

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
October 29, 2009**

The Chair Gaetan Alfano called the meeting to order at 4:10pm. He asked that the Secretary's minutes from the September 24, 2009 meeting be approved. Upon motion made and seconded the minutes was approved.

Assistant Treasurer Wesley Payne presented the Treasurer's report through the end of September. He reported that the state of the treasury is consistent with the previous month.

Chancellor Sayde Ladov thanked the Co-chairs of the Bench Bar, Maria Feeley and Molly Peckman, as well as Jeff Gross who assisted with sponsorship. She also thanked the bar staff for a wonderful Bench Bar. Chancellor Ladov felt that the relationship between City Council and the Association benefited from the participation of City Council in the Bench Bar program. She appeared before City Council recently and when she offered her remarks, she was greeted with warmth and excitement by the members of City Council who were present at the Bench Bar. She also advised the Board that all of the Bench Bar presentations were excellent. With regard to the presentation by President Judge Dembe on the state of the Courts of Philadelphia County, the courts are doing more with less.

Chancellor Ladov reported that there will be a contested election for the 7 open seats on the YLD board. She congratulated John Savoth as the uncontested Vice Chancellor candidate.

Chancellor Ladov announced her appointments of Mary Kranzfelder, of Rawle and Henderson, and Julia Swain, of Fox Rothschild, to the Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board; no motion was required for these appointments. She announced she was recommending to the Board that Brian Flaherty of Cozen and Erica Smith Klocuk, of Morgan Lewis, be appointed to the CLS/PLA Board of Directors. A Motion was made to approve these appointments, seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

Chancellor Ladov reported on the outcome of the special Pennsylvania Bar Association ("PBA") House of Delegates meeting held in Camp Hill on October 19, 2009. The meeting's sole agenda item was to consider the report and recommendations of the PBA's Project Constitution Task Force. The Task Force had asked the House of Delegates to call upon the governor and state legislature to create a Constitutional Revision Commission to examine whether a limited constitutional convention should be convened to review potential revisions to certain articles of the Pennsylvania Constitution. Following a presentation by task force members, and after a lively discussion at the special meeting, the House members voted in favor of establishing a PBA commission charged with identifying areas of potential improvement in government along with suggested changes or amendments that could be accomplished by legislation or by the constitutional amendment process. As directed by the House resolution, the

PBA Board of Governors will present recommendations at the December 4, 2009 House meeting concerning the composition of the new commission and a timeline and operating procedures for reports by the new commission to the Board of Governors and House of Delegates.

Chancellor Ladov reported on the activities of Pro Bono week, and noted in particular the work of the Innocence Project. She also reminded members to attend the Alexander Hamilton Gala which is being held at the Please Touch Museum, the site of the first World Fair. "Dancing for Justice" will be held during the Gala.

She also announced two awards were received by the Association, one for the coverage of the Campaign for Qualified Judges and the other an award for the Philadelphia Lawyer Magazine. She also mentioned the successful Fundraiser put together by the Campaign for Qualified Judges at the Bench Bar for the retention judges, in conjunction with the Association's PAC, an invitation only event. Lastly, she asked everyone to attend the December Quarterly meeting.

The Chair recognized Tony Crisci who discussed the budget issues in Harrisburg. Overall, the state budget is 27.8 billion dollars. Of that was federal stimulus money, with 25.1 billion dollars being the state's portion, about 2 billion less than prior years. They were able to raise some new money through tax code changes. Many line items of the budget were completely wiped out. There were very few items which remained level, other than education.

Mr. Crisci also reported that the relations between the House and the Senate are not getting any better. He also discussed the concern about court fees which are being looked to as the panacea for future problems. Executive Director Ken Shear advised the Board we should be careful and pay attention to using the courts as a new funding source. There will probably not be too much legislation this fall. He has not heard anything about the Philadelphia Family Court and budget issues. There is a lot of "talk" of professional service fee taxes but nothing is planned currently. He thinks expansion of the sales tax is possible but does not think service fee taxes will be looked at in the immediate future.

The Chair recognized Chancellor Elect Scott Cooper to present a Resolution Rescinding Automatic Dues Increase and Establishing Late Fee for Untimely Dues Payment. He advised why the Board in 1999 passed a Resolution Raising Membership Dues 5% With No Dues Increase If Paid Timely. Under the new Resolution, the automatic dues increase will no longer apply. The late fee will instead be \$15. Board Member Rich Seidel, who was chair of Membership and Bar Placement Committee in 1999, expressed the view that the Resolution is appropriate given the economic times. The Board can revisit dues issues at any point in the future should the economic situation change.

Chancellor Elect Cooper then discussed the 2010 Budget. The budget was increased slightly over the 2009 Budget, overall. The Association will be holding the line

on salaries for the most part. There was a discussion of health care costs. Upon motion made and seconded, the 2010 Budget was approved. He also announced the Retreat for Bar Leaders will be January 8 to 9, 2010 at the Borgota.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
October 29, 2009

Present:

Sayde J. Ladov
Scott Cooper
Richard Seidel

Rudolph Garcia
Gaetan Alfano

Kathleen Wilkinson
Wesley Payne

Andre Dennis
Grace Sweeney
Patricia Dubin
Ella Herbin
Mehrin Masud-Elias
Richard Harris

Lyndora Patterson Tiller
Maria Feeley
Judith Stein
John Savoth
Karen Detamore
Albertine DuFrayne

Danielle Banks
Jeffrey Campolongo
Ken Shear
Stacy Tees
Jeffrey Gross
David Prewitt

Absent:

Sophia Lee
Joseph Prim
Michael Hayes
Grace Manno
Rosemary Pinto
Jacqueline Segal
Michael Berkowitz
Regina Foley
Michael Schaffer
Sean Sullivan

A. Michael Pratt
Stephanie Resnick
Brian Chacker
Mary Platt
Eric Milby
Troy Wilson
Laura Feldman
Christine Paul
Daniel Blickman