

Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
April 27, 2006

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. and upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the March 30, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved after the friendly amendment that Jeff Lindy had given the February, 2006 Treasurer's Report was offered and accepted.

2. A report was presented by Wendy Beetlestone and Kathleen Wilkinson regarding the Raising the Bar Campaign. They are seeking participation by every attorney in member firms at the amount of \$300 per attorney. To date, they have 3,081 attorneys participating at a total level of \$981,520.

3. Upon motion made, and seconded, the Treasurer's report was approved. At this juncture, the Association is \$124,000 over budget for the first quarter with expenses under budget by \$31,000. Proceeds from LRIS are up \$41,000. Ken Shear spoke briefly to the Board concerning the fact that last year the Association had an extraordinary year and that the Board should not have false expectations concerning this year's financial picture. It is the goal that the Association breaks even this year. He also announced staff changes. The Association has hired a full time Web Editor, being the only Bar Association in the country to offer Podcasts to its members. There is the plan for a new section on the Association's website dedicated to our legislative efforts. Finally, the Association has hired a new meetings planner, who comes to us from the Loews Hotel.

4. The Chancellor next gave his announcements. He acknowledged the passing of member Rotan Lee and the five (5) year old daughter of member Rich Negrin. He noted that he had recently had dinner with surrounding county bar presidents and executive directors to talk about the mutual priorities of their respective organizations. He complimented Beth Huffman on the number of media appearances she had arranged for him over the past month. The Senior Lawyer Committee has been reactivated under the guidance of Lou Fryman. The upcoming Chancellor's forum will discuss Judicial Selection, with the participation of Lynn Marks, Senator Anthony Williams, The Honorable George Overton and Legislator Mark Cohen. He noted that the Raising the Bar campaign must maintain the current level of intensity after the media blitz is over in order for the anticipated success of the program to be realized. He attended a meeting concerning the Association's website, at which it was revealed that the site had 4500 visitors during March and 500 podcast downloads. Finally, the Board approved new Philadelphia Lawyer Magazine Editorial Board Members Arlene Rivera Finkelstein and Thomas More Marone.

5. A resolution was presented by Tom Prettyman and Karen Detamore on behalf of the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities Committee regarding Sign Language Interpreters. They asked for a \$5,000 fund to be established and administered by the Association to assist lawyers in retaining said interpreters. After a friendly amendment was offered by Larry Beaser and accepted, the Resolution passed unanimously.

6. Young Lawyers Division Chair Michael Hayes addressed the Board on the plans for the upcoming Law Week. They will again present the Lawyer in the Classroom project, along with the Law Fair in the Gallery and Lawyer for a Day. On May 6th, the Division will hold a Comedy Night Fundraiser for the Bar Foundation. A discussion ensued thereafter concerning the participation in such events by associates in the larger firms and how that could be funded.

7. Assistant Secretary Kathleen Wilkinson, pursuant to Association Bylaw 216, again explained the Pro Bono Requirement for membership on the Board. Forms were available for members to fill out which will enable them to receive a Pro Bono case if needed to complete their requirement. Written certification must be received by June 30th.

8. Laura Feldman made a presentation on the upcoming Bench Bar Conference. She is co-chair along with Ron Kovler. Dan Abrams, of Court TV, will be the keynote speaker. There will be a panel on judicial independence including former Justice Russell Nigro. There is a scholarship program in place for government and public interest lawyers who may wish to attend. The Bench Bar is scheduled for September 29-30, 2006 at the Tropicana Hotel in Atlantic City.

9. Deborah Weinstein and Joseph Prim gave a presentation on the Law Practice Management Program. The intention is to create a new Division with four (4) committees: Technology, Financial, Marketing, and Management. Brochures are being prepared and they are attempting to get free copies of the ABA's Law Practice Management Magazine for our membership. Discounts will also be offered to our members through selected vendors.

10. Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved at 5:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:
John E. Savoth
Secretary