

Philadelphia Bar Association

Board of Governors Meeting

July 31, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 P.M. by Chair Eric Weitz.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the June 26, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Wesley R. Payne, IV, presented the Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2014. He reported that the Association continues to be in good financial condition. We are above budget by \$106,116.00, the majority of which is due to LRIS which is over-budget by about \$102,000.00 Our Dues are under budget by \$11,485.00 which is about \$4,000.00 better than the previous month. Our expenses are under-budget by \$3,500.00 After consideration, the Treasurer's Financial Report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chair Eric Weitz then asked the Chancellor for his announcements.

Chancellor Fedullo reported that he wanted to congratulate Ted Simon on his installation as President of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, whose meeting started on July 30, here in Philadelphia; chancellor Fedullo attended the opening event in City Hall Courtyard. Attorney General Eric Holder is attending their program on August 1 and in the evening of August 1, they are holding their gala event at The National Constitution Center.

We are still awaiting Justice Castille's letter on Civil Access, which we have been advised will be sent shortly.

During the past month, Chancellor Fedullo attended the Chancellor's Forum on unaccompanied children coming across the border. Chancellor Fedullo made specific note of, and extended congratulations to, Wendy Hess and Judy Bernstein-Baker for their work on the program. The program was so well-received that we will be presenting the program again so that more can attend, in particular the judges who were unable to attend because of a judicial conference.

He attended the Federal Magistrate's Diversity Seminar that was chaired by Judge Wells. The attendance was very good.

Chancellor Fedullo stated that he got a really nice request from Tiffany Sykes who is interested in doing a program at Temple Law School. She has asked that we give the

program with the film on *Brown v. Board of Education* to be shown at Temple Law School. We will do that as we want the film to be seen by as many people as possible.

Chancellor Fedullo thanked YLD for the event that they sponsored at Finn Mc Cool for the benefit of Philadelphia VIP. Chancellor Fedullo also thanked Joe Sullivan and Pepper Hamilton for sponsoring the event for summer associates.

Chancellor Fedullo discussed having attended The Women in the Profession discussion on branding; he said that the meeting was very well attended and was very interesting. Chancellor Fedullo also attended an event for Global Philadelphia with Mayor Nutter. The Lord Mayor of Frankfurt was at the event, recognizing the special relationship between Philadelphia and Frankfurt; he spoke about his feelings with regard to Philadelphia. The Lord Mayor spoke about the kinship that Frankfurt had with Philadelphia, and made mention of Bruce Springsteen and “The Streets of Philadelphia”. Chancellor Fedullo and others pointed out to the Lord Mayor that Springsteen was from New Jersey, a not-so-subtle distinction that appeared to have been glossed-over by the Lord Mayor.

Chancellor Fedullo made note of the upcoming conference of World City Bar Leaders to be held in Philadelphia. Chancellor Fedullo noted that we just got news that Johannesburg South Africa will be participating. There will be a welcoming reception on September 10 at 4 Seasons to which all Board members will be invited.

The Chancellor thanked Al Dandridge for attending in his stead the reception for summer associates held at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. The Chancellor also stated that we are scheduling the Education Summit for late September. We are hoping to have Dr. Hite participate along with many others.

Chancellor Fedullo also thanked Shelli Fedullo and the rest of the committee for raising \$13,000 or more in the last week for sponsorship for Bench Bar. We would like to raise an additional \$28,000 for the Bench-Bar and asked all Board members to advise the Bench-Bar Committee of any other vendors who might be willing to add sponsorship. Bill also asked Board members who are able to do so to consider donating a scholarship for Public Interest lawyers. In honor of their 40th wedding anniversary, Chancellor Fedullo and Shelli have donated a scholarship. In addition, Vice-Chancellor Gaetan Alfano’s firm has committed to 2 scholarships. John Savoth’s firm has committed to sponsoring several scholarships.

The Chancellor thanked Vice-Chair Brad Shuttleworth and the undersigned for their efforts with the Law School Outreach Initiative. Chancellor Fedullo stated that he is looking forward to other efforts and accomplishments from the Initiative.

The Chancellor stated that the Education Law Center on September 17 is honoring him and others on September 17 on the day before the Chancellor's birthday. This honor is apparently in conjunction with Chancellor Fedullo's efforts on behalf of the Philadelphia public schools during the past year.

The Chancellor congratulated Dan Rendine, Sr. who turned 105 last week. Chancellor Fedullo and Jeff Lyons met Mr. Rendine and spoke to him. The interview will appear in the Bar Reporter this month. When Mr. Rendine was asked who his favorite singer was, he replied, "Al Jolson and Enrico Caruso." Chancellor Fedullo said that Mr. Rendine was just a really terrific guy who has a wonderful outlook on life. Mr. Rendine, along with his son, Dan Jr., will be the recipient of the Beccaria Award in November. This is the first time that a father and son have been given the award together. When Mr. Rendine was advised that he would be receiving the award, he said, "Why me?"

Chancellor Fedullo noted that today was the last day for the Bar Association's Summer Intern, Tom Mickens and stated that Tom has indicated that he would like to return, so we will hopefully have him back with us next summer. Chancellor Fedullo stated that we will be following his career with interest, and expressed his appreciation for Tom's work with the Bar Association this summer.

Chancellor Fedullo made the following appointments to the Elections Committee: Edward Beitz, Butler Buchanan, Lawrence Felzer, Regina Foley, Rachel Kopp, Sophia Lee, Aneesh Mehta, Ourania Papademetriou, Amber Racine, James Rocco, Gina Furia Rubel, Louis Rulli, and Eric Weitz. The Elections Committee will be chaired by Immediate Past Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson. In addition, the current Chancellor, Chancellor-Elect and Vice-Chancellor serve on the Committee. These appointments do not require Board approval. Immediate Past Chancellor, Kathleen Wilkinson, Chair of the Elections Committee reminded the members of the Elections Committee that part of their responsibility is to encourage qualified individuals to run for the various positions available.

Chancellor Fedullo announced the appointment of Amber Racine, Larry Beaser, and Kathleen Wilkinson as the Chancellor's appointments to the Philadelphia Bar Association Historical Society. Chancellor-Elect Al Dandridge has announced as his appointments Aneesh Mehta, Bernie Smalley and Emily Marks. Vice-Chancellor Gaetan Alfano has appointed Erin Lamb, Shelli Fedullo, and Vince Barbera to the Philadelphia Bar Association Historical Society. Chancellor Fedullo's appointments run to the end of the current year, Chancellor-Elect Dandridge's appointments run to the end of 2015, and Vice-Chancellor Alfano's appointments run to the end of 2016. These appointments do not require Board approval.

Chair Eric Weitz ceded his time to the Young Lawyers' Division.

YLD Chair Ed Beitz reported on a planned fund-raiser for the Bar Foundation in lieu of the comedy event that has been done in the past. YLD is going to do a large charity softball game in Camden on October 1, called The Law Star Game. A number of firms have put together teams. DELVACCA has been working to put together a team. Many activities are planned at no cost, including family-friendly activities, although attendees can purchase a voucher for \$15.00 that will give them a ticket for some beer and food. YLD is looking for lower level sponsorships to add funds to go to the Bar Foundation. The event will be at the Camden Rivershark Stadium. The facilities at the stadium present a carnival-like atmosphere, with all of these facilities open to be enjoyed by attendees at the event.

Chair Eric Weitz again thanked Vice-Chair Brad Shuttleworth and the undersigned for their efforts on the Law School Outreach Initiative. Chair Weitz did remind the members of this Board that Brad and the undersigned would be again contacting each of the Board members to volunteer their time to participate in the Outreach Teams. Vice-Chair Brad Shuttleworth added that Professor Peter Thompson, of Villanova Law School, would be bringing his experiential learning class to the Bar Association's Conference Center for a class on August 7 and that both of the Law School Initiative Chairs would be in attendance to encourage Bar Association membership, particularly as the membership would be free to them because of the arrangement made by Villanova to pay for those memberships. Brad encouraged any Villanova alumni to come to the class if they were able.

The Chair called upon Committee of Seventy Interim President and CEO Ellen Mattleman Kaplan to present on the programs and priorities of the Committee of Seventy.

Ms. Kaplan is the interim CEO and President of The Committee of Seventy, having assumed these positions very recently with the retirement to New Mexico of long-time Committee of Seventy CEO Zack Stalberg. She also congratulated the Bar on the work of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention and the ratings promulgated by the Commission. Ms. Kaplan stated that, at present, The Bar Association is the only entity that issues judicial ratings. The Committee of Seventy publishes these ratings in the media, including on social media. She recognized the cooperative work done between the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Committee of Seventy in 2012 to educate voters about the Voter Identification Law.

Ms. Kaplan stated that it is disappointing to hear that the cigarette tax bill may not happen, but applauded the efforts of Chancellor Fedullo, and of this Association, to aid the Philadelphia Public Schools. Ms. Kaplan stated that we can continue to work together regarding civic engagement in the public schools. The Committee of Seventy

has been working to foster civic engagement for many years, and has been working to monitor the polls in Philadelphia at least since 1904.

In getting ready for the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, we will have a great opportunity to work together. 2015 will be an election year for the Mayor's race as well as for all 17 members of City Council. We need to put together an agenda for mayoral candidates as to what we hope to see in the next Mayor. It is important for the candidates to know what the priorities are for the legal community and for the citizens of Philadelphia; the Committee of Seventy will do everything it can to get out the needs and desires of the Bar Association to the candidates. Ms. Kaplan expressed her hope that we can work together to get online voter registration to become a reality. She noted that the city's Board of Elections were backlogged 28,000 voter registrations 2 weeks before the last Presidential election. This resulted in an unprecedented amount of provisional voting, which should never happen.

Chair Eric Weitz asked former Chancellor Rudolph Garcia to report on programming for the World City Bar Leaders Conference to be held in Philadelphia September 10-13, 2014. Former Chancellor Garcia is the WCBLC Program Committee Chair. We are hosting the conference this year. The World City Bar Leaders Conference is composed of the bar leaders of large city bars throughout the world. An opening reception for all attendees opens the Conference on September 10; all members of the Board of Governors are invited to the opening welcoming reception beginning at 6:30 at the four Seasons. On September 11, meeting sessions are scheduled for attendees all day at Schnader. In the evening of the 11th, attendees will be taken on a private tour of The Barnes Foundation, followed by dinner and reception at The Rodin Museum. On September 12, meetings are scheduled at Buchanan Ingersoll, followed by a Phillies game at Citizens Bank Park with seats and Philly-style food in Bill Giles' suite. On Saturday morning there will be a meeting at The Visitors Center in Independence Hall, followed by a brief walking tour on the way to lunch at Talula's Garden. So far, registrations have been received by representatives from 16 different Bar Associations coming from around the world. There are 7 major topics of discussion for the Conference: security and privacy, judicial and attorney ethics and discipline, international discovery, dealing with disasters, with Ken Feinberg coming to talk about mass disaster compensation programs, Access to Justice and our Civil Gideon Initiative, the Business of Law, and finally, how our nation got founded. There are 20 speakers lined up, with about half of the speakers coming from foreign countries. It is hoped that Mayor Nutter will be in attendance to welcome the delegates. In addition, Governor Rendell and Chief Justice Castille will be in attendance, together with other President Judges. This is technically not a Philadelphia Bar Association conference, it is a World City Bar Leaders conference, and as such, is not open to Philadelphia Bar Association members unless they are speaking at one of the sessions. Someone from *The Legal Intelligencer* and from *The Inquirer* will be in attendance covering the event.

Marc Zucker asked who else from the Philadelphia Bar Association would be there. Former Chancellor Garcia indicated that our delegates would be the three Chancellors and Former Chancellor Garcia as head of the Program Committee and those who are presenting.

Philadelphia Bar Association Lobbyist Anthony Crisci reported on Pennsylvania legislative matters and on the 2014-2015 state budget.

The House killed their session today, which means that no cigarette tax for the Philadelphia schools was put to a vote. Tony said that the legislators plan their vacations and they just weren't willing to cancel them. He does believe that someone will step up on behalf of the Philadelphia Schools. There has been some outreach to do something relative to Philadelphia public schools before the fall session, which begins September 15, however, that is likely to be a short session. There will be talk about pension reform, but not much will be done, as this is an election year. Tony said that we shouldn't expect a lot in the fall.

On the budget situation, the process was weird this year. As of June 15 there was no sense that there was any plan to do anything by June 30. The Governor decided to wait as long as he could before signing the budget and then he used his line item veto to take about 60 million dollars from the legislature's budget. He vetoed line items in the fiscal code, which is not the general appropriations code. The Governor took \$7.5 million from the fiscal code. Normally, one just vetoes the fiscal code. A lawyer has been hired to see if the governor can do this and to potentially sue the governor. Tony reported that Senate Republicans want to scare the governor that you can't do this and to send a message to future governors that this should not be done. The relationship between the Governor and the General Assembly is nonexistent. The Governor basically is going to run against his own party. This has made things very tough for lobbyists as they are somewhat used to having a governor serve two terms. Some polls are stating that the Governor could be within 9-14 points of Tom Wolf. The Bar Association had success with Sen. Bill 776, the tax on professional services. Tony stated that we pulled together enough votes to get this bill tabled for now. However, Tony stated that this bill will come back again next year to deal with. We also got through the Access to Justice dollars, which went through very smoothly. The Governor signed this legislation almost immediately. We also pitched in for the courts when there was a proposal for pension reform that would have affected the senior judges. There was also the attempt to reduce the size of the judiciary that we got killed. There had been a proposal to reduce pensions for future senior judges. For fall elections, we may see some extra action designed to shore up Governor Corbett's positions in the Southeast.

Tony predicted that the House is still likely to be Republican and the Senate is likely to be Republican still. There is likely to be some more talk about Philadelphia schools or other public school funding.

Al Dandridge asked about how the cigarette tax issue might be resolved before September. Tony thinks that this tax will happen, but not necessarily before September 15. The denouement will be interesting.

Chair Weitz then asked if there were any other old or new business or announcements. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge A. Michael Snyder (ret.)

Assistant Secretary

**Board of Governors
Attendance
July 31, 2014**

Voting Members

Present:

William Fedullo
Albert Dandridge
Gaetan Alfano
Jacqueline Segal
Wesley Payne
A. Michael Snyder
Eric Weitz
Brad Shuttleworth
Ourania Papademetriou
Rachel Kopp
Rachel Gallegos
Emily Marks

Dawn Tancredi
Rahat Babar
Lauren McKenna
Peter Newman
Erin Siciliano
Kathleen Wilkinson
Marc Zucker
Edward Beitz
Lee Schwartz
Scott Small
Judy Berkman

Absent:

Mary Platt
Rachel Branson
Jennifer Coatsworth
Kay Yu
James Rocco
Natalie Klyashtorny
Lawrence Felzer
Jeremy Menkowitz

Maria Bermudez
Michael Ecker
James Funt
Amara Chaudhry-Kravitz
Jeffrey Dashevsky
Lauri Kavulich
Howard Goldberg

Non-Voting Members

Present:

Mark Tarasiewicz
Lawrence Beaser
Abe Reich

Louis Rulli
Rochelle Fedullo
Judy Stouffer

Absent:

Michael Hayes
John Savoth
Kevin Mincey
Deborah Gross
May Mon Post
Heather Austin

Sophia Lee
Hilda Thompson
Richard Alonso
Cheryl Disch

