

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting
December 19, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chair Marc Zucker.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the November 20, 2013 Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Wesley R. Payne IV presented the Financial Report for the period ending November 30, 2013. He reported that the Association is doing better than anticipated. Revenues are up \$191,000, which is attributable to LRIS bringing in almost \$100,000 more than anticipated. Dues revenue is also up \$14,000 and income from special events is up \$182,000. Overall, we have a budget surplus of \$115,000. After consideration, the Treasurer's Financial Report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson thanked the Board for its support and great work throughout this year. She also thanked the Chancellor-Elect and Vice-Chancellor for their guidance and enthusiasm, which she will never forget. She has previously thanked each member of the Association staff during the staff holiday party. Chancellor Wilkinson also specifically thanked Association staff members Paul Kazaras, Jeff Lyons, Naomi McLaurin, Mark Tarasiewicz, Charlie Klitsch, Dawn Petit, Tracey McCloskey and Florence White. She also thanked the Board members who were elected the same year she was elected, including Nikki Johnson-Huston, Gina Rubel, Scott Reid and John Encarnacion. She also expressed gratitude towards Chair Zucker, who conducted his year as Chair with dignity and grace, and with the best of intentions towards the Association.

Chancellor Wilkinson reported on her participation in the following events, including: November 25 Chancellor's Forum with ABA past president Laurel Bellows and Chair of ABA Commission on Women Roberta Liebenberg; December 5 Chancellor's Leadership Institute with Chair-Elect of Morgan Lewis Jami McKeon; November 25 Sheila Woods-Skipper swearing-in as President Judge; December 2 Quarterly Meeting featuring Chancellor-Elect Fedullo's speech, Sayde Ladov's receipt of the PNC Achievement Award and Judge Norma Shapiro's receipt of the Justice Brennan Award; December 17 Large Firm Management Committee event wherein Mayor Michael Nutter provided remarks; December 17 Education Law Center Committee meeting for lawyers wishing to re-enter the workplace; December 18 Federal Courts Committee meeting wherein a motion passed to support the sub-committee recommendations analyzing sections of the federal rules, which report may be presented at a future Board meeting; and earlier today, a naturalization ceremony and program for the Women in the Profession Committee.

Chancellor Wilkinson made a motion to authorize an additional \$5,000 award to Philadelphia VIP from the Association's budget given its positive financial position. Upon consideration by the Board, the motion was unanimously passed. Chancellor Wilkinson also reported that she has previously written a letter to each of the past

Chancellors to consider a personal contribution of \$1,000 each to Philadelphia VIP in light of budget cuts. She then recognized Philadelphia VIP Managing Attorney Rainy Papademetriou for an award she received from the Family Law Section.

Chancellor Wilkinson presented Executive Director Ken Shear with a framed resolution unanimously passed by the Board recognizing him for his leadership and service for 37 years, making him the longest serving Executive Director of the Association. She acknowledged his tireless efforts working with the Association's leadership, for his wise counsel and sound judgment, his dedication to the Chancellors, Association leadership and staff, and his championing for equal access to justice. She also presented Executive Director Shear with a framed portrait to be hung in the Association's offices.

Chancellor Wilkinson and Philadelphia Bar Foundation President Deborah Gross announced a joint project of the Bar Foundation and the Association to establish the "Kenneth Shear Civil Gideon Legal Justice Essay Competition and Scholarship Fund." Law students would be invited to submit an essay and the winner receives a \$1,500 scholarship and the opportunity to donate 40 hours to work on Civil Gideon-related issues.

Executive Director Shear expressed how extraordinarily touched he was by these gestures and shared reflections about his tenure as Executive Director and about now looking forward into semi-retirement. He also expressed how honored and humbled he is by the establishment of the scholarship fund. He acknowledged the Board and the tremendous work it has done locally and for the Commonwealth during his years as Executive Director.

Chair Zucker thanked the Board for its patience and indulgence in allowing him to chair the Board. He expressed his appreciation for the privilege of working with everyone on the Board, and in the Sections and Divisions. He expressed his gratitude to Chancellor Wilkinson for the opportunity to serve and for her confidence in him. He thanked the spirited Board and the colleagues in his elected class. He also thanked the Chancellors and members of the Association staff. In recognition of his service as Chair of the Board, Chancellor Wilkinson presented him with a crystal gavel.

Chancellor Wilkinson moved for the appointment of members to the Philadelphia VIP Board of Directors for three-year terms, including the following: Philip Amoa, Lisa Detweiler, Hope D'Oyley-Gay and Lee Zimmerman. Upon consideration by the Board, the motion was unanimously passed.

Federal Courts Committee Chair Ann Field presented a resolution supporting adequate funding of the federal judicial system. Because the federal judicial system has faced significant staff cuts and budget constraints, this resolution was presented to urge all federal, state, territorial and local legislative bodies and governmental agencies to adopt laws and policies that ensure full and adequate court funding in order for the courts to fulfill their constitutional duties. Upon consideration by the Board, the resolution was

unanimously passed. The resolution will be publicized to the legal community and to the community at large.

Professor Louis Rulli presented a resolution supporting the establishment of a Pennsylvania Access to Justice Commission. The Civil Gideon Task Force and the statewide commission have been working throughout the year discussing two major recommendations, first, the need to boost funding for civil legal aid and, second, the need to move forward with establishing a statewide commission. Currently, 31 states have commissions, which are blue ribbon commissions with the judiciary taking the lead role to bring together all of the stakeholders, including the organized bar, legal services organizations, and law schools, to move forward with access to justice. The ABA passed a resolution earlier this year recommending that each state establish a commission. The conference of chief justices and the conference of court administrators passed similar resolutions. Chancellor Wilkinson described her role in this resolution and her meeting with the Chief Justice, who is honorary chair of the coalition. She also explained that similar resolutions are expected to be passed by the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny Bar Association. Professor Rulli explained that we would be the first bar association in the Commonwealth to support establishing a commission. Upon consideration by the Board, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Gordon Wase announced that he is rolling off the Probate & Trust Law Section and that the Section has awarded two program grants of \$3000 each to the Senior Law Center and to Philadelphia VIP. He thanked the Board for its friendship.

Chancellor Wilkinson presented plaques to honor outgoing Board of Governors Members and Officers for their service to the Board and to the Association, including John Encarnacion, Nikki Johnson-Huston, Gina Rubel, Aneesh Mehta, Meredith Brennan, Sara Jacobson, Christian Petrucci, Rudolph Garcia, Brandi Brice, Brian Chacker, Barabara Sicalides, Scott Reid, Gordon Wase, Richard Vanderslice, Mark Cohen, Justine Gudenias and A. Michael Pratt.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sophia Lee
Secretary

**Board of Governors
Attendance
December 19, 2013**

Voting Members:

Present:

Kathleen Wilkinson
William Fedullo
Albert Dandridge
Sophia Lee
Jacqueline Segal
Wesley Payne
Mary Platt
Marc Zucker
Eric Weitz
John Encarnacion
Nikki Johnson-Huston
Gina Rubel
Jennifer Coatsworth

Kay Yu
Emily Marks
Natalie Klyashtorny
Rachel Kopp
Brad Shuttleworth
Dawn Tancredi
Meredith Brennan
Christian Petrucci
Kevin Mincey
Aneesh Mehta
Gordon Wase
Sara Jacobson
James Rocco

Absent:

Brian Chacker
Scott Reid
Rachel Branson
Rachel Gallegos
Barbara Sicalides
Richard Vanderslice

Ourania Papademetriou
Brandi Brice
John Savoth
Howard Goldberg
Edward Beitz
Mark Cohen

Non-Voting Members:

Present:

Rudolph Garcia
Kenneth Shear
Lou Rulli

Deborah Gross
Judy Stouffer

Absent:

Lawrence Beaser
Sayde Ladov
Richard Alonso
Abraham Reich
Justine Gudenas

Heather Austin
Flora Yarnall
Cheryl Disch
A. Michael Pratt