

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
April 30, 2009**

Gaetan Alfano, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair requested that the Minutes of the March 26, 2009 meeting be approved. The Minutes were approved.

The Chair recognized Treasurer Joseph Prim to present the financial report through the end of March. He reported that although the revenue in January and February were behind, the revenue received in March was better. Expenses are not as high as anticipated so the total loss is small relatively speaking. The Treasurer's report was moved, seconded, and accepted unanimously.

Chancellor Sayde Ladov thanked the Young Lawyer's Division for the work on Law Week. Chancellor Ladov will be present for many Law Week activities.

Chancellor Ladov spoke about the Judicial Commission and how candidates are vetted very carefully and thoroughly. She stated the process is fair, the investigative panels are thorough, the Commission asks very fair and evenhanded questions, and is comprised of a highly diverse body of individuals.

The Chair then asked Chancellor Ladov to review the new budget proposed for 2009. A new budget was presented to handle the rent expense to the City of Philadelphia that will be incurred going forward. The new budget on the revenue side has the amount of dues listed the same because the Association is only \$14,000 behind budget on dues and it is anticipated the Association will reach the projected number. On LRIS, the Association is optimistic that LRIS will continue to do well. The new budget includes an increase in the fee shares by \$25,000. The new budget has reduced the special events costs by removing the October quarterly meeting, and accounting for the shortened Bench Bar, for a reduction of \$23,267. The new budget has reduced costs for photography, reduced food costs, reduced travel costs, reduced consulting fees, reduced repair of equipment fees, and has eliminated the NABE memberships. Bar staff and postage costs have also been reduced. A motion was made and seconded to accept the new budget. There was discussion as to what budget cuts are needed in the future for the rent. Chancellor Ladov stated that the Association does not intend to raise dues. The budget was accepted unanimously.

The Chancellor recognized the work of Jeff Gross in procuring sponsorships for CLE's for the Bench Bar Conference. She also reported that the CLE's are "amazing," including "Sports Talk" on Saturday morning. She asked everyone to stay tuned to the luncheon speakers who will be announced shortly.

The Chair recognized Kim Jessum and Leslie Greenspan to present a Resolution from the Intellectual Property Committee in Support of the Patent Pilot Program. The American

Intellectual Property Inn of Court, Business Law Section, Federal Courts committee, In House Counsel Committee, and other groups have written in support of the Resolution. Kim Jessum explained that the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania would apply to be chosen to be part of a “Pilot Program” and if chosen, the court would receive money for training of the judges and law clerks within the Eastern District. Additionally, if the Eastern District were chosen to be in this program, there would be economic benefits to the legal and business communities as it is anticipated that more patent cases would be filed in this District as a result. Upon motion been made and seconded, the Resolution passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Andy Susko, immediate Past President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and Joseph Sullivan to present a Resolution Calling for the Provision of Legal Counsel for Indigent Persons in Civil Matters Where Basic Human Needs Are at Stake. Chancellor Ladov has appointed a Task Force to review the concepts of Civil Gideon. Andy Susko began by explaining that the need for a declaration of a right to counsel in civil cases is essential, noting the decision in Gideon v. Wainwright. In order for the justice system to be fair, those least able to afford legal services or have access to the system, must be able to meaningfully access the system. Andy Susko noted that in 2006, this Board supported an ABA resolution which called on states to implement Civil Gideon. Given the current economic times, there are acute needs for Civil Gideon, such as in the mortgage foreclosure program and the mortgage foreclosure diversion program. He also reported that this is not a short-term project and there are issues on resources, and funding. Partnerships between the bench and bar will be required.

Joe Sullivan stated that the Task Force wants the legal community to be aware of the concept of Civil Gideon and the opportunity to investigate various projects and proposals. The Task Force recommendations have been presented to the Family Law Section, Real Property Section, State Civil Section, and the Civil Rights Committee. Upon motion made, and seconded, there was discussion. A question was raised whether the Resolution should be broader than basic needs. Joe Sullivan reported that the Task Force intends to investigate the needs in the community and will come up with recommendations on what income levels should be sought. Last year the PBA passed a similar Resolution, as well as the ABA and the Boston Bar Association, and that our Association would be a leader in this regard. Chancellor Ladov thanked the presenters and the Task Force on the well written Resolution. Karen Detamore echoed these comments and recalled when it was passed by the Pennsylvania Bar Association. She thanked Andy Susko and Chancellor Ladov for their leadership in supporting Civil Gideon, which goes to “the heart of justice” and the whole concept of “why we went to law school.” The Resolution passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized the Chancellor to present a Resolution from the Criminal Justice Section in Opposition to Proposed Budget Cuts to the Philadelphia District Attorney’s office, but she recommended it be tabled as there was not enough information about the specific budget cuts.

The Chair recognized Judy Berkman and Paul Schmidt to present a Resolution from the Real Property Section Encouraging Responsible Implementation of Requirements for Green Real Estate Development. Copies of Bill Numbers 0090167 and 080025 were handed out. These

Bills are in committee right now but may be considered in City of Philadelphia Council in May. The Bills concern tax abatement for construction projects. The Bills would allow the abatements to continue for whatever number of years the developer uses “green development.” The Real Property Section Executive Committee approved the Resolution. Upon motion made and seconded, there was discussion whether the Resolution opposes the City of Philadelphia’s Administration goals. There was further discussion whether Leadership in Environmental and Energy Efficient Design (“LEED”) was a better way to go. The Resolution does not focus on whether to use LEED or not. Upon inquiry, Judy Berkman stated that the Business law Section, Tax Section, and the City Policy Committee had not been consulted. There was further discussion that while the goals of “green development” are admirable, there is not enough information in the Resolution, it is unclear what the Resolution is asking for, including whether the Bills should be supported or not. Judy Berkman stated in response that the Bills have an impact on for low income housing. The Chair of Real Property, Christine Paul, explained that the City is adding LEED to Ordinances and the Section wants to see a responsible building of “green development.” A Motion to table the Resolution was made. The Motion was accepted and the Resolution was tabled. Executive Director Ken Shear suggested that the Association’s Legislative Liaisons to City Council should be contacted for further input.

The Chair recognized YLD Chair Brian Chacker who announced that May 9 is Comedy Night. He asked for support of the event. The Chair recognized Mary Platt, Law Practice Management Division Chair, who announced that on May 13 there will be a program at PBI “Lawyers in transition.” LPMD is asking the Sections to put on programs at basic levels for lawyers in transition. Vice Chancellor Rudy Garcia suggested this information be shared by law firms with departing lawyers. There is also a “Lawyers in Transition” website. The Chair recognized Michael Berkowitz who announced that the Charity Run will be held on May 17 and all money raised goes to the Support Center for Child Advocates.

Chancellor Ladov announced that on May 8 there will be a forum with all three Controller candidates. Another Chancellors Forum would be held on May 11 with all candidates for District Attorney, which is sponsored by the Criminal Justice Section and YLD.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
April 30, 2009

Present:

Sayde J. Ladov
Gaetan Alfano

Kathleen Wilkinson
Rudolph Garcia

Richard Seidel
Wesley Payne

Stacy Tees
Jeffrey Campolongo
Mary Platt
Troy Wilson
Joseph Prim
Judith Stein

Michael Berkowitz
Michael Schaffer
Brian Chacker
David Prewitt
Karen Detamore
Christine Paul

Jeffrey Gross
Sean Sullivan
Albertine DuFrayne
Grace Sweeney
Danielle Banks

Absent:

Scott Cooper
Grace Manno
Mehrin-Masud-Elias
Richard Harris
Eric Milby
Daniel Blickman

Sophia Lee
Rosemary Pinto
Maria Feeley
A. Michael Pratt
Patricia Dubin

Michael Hayes
Jacqueline Segal
Regina Foley
Stephanie Resnick
Laura Feldman