

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors Meeting
March 30, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Board Chair Kevin Mincey.

The minutes from the Board's February 16, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

Assistant Treasurer Natalie Klyashtorny presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2017. Revenues for the year-to-date are \$125,227 below the amount budgeted, primarily due to a delay in receiving large firm dues payments, as well as timing delays in receipt of funds from the Lawyer Information & Referral Service (LRIS). Expenses for the same time period were \$32,860 less than anticipated, but are expected to increase as the year progresses. The net effect of lower revenues and lower expenses put the Association in a negative position relative to the budget by \$92,367. The Association is continuing its cost cutting measures wherever possible. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was moved, seconded and carried.

Board Chair Mincey introduced Maxine Romano CPA and Kevin Gloviak CPA of the accounting and auditing firm Kreischer Miller, regarding the audit of the Association as of December 31, 2016. Romano reported that the audit was clean, with no deficiencies or weaknesses to report, and no corrected or uncorrected misstatements. The Association's Form 990 has been reconciled with the financial statements. A motion to approve the audit report was moved, seconded and carried.

Eric Weitz, Chair of the Association's [Commission on Judicial Selection & Retention](#), presented a report on the commission's activities. Many candidates submitted paperwork to the Commission on the eve of the deadline, and the Commission is working very hard to review all of them and to release recommendations as soon as they are determined. Five candidates elected not to participate in the process and were immediately designated as "not recommended." Weitz acknowledged the efforts of Young Lawyers Division Chair Matthew Olesh in coordinating outreach and dispatching volunteers to polling places identified by E-Consult as having voting trends with the highest statistical relationship to candidates' ballot position and, correspondingly, the lowest adherence to the Commission's past recommendations. The Commission is continuing for the second year to selectively award a "highly recommended" designation where appropriate, and is reviewing appellate candidates with a connection to Philadelphia.

Community Legal Services Executive Director Deborah Freedman and Pro Bono Chair Louis Rulli presented a [Resolution Regarding Proposed Amendments to Pennsylvania Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15](#) for consideration by the Board. Once implemented, the amendments are expected to yield at least \$200,000 in additional funds for legal services to the poor each year. The Pennsylvania Bar Association separately considered the proposed amendments and has asked the IOLTA Board to extend the April 12th deadline for comment. Counsel Larry Beaser observed that it would be best if the substantive law which addresses funds that escheat to the benefit of the Commonwealth also should be amended so as not to put lawyers in a position of having to choose between adherence to the Rules of Professional Conduct and adherence to substantive law regarding turnover of escheated funds. Pro Bono Chair Rulli reported that

Abraham Reich, counsel to the IOLTA Board, concluded that the proposed amendments comport with substantive law. Rulli agreed to advise the IOLTA Board that the Association also seeks clarification as to the date on which the obligations under Rule 1.15 would commence. A motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.

Civil Rights Committee Co-chair Su Ming Yeh and Chris Markos presented a [Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 273, Printer's No 259 and House Bill 14, Printer's No. 32, regarding "Sanctuary Campuses."](#) A motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously, subject to a friendly amendment correcting two typographical errors.

Assistant Secretary and Women in the Profession Co-Chair Jennifer S. Coatsworth presented a [Resolution Supporting Adoption by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court of a Requirement for Bias Elimination CLE Credit.](#) A motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously, subject to friendly amendments.

Board Chair Mincey then presented a proposed Charter for a Human Resources/Personnel Advisory Committee. A motion to approve the Charter passed unanimously. With the committee in place, Chair Mincey nominated the following three Board members as members of the committee, in addition to those persons stipulated in the Charter: Ira Lefton, Maureen Farrell and Jennifer L. Seme. A motion to approve those nominations passed unanimously.

Young Lawyers Division executive committee member Stephanie Stecklair presented a report on Law School Outreach.

Amy Seefeld, Esq., Senior Staff Counsel, Public & Legal Services, presented an update on the Association's [Lawyer Information & Referral Service.](#)

Tara D. Phoenix, Director of Continuing Legal Education, presented a report on the Association's CLE programming. The curriculum is robust, attendance is high, and the net revenues for January and February (before deducting staff salaries and overhead) were less than had been anticipated by almost \$8,000. Most recently, the immigration courses coordinated by the Association have generated great attendance and enthusiasm.

Chancellor Gross announced that the most recent quarterly meeting was well-received. Section chairs need to remind their members to renew their membership.

Chair Mincey reminded the Board of the upcoming Young Lawyers Division happy hour, as well as the Homeless Advocacy Project's silent auction.

Tracey McCloskey advised the Board that the May 24th Board meeting will be held at the National Constitution Center, with access to the John Marshall exhibit.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc J. Zucker
Secretary

**Board of Governors
Meeting – March 30, 2017
Attendance**

Voting Members

Present:

Deborah R. Gross
Mary F. Platt
Rochelle M. Fedullo
Marc Zucker
Jennifer S. Coatsworth
Natalie Klyashtorny
Kevin Mincey
Ira Lefton
Shabrei Parker
Julia Swain
Maureen Farrell
James Funt

Wendy C. Hess
Neil Maskeri
Hon. Sandra Moss (Ret.)
Maureen Olives
Amber Racine
Jennifer Seme
Gaetan J. Alfano
Matthey Olesh
Richard Bost
Timothy Holman
David Shapiro
Hon. Tina Maria Rago

Absent:

Regina M. Foley
Katayun Jaffari
Myisha Lacey-Tilson
Edward Beitz
Angela Giampolo
Teresa Rodriguez
Adam Taylor

Lauren McKenna
Vincent Barbera
Sarah Gelb
Kevin Harden
Eli Segal
Eileen Quigley

On Phone:

Kathleen Kirkpatrick
Jeffrey Rosenthal

Jennifer Seme

Non-Voting Members

Present:

Lawrence Beaser

Albert S. Dandridge III

Mark Tarasiewicz

Louis Rulli

Mary Kate Martin

Harry Reichner

Butler Buchanan

Jessica Sharp

Absent:

Sophia Lee
Thomas Brophy
Jennifer Snyder
Mary Kate Martin
Patricia Infanti

On Phone:

Kathleen Wilkinson