The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the June 24, 2004 meeting were approved as submitted. The Chair presented the Treasurer’s Report. Upon motion made and seconded, the Treasurer’s report was approved.

The Chancellor took the floor to present his announcements. He emphasized the important role lawyers have to the City, comprising 18,000 lawyers, 40,000 employees, and $45 million to the gross income. He urged us to develop plans to increase appreciation for the legal community.

The Chancellor also attended the golf outing for the Bar Foundation and had discussions with Madam Justice Newman and Justice Castille over the Business Court.

The Chancellor also reviewed the progress of the Bench Bar Conference for November 5 and 6, 2004. He defined this as a signature event with the leaders of the various practice areas as guest speakers. There are eighteen CLE programs with an ethics course. Justice Cappy will be present for the opening luncheon and numerous Judges of the appellate courts will be there. He wants one hundred percent participation from the Board of Governors.

The Chancellor also complimented the YLD and the Workers’ Compensation Section for the successful Casino Night.

The Chair introduced Kim Jessum and Charles Eppolito of the Young Lawyers Division to present a resolution encouraging the Bar Association to provide free membership to lawyers who have been admitted for less than one full year. They pointed out that this change would serve to increase membership. It will allow the new attorneys to become acquainted with the Bar Association services and would not have a negative financial impact on the Bar Association. It was suggested that a pilot program be initiated for three years to monitor the progress of this approach. Because of it being a pilot program, no change to the bylaw would be required. It was suggested that to effectuate this resolution, an aggressive marketing membership program would need to be developed to maximize the effect. Upon motion made and seconded, the resolution was approved.

The Chair introduced the speakers for the presentation of the resolution from the Professional Responsibility Committee concerning the changes to the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement proposed by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. The Honorable Dennis Cohen, Louis Teti, President of the Disciplinary Board, and James Schwartzman, Esquire, provided background of the disciplinary process, the reason for the proposed changes and detailed the benefits and concerns about the proposal. Spirited discussion followed, modifications were made to the proposal, and the resolution passed by a vote of eleven to seven.
The Chair recognized Bruce Franzel, Esquire, for the presentation from the Charter and Bylaws Committee regarding submission of a Bylaw Amendment to the members concerning changes to Bylaw 903(B) and Bylaw 1100. Upon motion made and seconded, the resolutions passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice A. Toland
Vice Chair