

Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives
Minutes of the November 17, 2011 Meeting

The November 17, 2011 meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives, held at the Sheraton Hotel, Harrisburg was called to order by President Dave Blaner at 3:00pm with 28 members present: Nicole Antos, PBA; Al Azen, IOLTA; William Baldwin, Delaware; David Blaner, Allegheny; Sandy Brydon Smith, Erie; Katey Buggy, PA CLE Board; Joseph Burke, Wilkes-Barre; Victoria Connor, York; Jessica Engel, Lycoming; Bruce Fleischer, Centre; Wendy Hoffman, Chester; Susan Kenny, Monroe; Denise Burdge, Monroe; Susan Kost, Schuylkill; Elizabeth Kramer, PBA; Diane Krivoniak, Westmoreland; Dan Levering, PA CLE Board; Deanna Mindler, Bucks; Nevin Mindlin, PBA; Becky Morgenthal, Cumberland; Fran O'Rourke, PBA; Nancy Paul, Montgomery; Jennifer Pulice, Allegheny; Kathy Sabol, Washington, Carolyn Seibert-Drager, Franklin; Donald Smith, Berks; Suellen Verlihay, Beaver; Susan Wolf, Lebanon. New Bar Executives Denise Burdge, Monroe; Elizabeth Simcox, Deuaphin; Lee Ann Munley, Lackawanna; and Victoria Conner, York; were introduced.

Secretary's Report. The Minutes of the May 5, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report. The PABE Financial Statements were reviewed. Treasurer Hoffman reported that online access to the Citizens Bank accounts was less than "user-friendly" and is researching new banks for PABE accounts. It was noted that the sponsorship of USI for the retreat has not yet been received, and hence not yet reflected in income.

Executive Committee Report. The PABE Operations Manual was adopted by the PABE officers and will be posted to the website. A contribution of \$1,000 to the CCBL conference to sponsor the Thursday night reception was approved. Secretary Kathy Sabol reported that 16 PABE members responded to the recent salary survey, the results which were distributed to the PABE membership. The PABE website is in the process of being updating, with the PABE communications committee charged with keeping the information current.

New Business & Committee Reports:

ANNUAL RETREAT COMMITTEE. Chair Becky Morgenthal reported that a good time was had by all who attended the recent retreat in Erie. David Blaner gave a big "thank you" to Penina Lieber, as well as all of the presenters, for their excellent programs at the retreat. Upon motion, second and vote, the August 2013 PABE retreat will be held in conjunction with the NABE Meeting in San Francisco so that PABE can support David Blaner as he ascends to the NABE Presidency.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. Chair Jenn Pulice is working on changes to the website to improve the "look" and "feel" of the site and to update the content.

LEGAL JOURNAL COMMITTEE. Report will be provided at the Conference of County Legal Journals meeting to be held immediately following the PABE meeting to avoid duplication of information.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. Chair Wendy Hoffman urged members to send her updated contact info and photos so that the PABE member directory could be posted to the website.

PROGRAM & EDUCATION COMMITTEE. Chair Kathy Sabol asked if members would like to have an educational program in conjunction with the PABE meeting at CCBL; upon consensus, it was determined that the agenda is usually too busy to accommodate an educational program.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The committee consisting of Susan Wolf, Mary Beth Leeson and chair Diane Krivoniak nominated Jessica Engel to serve as PABE Treasurer. Upon motion, second and vote, Jessica was elected to serve as PABE Treasurer for a two year term, 2012-2014. The PABE officers for 2012 will be Carolyn Seibert-Drager, President; Kathy Sabol, Vice-President; Wendy Hoffman, Secretary; and Jessica Engel, Treasurer.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE. No report.

UNIT COUNTY TASK FORCE. A conference call was held with issues such as the PBA drop date for unit-county members and availability of the PBA's membership list discussed. The group was pleased with the free-flow of information and will periodically host additional conference calls in the future.

Other Reports of Interest to the Membership:

CCBL UPDATE. Nicole Antos invited everyone to attend the next CCBL to be held Feb. 23-25 at the Lancaster Marriot. A Saturday morning on legal journals may be scheduled. The "Beer & Bull" session has been renamed, "Hot Topics, Cold Drinks," and the breakfast breakouts may be organized by size of Bar Association.

IOLTA BOARD REPORT. A "Survey of the Provision of Civil Legal Assistance of IOLTA Funded Organizations" was distributed.

LEGISLATION. Nevin Mindlin and others reported that PBA is currently tracking 60 bills and will be adding a legislative "box score" to the website.

PBA UPDATE. InCite, which has approximately 14,000 users, is being upgraded. Janice Leftridge will hold the new position of PBA Diversity Officer. A heads-up to unit counties: the PBA Section dues invoices have been mailed, which typically prompts queries from unit-county members as to which dues they've paid and which are still due.

PBA BOARD OF GOVERNERS MEETING REPORT. David Blaner reported that a new Collaborative Law Committee was formed, the PBA YLD Wills for Heroes has served 1000 people, and that the dues stabilization fund will be expended at the end of the next budget year (end of December 2012).

PA CLE BOARD REPORT. Attorneys who have completed the required 18 hours of CAP Training are listed on the website. Attorneys will be receiving an e-notice of annual CLE compliance, Bars were encouraged to share information about MyPACLE with members. Individual training for CLE coordinators is available upon request. Distance learning CLEs awarded have increased to 8% in 2010 from 1.5% in 2003. The Chief Justice mentioned the possibility of providing CLE for pro bono service; no action has been taken at this time.

Prior to adjourning at 4:25pm, David Blaner thanked officers and committee chairs, presenting them with a "PABE Lifesavers" plaque. After the meeting, a reception was held for Susan Kenney, who will be retiring as Executive Director of the Monroe County Bar Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen L. Sabol, PABE Secretary