

Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives
Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey
November 15, 2012, 1:30 pm
M I N U T E S

The Meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm with the following members present: Jessica Engel (Lycoming), Kathy Sabol (Washington), Wendy Hoffman (Chester), Liz Simcox (Dauphin), Dan Levering (PACLE), Katey Buggy (PACLE), Becky Morgenthal (Cumberland), Bruce Fleishcer (Centre), Addie Nardi (Franklin), Al Azen (IOLTA), Deanna Mindler (Bucks), Elizabeth Kramer (PBA), Nicole Antos (PBA), Bill Baldwin (Delaware), Ken Shear (Philadelphia), Fran O'Rourke (PBA), Nancy Paul (Montgomery), Victoria Connor (York), Susan Wolf (Lebanon), and Janice Hackett (Butler)

Executive Committee Report:

Due to the July resignation of PABE President Carolyn Seibert-Drager, the PABE Executive Committee recommended to the members an amendment to the bylaws as follows:

Section 3. Resignation

An officer may resign with or without a stated reason at any time by giving written notice thereof to the Executive Committee or the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or, if no time be specified, then on delivery. ~~A vacancy in any office, other than the office of the President, shall be filled by vote of the Executive Committee to fill the unexpired term. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice President shall fill the unexpired term of the President. The Executive Committee will then fill the vacancy in the office of Vice President.~~ In the event of a vacancy, all remaining officers will move forward in the order of succession serving in their new positions for the remainder of the calendar year in which the vacancy occurred and then each serving a full two-year term in that new office. A vacancy in the office of the Treasurer will be filled by vote of the Executive Committee, with the appointee to serve only the remainder of the calendar year in which the vacancy occurred; the appointed Treasurer would be fully eligible to serve a subsequent full two-year term if so elected.

Upon motion by Nancy Paul and second by Becky Morgenthal, the amendment was unanimously approved. The officers for the remainder of 2012 will then be Kathy Sabol, PABE President; Wendy Hoffman, PABE Vice-President; and Jessica Engel, Secretary. The Executive Committee filled the Treasurer vacancy with Fran O'Rourke, who will be permitted, per the bylaws change, to serve a subsequent full-year term if elected.

Report on Retirements: Ken Shear (December 2013), Al Azen (December 2012), Bruce Fleisher (sometime 2013).

Kathy Sabol noted an Executive-Committee approved expense for a "thank you" gift card for the coordinator of the PABE Familiarization Tour at Bedford and a donation to the PA Bar Foundation to place a \$200 "ad" from PABE in the retirement program book honoring Al Azen. Both items were discussed at an informal PABE meeting held at the Bedford Familiarization Tour (the minutes of which were circulated).

Secretary's Report: Review and Acceptance of Minutes of 9-15-12.

Treasurer's Report: The Financial Statements were reviewed and the Treasurer made a short report. Victoria Connor moved to approve the Financial Statements and the Treasurer's Report; Wendy Hoffman seconded the Motion. The Motion carried unanimously. Jessica moved to purchase QB for the organization; motion died for lack of a second.

New Business: PABE Support of CCBL: Kathy reported that last year PABE donated \$1000 to CCBLs welcome reception; Nancy Paul moved that PABE donate \$1000 to CCBL to use where it's most needed, Becky Morgenthal seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Scholarships: Bill Baldwin moved to make 4 \$500 scholarships available for the NABE Meeting in San Francisco the 2nd weekend of August, 2013, at which will PABE will hold its "retreat" for 2013 to honor David Blaner's induction as President of NABE. The Motion was amended to read "Scholarship money of up to \$2000.00, with a cap of \$1,000.00 per person." Fran O'Rourke seconded, and the Motion was passed unanimously.

Communications: Jen Pulice will chair the committee once again. Nicole Antos has taken over the PABE website.

Nominating: The nominating committee, consisting of Dave Blaner, Diane Krivoniak and Becky Morgenthal, presented the following slate: Fran O'Rourke, Treasurer, 2-year term. Upon motion by Nicole Antos, second by Elizabeth Kramer and unanimous approval, Fran O'Rourke will serve as Treasurer for a full 2 year term following the vacancy term he's currently completing.

PABE Retreat: Kathy Sabol and others reported on the 2012 Retreat, which was held as a "mini" Retreat at Bedford in conjunction with a Familiarization Tour. Kathy reported that the 2013 Retreat will be held in conjunction with the NABE annual meeting when Dave Blaner will be installed as President; Becky Morgenthal agreed to chair the 2013 retreat.

Education/Program Committee: Needs a chair. Nancy Paul volunteered.

Other Reports:

CCBL : Nicole Antos reported that CCBL would be held February 21-23, 2013 at the Nittany Lion inn at State College. Planned events include a Western Theme, Kickoff Speaker Mark Volk, current Pres of Lackawanna University, leadership talk, Don Kramer, diversity programs, media programs, avoidance of legal malpractice, LCL, Judges program, and CCLJ program.

IOLTA: Al Azen reported that the grants process kicked off for the 7-1-13 through 6-30-14 period. Fewer funds available for next year, interest rates lower. More money will be available for zone grants however (beneficiary of class action funds). Pro Bono grants to be announced in a couple of weeks. Al handed out an article published in "The Philadelphia Lawyer" magazine re: the value of civil legal assistance to the Poor.

Legislative: Nicole Antos on behalf of Fred Cabell: Nicole read a letter from Fred.

CLE Board: Dan Levering: Reported on compliance trend – attorneys are avoiding suspension more than ever in a more timely fashion than ever. Contributing factors include the number of CLEs (free and otherwise) available. Mention of CLE Providers conference on June 14, 2013.

LCL: Ken Hagreen, Executive Director of Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, and Laurie Besden, both attorneys in recovery: Ken reported on LCL, helpline service to members and families, website service, free CLE films (under Resources tab) (if a lawyer is short an hour!!); helpline is going inhouse in January (was previously run by an independent contractor; new program beginning (JCJ) to try to train judges in recovery to reach out to other judges – launching Feb 2013 at State Judges conference. Lori commented: if you're concerned about an attorney in your county, contact LCL – they'll make the contact.

PBI: no report

PBA: Fran O'Rourke mentioned that it's budget time, PBA has a new AMS system, new phone system (VOIP). Week began with full HOD agenda, but has since been reduced (3 items fewer). Elizabeth Kramer reported on new benefits: LawPay, Clio, Office Max, finalizing with Whirlpool.

Old Business: no old business.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Engel,
Secretary, PABE