

**Philadelphia Bar Association  
Board of Governors Meeting  
January 24, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Chair Marc Zucker.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the December 20, 2012 Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Pension Committee Co-Chair David Jones presented a resolution on the restated pension plan. The Association, in conjunction with Jenkins Law Library, has had a tax qualified retirement plan for its employees. Every five years, the plan requires IRS approval and, as part of that process, the document must be restated. Ministerial amendments were made to the document, which needs to be submitted to the IRS at the end of the month. After consideration, the resolution adopting the 2013 reinstatement of the Association's pension plan was unanimously approved by the Board.

Treasurer Wesley R. Payne IV presented the 2012 Preliminary Financial Report. He reported a deficit of approximately \$180,000 for 2012. Revenue was under-budget by \$169,000 due to Lawyer Profiles, however, that was offset by a successful Bench-Bar Conference which resulted in \$100,000 over anticipated revenue projections. Expenses were also over-budget by \$11,000, which were attributable to major events. Treasurer Payne reported that 2012 was not a great year, but that, overall, the Association is a healthy organization. After consideration, the Treasurer's Preliminary Financial Report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson began her announcements by welcoming everyone to 2013. She reported on the various items she is working on as well as on the events that she participated in, including the following: Chancellor's Reception, which was also featured on Action News; installation of officers for the Philadelphia Paralegal Association; interview on WWDB by Host Bob Rovner; interview by The Philadelphia Tribune on the City's RFP (which will be discussed below); interview on WDAS; meeting with the U.S. Coast Guard and Jeff Moller and Dan Goettle, who are co-chairing a special initiative with the Coast Guard (Charlie Klitsch and Mark Tarasiewicz were also in attendance); and a Latino Justice Event at GlaxoSmithKline (Rachel Gallegos was also in attendance). Chancellor Wilkinson also reported her participation in the following: the Board Retreat; an interview with David Trevaskis; the Chancellor's Dinner; a meeting with the Editorial Board of The Philadelphia Inquirer (Mark Tarasiewicz was also in attendance); the Barristers' MLK Breakfast, wherein the Chancellor's associate, Heather Austin, received the Young Lawyer of Year Award; the Philadelphia Bar Foundation Retreat (Chancellor-Elect William Fedullo was also in attendance); the AJC Learned Hand Award Dinner; interview with Laura Lewis on WXTU and Wired 96.5; and an interview with the Main Line Reporter.

Chancellor Wilkinson continues to work with the various sections and committees. She announced that there will be name changes for two committees as

follows: the Environmental Law Committee will now be the Environmental and Energy Law Committee; and the Civil Gideon Task Force will now be the Civil Gideon Access to Justice Task Force.

Chair Zucker expressed his excitement about chairing the Board. He reminded the Board that he is always available and that anyone should feel free to contact him with both positive and negative comments. He also reiterated that, as part of the Board's fiduciary duties, its members should stay engaged. He expects to have an energetic, substantive and productive year.

Chancellor Wilkinson reported on the 2013 Bar Leaders Retreat. She thanked the Board for outstanding participation and reported that she received numerous comments about the retreat, including that a one day retreat was respectful of people's time. Lou Rulli prepared a report on the common themes that arose from the retreat as well as a summary of the answers in response to the wrap-up questions, which were distributed to the Board. One key theme was whether a strategic plan should be developed for the next three to five years. Other themes included the needs for increasing membership and strengthening finances. Diversity was also a prevalent and recurring theme with many panelists speaking on the topic. Other areas addressed in the report include questions about the Association having an impact (for example, many lawyers are not aware of the Association's relationship with the Mayor's Office); how to remain relevant to the membership; ensuring access to justice and serving as an example nationwide; responding to the needs of young lawyers; involvement and quality of the judiciary; meeting the challenges of a multi-generational organization and addressing changes in technology. Another common theme was the question of whether the Association can be all things to all people. Chancellor Wilkinson welcomed comments and discussion on these issues.

A discussion ensued about whether a strategic plan made sense for the Association. It was determined that the three chancellors should discuss this matter in greater detail. Executive Director Ken Shear noted that it is difficult for a bar association to put together a formalized plan, but that it can discuss priorities informally that will last two to three years. He explained that the governance of the organization makes it difficult given that one-third of the Board turns over every year and its leadership changes each year. He also explained that the Long Range Planning Committee, which is chaired by Frank Devine until 2013, will come before this Board with ideas. Chancellor-Elect Fedullo also agreed that strategic planning can be difficult because each chancellor cannot have his or her hands tied and that each needs to be adaptable to change. Vice-Chancellor Al Dandridge would not entirely eliminate the prospect of a strategic plan and suggested that guideposts with flexibility might be workable. The Chancellors will discuss this matter in greater detail.

Chair Zucker expressed his gratitude to the Retreat planners, as well as to Lou Rulli, Chancellor Wilkinson and Executive Director Shear who facilitated the panel discussions and to Jen Coatsworth, who prepared summary notes of the Retreat. He also announced that a transcript has been prepared.

Chancellor Wilkinson provided an update on the City of Philadelphia RFP for an entity to handle all Defender Association conflicts of interest. Criminal Justice Section Chair James Funt and CLS Executive Director Cathy Carr also presented. Chancellor Wilkinson thanked John Savoth for his wonderful service last year and for bringing the issue before the board at the end of last year. Late in the year, Savoth learned of the RFP issue and he immediately tried to set up a meeting with the Mayor's Office. Denise Smyler and David Hyman were also involved. The RFP seeks proposals for an entity to handle matters involving indigent defendants with respect to criminal and family court matters where the Defender Association cannot handle the matter because of a conflict. On January 8, a meeting with Deputy Mayor Everett Gillison was attended by immediate past Criminal Section Chair Kevin Mincey, current Chair James Funt, Family Law Committee Chair Michael Bertin and Chancellor Wilkinson. City Solicitor Shelley Smith, Elizabeth Mattioni, and Michael Reznick from Public Safety were also in attendance. The Association's representatives expressed concern that the RFP did not state standards by which to select applicants and suggested that the ABA Ten Principles previously adopted by the Association serve as guidelines and that diversity be factored in. As a result of the meeting, the RFP deadline, which was originally set for January 18, was extended to February 22. A Task Force was formed and includes Larry Beaser, Mingo Stroeber (active in the dependency area), Cathy Carr, Frank Cervone, Ellen Greenlee, David Rudovsky, and Jeff Lindy. Chancellor Wilkinson explained that most of the cases at issue involve dependency issues in family court, with a smaller number of cases involving the criminal justice area. Another meeting was held the day before, and it appears that the City understands that the Association is interested in the highest level of representation. The Mayor's Office was receptive to input and complimentary about the Task Force that has been appointed and has agreed to further discussion. While progress is being made, more work needs to be done. Ms. Carr expressed her further concerns about the low funding/low payment for these cases which may serve as a disincentive to those handling these matters to committing time to these cases. She also noted that, over time, the laws have become more complicated and the payment has decreased. The Board will continue to be kept apprised of the work of the Task Force.

Alan Feldman reported on the activities of the Executive Director Search Committee. Mr. Feldman expressed that it is an honor and privilege to chair this committee at Immediate Past Chancellor John Savoth's request, which appointment was continued by Chancellor Wilkinson. Mr. Feldman acknowledged the challenge of identifying a candidate to succeed Ken Shear after almost 40 years of service. He explained that the Committee was convened to reflect the diversity of constituencies within the Association at the same time that its numbers are small enough for the Committee to be nimble and act decisively. An executive search firm has not been retained. A job announcement has been developed and will be finalized prior to its distribution nationwide. The Committee and the three Chancellors will play a hands-on role in reviewing applications. Applicants are to submit letters of interest and resumes by April. From that applicant pool, individuals will be selected for personal interviews. From the group of finalists, a recommendation will be made to the Board. It is anticipated that the new Executive Director will be asked to assume the role for the latter

part of this year so that she or he can work with Executive Director Shear during the transition. Executive Director Shear is expected to stay on in a consultant role into 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sophia Lee  
Secretary

**Board of Governors  
Attendance  
January 24, 2013**

**Voting Members:**

**Present:**

Kathleem Wilkinson  
William Fedullo  
Albert Dandridge  
Sophia Lee  
Jacqueline Segal  
Wesley Payne  
Mary Platt  
Marc Zucker  
John Encarnacion  
Nikki Johnson-Huston  
Scott Reid  
Rachel Branson  
Jennifer Coatsworth  
Ourania Papademetriou  
James Rocco

Kay Yu  
Rachel Gallegos  
Natalie Klyashtorny  
Rachel Kopp  
Brad Shuttleworth  
Dawn Tancredi  
John Savoth  
Kevin Mincey  
Meredith Brennan  
Gordon Wase  
Sara Jacobson  
Richard Vanderslice  
Mark Cohen  
Christian Petrucci

**Absent:**

Eric Weitz  
Brian Chacker  
Gina Rubel  
Emily Marks  
Brandi Brice

Aneesh Mehta  
Edward Beitz  
Barbara Sicalides  
Howard Goldberg

**Non-Voting Members:**

**Present:**

Michael Hayes  
Kenneth Shear  
Judy Stouffer

Richard Alonso  
Abraham Reich

**Absent:**

Lawrence Beaser  
Rudolph Garcia  
Louis Rulli  
Deborah Gross  
Justine Gudenas

Heather Austin  
Flora Yarnall  
Cheryl Disch  
A. Michael Pratt  
Sayde Ladov