PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION
FAMILY LAW SECTION MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 7, 2016
Chair Dina Ronsayro, Esquire, presided.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: Dina called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO MINUTES: The October minutes were approved.

III. TREASURER’S REPORT: The financial information was not available as of the time of this report.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Dina reminded the Section to consider volunteering at the Help Desk in Family Court. Please contact Lee Schwartz, Esquire, via e-mail to schedule a day to help (lee@schwartzjordan.com) – i.e., either Monday or Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

B. Dina reminded the Section to register for the Annual Dinner and Award Presentation at the Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia which will be on December 1, 2016.

V. VOTING

A. The previously discussed changes to the Section’s by-laws (which were detailed in the October minutes) were passed unanimously.

B. The proposed slate for 2017 Officers and new Executive Committee Members was also passed unanimously.

VI. GENERAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

A. Entries of Appearance – Attendees discussed the issues surrounding having multiple attorneys enter their appearance on cases. This issue will be further discussed by the Section’s Executive Committee.

B. Divorce Decrees – There was a reminder that the Prothonotary requires all proposed divorce decrees to be typewritten. Attendees discussed issues which pro se litigants may face regarding this requirement and whether the court would consider eliminating the requirement for the inclusion of proposed decrees in the Praecipe to Transmit for Divorce Decree package.
C. **Interim Custody Orders by Masters** – There was a clarification that these interim orders are in effect until further court order.

D. **Recommended Custody Orders by Masters** – There was a clarification that these recommended orders only go into effect if exceptions are not filed.

E. **Enforcement of Custody Orders by Police** – Attendees discussed the ongoing difficulty surrounding the lack of enforcement of custody orders by police in certain counties.

F. **Reconsideration of Orders** – Attendees agreed that if you want an order to be reconsidered, it is best to file your Motion for Reconsideration as soon as possible and not wait until the last minute.

G. **E-Filing and Dockets** – Attendees agreed that the online dockets should be upgraded to allow for the viewing of orders and other court filings along with the ability to e-file.

H. **Support Filings** – Attendees discussed filing for support through the Pennsylvania Child Support Program online via [https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/csws/home_controller.aspx?PageId=General/AttorneyHome.ascx&l=E](https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/csws/home_controller.aspx?PageId=General/AttorneyHome.ascx&l=E). The Section’s Support Committee will be providing more details regarding this process in the future.

I. **Lunches for Monthly Meetings** – Attendees discussed the possibility of having firms sponsor lunches for the meetings to allow meeting attendees to enjoy free lunches. The Executive Committee will discuss this idea at its next meeting.

VII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Committee meeting time/dates and announcements are disseminated over the FLS listserv.

VII. **GOOD & WELFARE:** None.
NEXT SECTION MEETING: Monday, January 9, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. on the 15th Floor of the Philadelphia Family Court building at 1501 Arch Street.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Thursday, January 19, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. on the 11th Floor of the Philadelphia Bar Association at 1101 Market Street.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Kristine L. Calalong, Esquire
Secretary