

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors**

November 18, 2008

The Chair Stephanie Resnick called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

The Chair recognized Treasurer Jeff Lindy who presented the report for the last ten months. The expenses are over budget due to additional costs as reported at the October meeting. There was discussion that the Association is \$200,000 over budget offset by additional revenues from a two-day bench bar. Upon Motion made, and seconded, the Treasurer's report was accepted.

Executive Director Ken Shear reported that dues are 65% to 70% of total revenue, and are ahead of what was anticipated for 2008. The Association did very well on LRIS revenue in 2008. The outlook to the end of the year is a good outlook. The Executive Director is optimistic that the current economic condition will not affect the Association in the near term and that budget planning for the future also will take into account new areas not budgeted for before.

The Chair then recognized former Chancellor David Marion who reported on the activities of the Senior Lawyers Committee, which was reactivated by Louis Fryman and Mr. Marion, the current committee chair. He reviewed the mission of the Senior Lawyers Committee. The Committee meets quarterly and all meetings are well attended. There were socials at the Palm and the Union League, each of which was attended by 40 members. One program was attended by Michael Hayes, who is now an honorary member of this Committee. Fifty senior lawyers are matched up as mentors with young lawyers. 70 volunteers are ready to assist the Commerce Court by being judge pro tems and or doing research. There is a program for disabled lawyers. Assistance to victims of crime, VIP, the Committee of 70, as well as the Support Center for Child Advocates is being provided. 62/63 is the eligible age to join this Committee.

The Chair requested that the Minutes of the October meeting be approved. The Minutes were approved.

The Chair recognized Chancellor A. Michael Pratt who asked for the Board to approve the following candidates to the VIP Program: Sophia Lee, Mike Balent, Samantha Southall, Maresa Torregrossa Mahoney, Judge Anne Lazarus and Andy Boczkowski. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board gave its approval unanimously.

Chancellor Pratt announced that at the Quarterly Meeting, the Fidelity Award will be presented to Tsiwen Law of Law and Zaslow, LLC, the Chancellor Diversity Award will be presented to Nolan Atkinson, a partner at Duane Morris, and an address will be given by Sayde Ladov, incoming Chancellor. Chancellor Pratt asked everyone to attend the Quarterly to support Sayde Ladov and hear her vision for the Association.

Chancellor Pratt made additional announcements. He stated that the next Diversity training will be given on transitioning from government to private practice. Chancellor Pratt asked the Board to attend as many holiday parties as possible. Chancellor Pratt advised the Board that at this

point it does not appear the Association will be leaving its current space for the foreseeable future. Chancellor Pratt stated the Association provides needed services and lends space to the community at large. Chancellor Pratt later mentioned he met with District Attorney Lynne Abraham, who invited him to a reception at the District Attorney's office. She also spoke at the Association's City Policy Committee meeting.

The Chair announced the next Board meeting is December 18.

The Chair reported that letters were sent by Chancellor Pratt to the FDIC regarding the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program and IOLTA Accounts, at the request of the Delivery of Legal Services Committee. She reported that Joe Sullivan, who represented one of the beneficiaries of these types of accounts, recommended the letters be sent due to the current economic climate and time urgency. The Chair stated that such action was approved by the Cabinet.

The Chair recognized the Chair of the Government & Public Service Lawyers Committee, Debbie Nixon, who reported on the work on this Committee. A goal is to include more private sector lawyers in the Committee. Judge Benjamin Lerner was scheduled to present a program on how public sector lawyers should present themselves. The Committee's holiday luncheon is scheduled for December 17. It was suggested that this Committee might want to work with the Public Interest Section and coordinate with other sections as well.

The Chair then recognized John Savoth and Mary Ellen Nepps to present a report on a Special Task Force on Bar Association Committees. John Savoth stated that at the start of the year they were asked to look at the stand alone committees of the Association, not the committees housed within sections. A questionnaire was sent out to the committees. The goal is to have committees work more closely with related sections. Mary Ellen Nepps explained how they did not hear from some committees so she looked on line for information. Sometimes information could not be found on line. There were questions raised and discussion of how committee heads are selected, how committee resources are used, updating of the website to stay current with active committees, and whether the right committee structure is in place.

The Chair then recognized Association Lobbyist Tony Crisci, who provided a Post-Election Analysis. The House is in firm Democratic control with Keith McCall as the speaker. The Democrats took some seats in the southeastern part of the state. In the Senate, from Beaver/Lawrence County area, a Republican won what was a traditional Democratic seat. The Senate will be 30/20, Republicans over Democrats. The House and Senate have technically been out of session since September. The next session will be hard for budgets. He feels we will see another issue with legislation proposing sales tax on legal services. The other issue to watch will be a constitutional amendment on marriage. He is hoping for some movement on merit selection. On the lobbyist disclosure committee, Larry Beaser has done a great job earning trust on this issue in Harrisburg. With regard to whether there should be tax on constitutionally mandated representation, he advised this is being looked at.

The Chair then recognized Michael Goss from the Tax Section to request the Board's approval to increase the Tax Section dues from \$15 to \$20. Upon being made and seconded, the Motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sophia Lee, Diversity Committee Chair, to present a report on the Diversity Committee. The mission statement of the Association was reviewed. The Committee studied the Statement of Diversity Principles and issues with voluntary self-identification. There was discussion of what stops members from being active in the Association. The Committee came up with a list of Best Practices, such as raising awareness, and setting forth recommendations for where committees meet. The Committee talked about mentoring and guiding members to leadership positions in the Association. There also was discussion to make a standing committee of the Association to study diversity issues and how this would fit in with the Minorities in the Profession. Interfacing with the Elections Committee, working on reaching out to the Trial Lawyers and other groups with regard to diverse candidates was also discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
November 18, 2008

Present:

A. Michael Pratt
Jeffrey Lindy
Judy Berkman
Jeffrey Gross
Karen Detamore
Rochelle Fedullo
Stephanie Resnick
Carlton Johnson
Stacy Tees

Kathleen Wilkinson
Joseph Prim
Regina Foley
Richard Seidel
Brian Chacker
Cindy Rosenthal
Michael Berkowitz
Reetu Dandora

Sophia Lee
Wesley Payne
Michael Hayes
Jacqueline Segal
Donna Woelpper
Michael Goss
Matthew Perks
Judith Drasin

Absent:

Sayde Ladov
Kim Jessum
Maria Feeley
Scott Sigman
Denis Lawler

Scott Cooper
Rosemary Pinto
Jane Dalton
Daniel Siegel
Stewart Weintraub

Gaetan Alfano
Grace Manno
Deborah Weinstein
Stephen Foxman