

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting
June 30, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. p.m. by Chair Lauren P. McKenna.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the May 26, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Regina Foley presented the Financial Report for the period through May 31, 2016. The Association is ahead of budget by \$137,856. Revenue is running over budget by \$55,911 which is primarily attributed to dues, LRIS and affiliated organizations. Expenses are running under budget by \$81,945, primarily due to benefits and cost saving measures. The Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31, 2016 was unanimously approved.

Additionally, Foley reported that the new auditors, Kreisler Miller, commenced the field work this week, and the audit is on track to present the proposed budget to the Board in September 2016, as planned.

Legislative Liaison Committee Co-Chair Deborah Gordon Klehr reported on Pennsylvania's fair school funding formula. Klehr reported that PA was just one of a handful of states across the nation that did not have a funding formula. Because the schools are severely underfunded and so many students are impoverished, the Education Law Center and organizations statewide have been pushing the legislature to have a formula for a number of years. The Association's Board of Governors passed a Resolution urging the legislature to pass a fair funding formula based on actual needs. The fair school funding formula takes into consideration different weights that measure both student and district factors including the number of students in poverty and acute poverty, English language learners, and the weight of the specific school district and the tax effort and tax capacity. The benefits of having the fair school funding formula are limited, however, by the amount of funds that will pass through the formula. Of the 5.6 billion dollars in basic education funding in year 2015, the formula, which limited the application to new funds from 2015 and 2016 forward, applied to only 1.6 million, resulting in a significant monetary gap. PA has the largest gap in the nation between the spending for the wealthiest and poorest school districts, and the state is 3 billion dollars short of what should be spent on basic education. The fair school funding formula is just a first step which needs to be followed by sufficient money to fund the formula.

Klehr also spoke briefly on the budget, noting that there is still no budget but talks are continuing; the need for charter school reform and the charter school expansion bill; and, discussions of a cigarette tax and its impact on the Philadelphia School District. Finally, Klehr spoke of the law suit brought by the Education Law Center, Public Interest Law Center and pro bono counsel in late 2014 under the State Constitution Education Clause on the basis that, due to a lack of state funding, the General Assembly is failing its duty to maintain a thorough and efficient system of public education. The action failed to prevail before the Commonwealth Court in 2015, and will be heard by the PA Supreme Court on September 13, 2016.

Chancellor Alfano presented a Resolution honoring Michael E. Kunz on his retirement as Clerk of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of PA. The Chancellor reported that Kunz, who has served as Clerk of that Court since May 1979, is retiring the week of the Board meeting. Due to his length of service and extraordinary accomplishments and exceptional running of the Court, the Association is recognizing Kunz on his contributions to the Court and to the lives of all legal practitioners in Philadelphia with a Resolution recognizing his professional life. Upon consideration, the Resolution was unanimously approved. The Chancellor added that the Association was presenting Kunz with a gift.

Director of Public and Legal Services Charles Klitsch reported on the Resolution presented to the ABA House of Delegates regarding LRIS. The Resolution was supported and co-sponsored by the Chicago Bar Association, San Francisco Bar Association, PA Bar Association, Alleghany County Bar Association and the Montgomery Bar Association, and was presented to the ABA Rules and Calendaring Committee to be vetted. That Committee reviewed the Resolution and approved it for presentation to the House of Delegates pending certain changes. The Resolution contained language that stated: "Further resolve before the ABA directly or through third party vendors initiates any pro bono program that may result in an individual or business hiring an attorney for a fee such programs shall be fully vetted and approved by the House of Delegates. This provision is not intended to restrict the ABA from initiating programs to provide pro bono services for indigent persons." The ABA proposed changing that language to: "Further resolve that the ABA shall consider any effect on state, local, territorial and tribal bar association lawyer referral programs before initiating any program that may result in an individual or business hiring an attorney for a fee such programs shall be fully vetted and approved by the House of Delegates." Upon review, the Philadelphia Bar Association found that proposed change to be acceptable since it did not undermine the Association's goal to limit the ABA's ability to launch Rocket Lawyer without first consulting with the state and local bar associations. Subsequently, however, the ABA advised the Association that the aforementioned proposed language was incorrect. Instead, the clause would eliminate the language "... such programs shall be fully vetted and approved by the House of Delegates." The Association was not agreeable to that revised change since it undermined the Association's concerns. As a result, Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz reached out to Terrence Murphy, Executive Director of the Chicago Bar Association. Following discussions, they agreed to revise the language to state: "Further resolve that the ABA shall consider and thoroughly discuss with its constituent members how are represented by state and local bar associations in advance of approving any program or legal service initiative that may result in an individual or business hiring an attorney for a fee." That language was acceptable to this Association and the ABA since it addressed both Associations' concerns. The Resolution is on the agenda for the August 2016 ABA House of Delegates meeting.

Law School Outreach Committee Co-Chairs Hon. A. Michael Snyder (Ret.) and Brad Shuttleworth delivered an update on the Law School Outreach initiative. The Committee held a luncheon at the University of Pennsylvania Law School for 17 of their recent graduates, and presented Association membership certificates to those students, who were very appreciative. Snyder, Shuttleworth and Chancellor Alfano, attended and spoke of the benefits of Philadelphia Bar Association membership. Penn Law School Associate Director of Student Development Dimitri Islam, who was present at the event, assured the Association that the School would work with the Association in the fall of 2016 to ensure that the Association would be included in the student services fairs. Snyder related that this effort was the first time the Association had any inroads of this type with Penn Law School.

The Committee was also invited by Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law to participate in a private bar admissions ceremony that will be held in early November in the Mayor's reception room in Conversation Hall, to present certificates to Drexel law graduates. Snyder explained that the goal is for the students to learn the benefits of Bar membership so they are more likely to continue that membership as they embark on their career.

Chancellor Alfano noted that the Association is looking for Temple University Beasley School of Law and Rutgers School of Law alumni to assist with similar programs at those institutions.

Chancellor Alfano recognized Past Chancellor Albert S. Dandridge III at the meeting. Also, the Chancellor welcomed Shabrei Parker to the Board, and congratulated Parker and Vice Chair Kevin Mincey as Philadelphia "Super Lawyer" "Rising Stars." Parker and Mincey were also among twenty young lawyers highlighted in "Who's Next: Law." "Who's Next" is a billypenn.com feature presented by the Knight Foundation to honor some of the city's most dynamic young people.

Assistant Secretary Jennifer Coatsworth reminded the Board members to complete and submit to her or Director of Public and Legal Services Klitsch the pro bono certification form as required pursuant to Bylaws Section 216A on or before July 8, 2016. Coatsworth also urged the Board members to complete and submit the Individual Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan Checklist, adopted by the Board in December 2014, by December 31, 2016.

Young Lawyers Division Chair-Elect Matthew Olesh reported that expungement clinics are scheduled to be held on November 12, 2016, which is the date when the new PA law signed by PA Governor Wolf in February 2016, facilitating expungement for ex-offenders who remain conviction-free for ten years following many second or third-degree misdemeanors, takes effect. The clinic is being organized by the Young Lawyers Division along with the efforts of Philadelphia Deputy City Solicitor John Coyle and Meghan Claiborne of Duane Morris LLP. The Young Lawyers Division is working with the Courts, the City, the Mayor's Office, and the office of State Representative Jordan Harris on the project. Olesh requested assistance from the Board and the Bar Association-at-large to ensure that all of the clinic locations are fully staffed so that everyone can secure the assistance they seek. It is the hope that many of the petitions will be unopposed, but volunteers will also be needed to handle any opposed hearings in Court.

Board member Wendy Castor Hess commented that there is a significant need for expungement assistance for immigrants in the community, which should be a topic for future consideration.

Chair McKenna announced that a Section and Division Chair meeting is being held on July 14, 2016. Additionally, the July 2016 Board meeting will likely be moved because of the Democratic National Convention being held in Philadelphia the same week of the scheduled meeting.

Association Director of Meetings and Special Events Tracey McCloskey reported on the Association Quarterly Meeting that was held at the Hyatt at the Bellevue on April 5, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.. Attendance was down by approximately 100 people from the prior year's meeting. However, approximately 100 less complementary tickets were distributed for the event than in the prior year. Although revenue from 2016 registration was \$16,400, which was very close to the revenue in

2015 of \$16,855, 2015 expenses of \$36,730 were greater than 2016 expenses totaling \$29,293. As a result, the 2016 event resulted in a savings for the Association of \$6,982.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.. Following the adjournment, the Board went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline G. Segal
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
June 30, 2016

Voting members

Present:

Gaetan J. Alfano
Mary F. Platt
Jacqueline Segal
Jennifer S. Coatsworth
Regina M. Foley
Natalie Klyashtorny
Lauren McKenna
Kevin Mincey
Lawrence Felzer
Kathleen Kirkpatrick
Shabrei Parker

Julia Swain
Maureen Farrell
Wendy Hess
Teresa Rodriguez
Albert S. Dandridge III
Brad Shuttleworth
Matthew Olesh
Katayun Jaffari
Maureen Olives

Present on phone:

Deborah R. Gross
Erin Siciliano
Edward Beitz

Absent:

Rahat Babar
Jeremy Menkowitz
Peter Newman
Ira Lefton
Myisha Lacey-Tilson
James Funt
Angela Giampolo
Adam Taylor

Erin Lamb
Thomas Innes
Dina Ronsayro
Scott Small
Eileen Quigley
Brad Rush
Jennifer O'Leary
Joseph Turchi

Non-voting members

Present:

Mark Tarasiewicz
William Fedullo
Rochelle Fedullo

Sophia Lee
Louis Rulli
Steven Sher

Absent:

Lawrence Beaser
Steven Bizar
Bulter Buchanan
Andrea Yannuzzi
Patti Infanti
Andrew Laver
Cheryl Disch

Present on phone:

Kathleen Wilkinson

