meet with Madam Justice Newman, pertaining to the bill that has been drafted about the institution of the Business Court. He complimented Mitchell Bach, for the work of the Business Law Section.

The Chancellor reported that the Quarterly Meeting on June 24, 2004, is going to be "dynamite." In addition to the guest speaker, Judge Giles is going to make a presentation about the "Just the Beginning Conference" that will be held in Philadelphia in October 2004, and Governor Rendell has been invited to speak about his educational initiative to change the ways public schools are funded.

The Chancellor listed all of the events that he has attended, including the Juror Appreciation Day, the opening of the new Arbitration Center, meetings with City Council, the Association of Legal Administrators' Luncheon, and the Philadelphia Bar Run. He noted that he and the Chancellor Elect and the Vice-Chancellor attended the Inaugural Dinner for Michael Reed, President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He also complimented Alan Feldman for his participation in the Philadelphia Bar Run.

The Chair presented his announcements. He attended the Purple Aster Ball, where Chancellor Bevilacqua was honored. He also attended various Committee and Section meetings. The Charter Bylaws Committee will have its resolution to change some of the bylaws submitted to the Board within the next month or two.

Director Ken Shear reported that the Lobbyist, Tony Crisci, has been working very hard on a number of legislative issues. Mr. Crisci will be here in June or September 2004, to discuss his efforts.

Mr. Shear also discussed the exciting developments with the new web site. A resolution regarding funding for that new web site will be submitted to the Board.

Efforts are under way to bring together all of the non-profit organizations affiliated with the Bar Association to educate them on responsibilities of the Executive Directors as well as the members of the particular Boards.

Mr. Shear noted that Daniel Cirucci was a speaker at the Business Section Leadership Conference for the Pennsylvania Bar Association. The Philadelphia Bar Association was well represented at that Conference.

Mr. Shear also announced that Mark Tarasiewicz won the 2004 Fast Track Award for his outstanding accomplishments and commitments to public relations. Mr. Shear acknowledged that Mr. Tarasiewicz has flourished over the years with regard to all of our publications, and that he has done an outstanding job.

Mr. Chirls reported on the Sister City Exchange Program. He introduced Michael Scullin, Esquire, Co-Chair of the International Law Committee. Mr. Scullin discussed the Exchange Program, where approximately 25 lawyers from Lyons, France come to work at firms in the Philadelphia area for 6 to 12 months. He is very hopeful that this program will grow and that it will provide economic development in both cities.

Mr. Chirls also noted that he, Chancellor Bevilacqua, and Vice-Chancellor Feldman met with a group of Judges from China.

The Chair introduced Peter Vaira, George Newman and Frank DeSimone to present the resolution from the Criminal Justice Section regarding taping of interrogations for homicide cases. The presenters believe that this was the necessary first step to take and that broader measures may be pursued in the future. After an interesting discussion, the resolution was passed unanimously.

The Chair introduced Mitchell Bach, of the Business Law Section, who presented a resolution supporting Senate Bill 276. The purpose of this resolution is to ensure that Pennsylvania Business Laws are modernized so as to encourage the formation of new businesses in Pennsylvania. A separate report was distributed highlighting the significant aspects of this legislation. The resolution also calls for the Philadelphia Bar Association to oppose any newspaper advertisements when a limited partnership or limited liability company is organized under Pennsylvania Law or qualifies to do business in Pennsylvania. This resolution was passed unanimously.

Chancellor Bevilacqua addressed the Board about the resolution recognizing the Centennial Anniversary of the Committee of 70, which will be presented to the Committee.

The Chair introduced Stanley Kull to submit a report from the Tax Section regarding the filing of an Amicus Curiae Brief in the Ignatz case. This involves constructive receipt of deferred compensation and has significant impact on all Philadelphia employers. The Tax Section was seeking authority to submit this Brief, if necessary to the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court *en banc* or to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Jane Dalton volunteered

to assist with procedural advice. The Chancellor will have the right to review the Brief and the Board agreed that it would defer to the Tax Section as to the content of the Brief and the filing of the Brief. Joseph Sullivan will draft a formal resolution confirming this plan.

The Chair introduced Kim Jessum for the Young Lawyer's Division report. She explained that Law Week was very successful. The next Happy Hour is on June 9, 2004. The YLD will have another Casino Night on July 15, 2004 in conjunction with the Workers' Compensation Section.

The Chair introduced Rudolph Garcia to report on the Federal Courts Committee Bench Bar Outing. This will be held at the Ashbourne Country Club on June 11, 2004. There are a number of substantive presentations by Lawyers and Judges and all are encouraged to attend.

The Chair announced the Night at the Phillies Game for the Bar Association on June 30, 2004.

The Chair recognized Edward Chacker who spoke about the success of the Access for Justice Campaign. He complimented the Board of Governors for the outstanding contributions.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice A. Toland
Vice Chair