

**Philadelphia Bar Association  
Board of Governors Meeting  
December 15, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Chair Lauren P. McKenna.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the meetings held November 15, 2016 were unanimously approved.

Assistant Treasurer Natalie Klyashtorny presented the Financial Report for the period ending November 30, 2016. The Association is ahead of budget by approximately \$84,036. Revenue is running slightly under budget by approximately \$22,994, primarily attributed to CLE running under budget, but is offset by dues running over budget by approximately \$41,908. LRIS is running under budget, but a fee check in the amount of approximately \$63,000 was just received. CLE is running under budget in expenses also, which offsets a portion of the CLE revenue variance. Committees are under budget in income by approximately \$11,328, which is offset by expenses being under budget by approximately \$15,670. Expenses are under budget by approximately \$107,030, primarily attributed to benefits and cost savings measures. Upon consideration by the Board, the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30, 2016 was unanimously approved.

Women in the Profession Committee Co-Chair Jennifer Coatsworth presented consideration of a Resolution honoring Roberta D. Liebenberg on receiving the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women of Achievement Award. Coatsworth said it is an honor and privilege to present this prestigious award since Liebenberg is one of her mentors. In anticipation of delivering the award, Coatsworth spoke to some of Liebenberg's friends and colleagues, who offered wonderful remarks. Former Executive Director of PA for Modern Courts Lynn Marks said: "When Bobbi Liebenberg speaks, people listen" because she is "consistently smart, savvy, honest, articulate and inclusive" and has "impeccable judgment." Temple University School of Law Dean Joann Epps noted that Liebenberg is "one of the most talented and accomplished anti-trust lawyers in a field dominated by men" due to not one, but a career of successes, and her "professional accomplishments are without parallel." President and CEO of Bet Tzedek Jessie Kornberg said many women owe part of their success to Liebenberg. Roberta Pichini commented that Liebenberg has been a "consistent source of inspiration for women lawyers in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania and nationally," and that she has been "tireless, steadfast and tenacious in her dedication to advocating for fairness and the advancement of women in the profession with research publications, teaching, lecturing and mentoring, all while practicing at the highest level while raising her family."

Liebenberg thanked Coatsworth and the Board for the recognition and honor, and expressed her appreciation for those women who have worked alongside her for the achievement of gender equality for women in the profession and in society-at-large. She remarked that, after almost 40 years, she remains steadfast in her goal to increase the percentage of women equity partners beyond 16-17%, and she thanked everyone for their work towards that effort and shared pursuit of justice and equality for all. Upon consideration by the Board, the Resolution was unanimously approved.

Board Member Wendy Castor Hess, on behalf of Civil Rights Committee Co-Chair Molly Tack-Hooper who was unavailable since she gave birth that day, presented consideration of a Resolution urging the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and Board of Law Examiners to welcome qualified candidates to the Pennsylvania Bar regardless of Immigration Status. Hess reported that there is one applicant in Pennsylvania who sat for the bar examination and passed at great sacrifice, but, nevertheless, may now not be admitted to the Bar. The Resolution notes that the Association is committed to advancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, and removing obstacles to participate in the profession based on national origin. As a result, the Resolution urges the Supreme Court of PA and the PA Board of Law Examiners to opt out of the bar on professional licensing of immigrants without legal status, and adopt rules allowing the admission of qualified candidates to the bar

regardless of immigration status. Hess asked the Board to support the Resolution in order to admit deserving individuals to the bar, which will strengthen the bar. Upon consideration by the Board, the Resolution was unanimously approved. Past Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson noted for the minutes that she was not participating in the discussion on this Resolution since she is on the Board of Law Examiners.

YLD Vice Chair Matthew Olesh presented consideration of a Resolution regarding the nomination of Senator Jeff Sessions as United States Attorney General. Olesh stated the nomination triggered a number of questions and concerns as a result of certain remarks made by Senator Sessions and his voting record. Olesh stressed the Resolution does not raise a partisan issue. Instead, it relates to the Association's values including civil rights, voting rights, and access to justice. As a result, the Resolution asks senators both in and outside the Commonwealth to thoroughly vet the points raised in the Resolution before voting on the nomination.

Past Chancellor William Fedullo reminisced about a similar Resolution advanced year's past concerning the appointment of U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. A question was raised whether, by singling out Sessions, the Resolution gave the appearance that the Board was endorsing the other nominees. Following discussion, it was determined that the Resolution would address only Sessions, as the candidate for the country's Chief Law Enforcement Officer, in an effort to foster the Bar Association's support of civil rights and ensure laws are faithfully and fairly enforced. Upon consideration by the Board, the Resolution was unanimously approved.

Chief Financial Officer Susan Knight presented a Report on revised finance policy and procedures. A meeting to review the policy and procedures was held and attended by Knight, Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz, Assistant Executive Director Paul Kazaras, Chancellor Gaetan Alfano, Chancellor-Elect Deborah Gross, and Vice Chancellor Mary Platt. In sum, two changes were discussed. The first change pertains to the structure of the finance audit committee, with the CFO and Executive Director being added, and the Secretary and Assistant Secretary being removed. The second change is that alcohol beverages consumed during travel will no longer be reimbursed.

Further, Knight reported on the online Bar Election. Past Chancellor Albert Dandridge III did a wonderful job as Chair of the Committee formed to effectuate the process. The company used for the voting process was excellent. Although the only contested races this year were for the Board of Governors and YLD, over 2,000 votes were cast which was comparable to the prior year which involved a contested vice chancellor race. Knight recalled that in prior years that did not entail a vice chancellor race an average of approximately 1,200 total votes were cast. The event was smooth and successful from both the perspective of the Association and the voters.

Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz presented a Report on Membership. First, he congratulated Knight on the tremendous work she did on the online election process. Further, he congratulated Director of Communications and Marketing Meredith Avakian-Hardaway for receiving the Public Relations Society of American ("PRSA") Anthony Fulginiti Award for Commitment to Education, at the 48<sup>th</sup> annual PRSA Pepperpot Award Ceremony, held December 6, 2016. Tarasiewicz attended and applauded Avakian-Hardaway for delivering a "phenomenal" address."

With regard to membership, Tarasiewicz reported the good news that the 2016 number of members increased 455 from the prior year, bringing the total number of members, excluding honorary members, from 9,580 to 10,035. Tarasiewicz attributed the increase largely to the additional law student members that resulted from the Association's Law School Outreach Program, as well as an increase in first-year attorneys. Additionally, for the first time in years, there has been an increase of attorneys admitted over ten years, which is positive for the Association since that category brings in the highest rate of dues. Total dues revenue collected for 2016 is 1.917 million dollars, which is approximately \$42,000 above the budgeted amount to collect for that year. The 2017 dues billing has been processed, and large firm and group invoices were hand-delivered on December 9, 2016. Tarasiewicz commended Manager of Member Services Andrea Morris-Tracey for her great work on membership.

Board of Governors Chair McKenna reflected on the Board's many accomplishments in 2016 that helped advance the goals set at the January 2016 Bar Leader's Retreat for greater involvement, participation, and establishing relevance for the Association. McKenna reminisced that 17 Resolutions were passed during the year addressing important issues. They included positions on legislation including passing a Resolution on the Patient Trust Act; a Resolution opposing legislation relating to evidence on treatment guidelines with respect to workers' compensation claims; opposing legislation to impose strict liability on sanctuary cities such as Philadelphia for injuries caused by crimes committed by noncitizens; a Resolution pertaining to legislation calling for a clear ban on gifts to public officials and employees; and, legislation addressing the gender pay gap issue. Thanks to Director of Communications and Marketing Avakian-Hardaway, all of those positions were well publicized. Further, the Board addressed issues vital to the legal profession, including sponsoring a Resolution to the ABA House of Delegates reaffirming the commitment to support local bar-sponsored lawyer referral services and opposing ventures such as ABA Law Connect; endorsing an amendment to the PA Rule of Professional Conduct allowing PA attorneys to provide advice to marijuana related businesses; and supporting emerging models to improve meaningful access to justice for all Pennsylvanians. Most recently, the Association supported a Resolution amending Rule 8.4 which characterizes as professional misconduct behavior by a lawyer to engage in conduct that the lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socio and economic status in the conduct related to the practice of law, and states that a lawyer may engage in conduct to promote diversity and inclusion without violating the rule, which was seen as an important change by the ABA in moving forward to deal with discrimination. In sum, the Board had many accomplishments in 2016 that bolstered the relevance of the Association to the community. Chair McKenna thanked the Board for their support of Chancellor Alfano's initiatives.

Chair McKenna presented plaques to outgoing members and officers of the Board of Governors, including: Secretary Jacqueline Segal; Board Members Lawrence Felzer, Jeremy Menkowitz, and Peter Newman; YLD Chair Erin Lamb; Criminal Justice Section Representative Thomas Innes, III; Probate & Trust Section Representative Scott Small; State Civil Litigation Section Representative Brad Rush; Tax Section Chair Jennifer O'Leary; Workers Compensation Section Representative Joseph Turchi; and, Honorary Members including Past Chair Brad Shuttleworth, Ex-Officio William Fedullo, Philadelphia Bar Foundation President (Ex-Officio) Steven Bizar, Philadelphia Association of Paralegals, President (Ex-Officio) Andrea Yannuzzi, Legal Marketing Association – Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter (Ex-Officio) Andrew Laver, and, Delaware Valley Law Firm Marketing Group (Ex-Officio) Cheryl Disch. Chair McKenna expressed her thanks to all of the outgoing officers and members.

Chancellor Alfano said Chair McKenna did a wonderful job leading the Board with respect, grace, and dignity, and noted the Board could not have accomplished all that it did without McKenna's leadership. Alfano presented McKenna with a gift of a crystal gavel from the Board to thank her for all of her efforts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.. Following the adjournment, the Board went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline G. Segal  
Secretary

**Board of Governors  
Attendance  
December 15, 2016**

**Voting members**

**Present:**

Gaetan J. Alfano  
Deborah R. Gross  
Mary F. Platt  
Jacqueline Segal  
Jennifer S. Coatsworth  
Natalie Klyashtorny  
Lauren McKenna  
Kevin Mincey  
Rahat Babar  
Lawrence Felzer  
Julia Swain  
Kathleen Kirkpatrick  
Ira Lefton  
Myisha Lacey-Tilson

Shabrei Parker  
Maureen Farrell  
James Funt  
Wendy Hess  
Albert S. Dandridge III  
Brad Shuttleworth  
Matthew Olesh  
Katayun Jaffari  
Thomas Innes  
Maureen Olives  
Scott Small  
Joseph Turchi  
Brad Rush

**Present on Phone:**

Jeffrey Rosenthal

Erin Lamb

**Absent:**

Regina M. Foley  
Jeremy Menkowitz  
Peter Newman  
Erin Siciliano  
Edward Beitz

Angela Giampolo  
Teresa Rodriguez  
Adam Taylor  
Dina Ronsayro  
Jennifer O'Leary  
Eileen Quigley

**Non-voting members**

**Present:**

Mark Tarasiewicz  
Rochelle Fedullo  
William Fedullo  
Sophia Lee

Louis Rulli  
Mary-Kate Breslin  
Kathleen Wilkinson

**Absent:**

Lawrence Beaser

Steven Bizar

Andrea Yannuzzi  
Andrew Laver  
Cheryl Disch  
Mary-Kate Breslin  
Patti Infanti  
Jennifer Snyder

