

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
December 21, 2010 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by the Chair, Richard Seidel. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the November meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously. Assistant Treasurer Wes Payne presented the Treasurer's report for the period ending November 30, 2010. He reported that as of November 30, 2010, the revenues were over by approximately \$17,000. Income from LRIS was up again by \$15,000. Expenses were over budget by \$58,000 due to the Bench Bar Conference being \$20,000 over budget and approximately \$38,000 for IT-related expenses. The Association overall was reported to be about \$34,000 over budget as of November 30, 2010, but it is expected that it will be close or at budget by end of the year.

Chancellor Scott Cooper made his remarks. He reported that the day in Washington for the Access to Justice Initiative was very nice and that Charlie Klitsch and Judge Rizzo were both highlighted there for their work on access to justice initiatives. Chancellor Cooper also noted that there was a lot of press on the issue of judges accepting gifts recently. There was consideration of whether a letter should issue from the Association stating a position on this issue. The Association continues to monitor the work of City Council on the tax issue, as it affects law firms, which has not been resolved. Chancellor Cooper also reported that the Labor and Employment Law Committee was involved in a celebration of the EEOC which took place in Philadelphia and received high praise.

With regard to other business, Chancellor Cooper stated that Association CFO Susan Knight is working very hard on the budget and the Association is working hard to close the current gap. There was a holiday party for the bar staff. In closing, the Chancellor thanked all the members of the Board, and Chair Richard Seidel. He also thanked the Board for approving his new cabinet appointments, Scott Reid and Lou Rulli, and for their hard work and support. Chancellor Cooper stated that it is one of the highest honors any lawyer can hold to be the Chancellor of the Association and that he believes the bar is in great shape and that incoming Chancellor Rudy Garcia is ready to hit the ground running.

The Chair then made his announcements. First he thanked the Board for its incredible work this year on various resolutions, ranging in subjects such as gun violence, creation of historical society, green initiative, and bar academy. Twenty-four resolutions were passed this year on many subjects including Civil Gideon. He also thanked Larry Beaser as sage counsel for the Board. He thanked Scott Reid for helping the association find its Diversity Director and his many contributions, and Lou Rulli for his advice and counsel on public service initiatives. He extended thanks to the bar staff. He also thanked Executive Director Ken Shear for guiding the bar association day in and day out. Lastly, he thanked Scott Cooper for allowing him to serve as the Chair and for his hard work and friendship.

The Chair then recognized Scott Cooper to present an In Memoriam to the late Marvin Comisky, former Chancellor of the Association and former President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Upon motion made and seconded, Scott Cooper explained the legacy of Marvin

Comisky. Marvin Comisky's son Ian, an attorney with Blank Rome, then made a few remarks about how when his father was elected Chancellor, the voting was live and he was giving reports all day and was not sure that he would win. After his father won, they held an impromptu party. When his father came in, the firms were segregated by religion, unlike today. His father wanted full integration of firms and was able to accomplish this goal. Immediate Past Chancellor Sayde Ladov gave brief remarks thanking Marvin Comisky. Scott Cooper also thanked Bill Fedullo and Assistant Executive Director Mark Tarasiewicz for securing the video of Marvin Comisky's remarks for the Historical Society.

The Chair then recognized Bill Fedullo and Chancellor Cooper to present a Resolution Authorizing the Formation of the Philadelphia Bar Association Historical Society. The Association will form a 501(c)(3) under the Internal Revenue Code. Bill gave praise to Scott Cooper for coming up with this idea and recalled how special the interview of Marvin Comisky was. He thanked Larry Beaser for assisting with the Resolution, and many others including the new leadership, Rudy Garcia, Chancellor-Elect, John Savoth, Vice Chancellor, and Kathleen Wilkinson, Secretary and Vice Chancellor-Elect.

Attorney Fedullo also explained the persons who are being appointed as part of the interim board of the Society by Rudy Garcia, John Savoth, and Kathleen Wilkinson. Upon motion made and seconded, the Resolution passed unanimously. Chancellor Cooper stated that Blank Rome will do the incorporation free of charge through the assistance of Larry Beaser and Megan Christianson, who volunteered to draft the required paperwork.

Plaques were given to departing voting Board members, Michael Berkowitz, Karen Detamore, and Jeff Gross, and to departing Section representatives, Al Fuscaldo and Tom Wilkinson. Other plaques were available for others who were not present.

Chancellor Cooper thanked everyone on the staff and Ken Shear in particular. He also thanked Mark Tarasiewicz for his excellent work and the Communications group for its professionalism. He also presented a gavel to outgoing Chair Richard Seidel and thanked him for all of his service as Chair this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m., and Kathleen thanks everyone for her service as Secretary of the Association for the last three years.

Respectfully,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

**Board of Governors
Attendance
December 21, 2010**

Present:

Scott Cooper
Sophia Lee
Regina Foley
Michael Berkowitz
Danielle Banks
Brandi Brice
Marc Tepper
Alfred Fuscaldo
Kenneth Shear

Rudolph Garcia
Wesley Payne
Jacqueline Segal
Karen Detamore
Michael Shaffer
Scott Sigman
Sayde Ladov
Tom Wilkinson
Scott Reid

Kathleen Wilkinson
Richard Seidel
Larry Beaser
Jeffrey Gross
Sean Sullivan
Stacy Tees
Judith Stein
Hon. A. Michael Snyder
Louis Rulli

Absent:

John Savoth
Mehrin Masud-Elias
Pedro Ramos
Albertine DuFrayne
Peter Berson
Daniel Blickman

Joseph Prim
Jeffrey Campolongo
Kimberly Ruch-Alegant
Carolyn Chopko
Shanese Johnson

Maria Feeley
Richard Harris
Gaetan Alfano
Lee Applebaum
Angus Love