

**MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNOR COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009
DONALSON BROWN CONFERENCE CENTER
200 MT. ARARAT FARM ROAD
PORT DEPOSIT, MARYLAND**

President Katherine Kelly Howard called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. There were twenty-seven Board of Governors members in attendance.

I. MINUTES

The Board of Governors Minutes for March 19, 2009 were approved as submitted.

II REPORT OF THE OFFICERS

A. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

1. As approved in the March Board of Governors meeting, a resolution was sent to the Office of the Public Defender in support of level funding for this year.

2. As was also discussed in the March Board of Governors meeting, we took action with regard to the proposed D.C. IOLTA changes.

3. With regard to the cell phone policy, the matter is still being thought out apparently with the judiciary.

4. Various attachments for information were given to the Board members.

5. All were reminded that during the May meeting of the Board of Governors that the vote will be taken on the ABA House of Delegates members.

6. With regard to MICPEL, the Board of Governors ratified the additional \$50,000.00 as called for in the MSBA's earlier agreement with MICPEL. It was determined that the role of the MSBA and MICPEL will have to be discussed at a future meeting after various consultations and determinations have been made by the task force that is presently looking into the future of MICPEL.

7. President Katherine Kelly Howard reminded all about the YouTube contest. The winner is to be announced on Law Day. She also pointed out the "law in your daily life" publications and the upcoming Suddenly Solo program to deal with the tough economic times. Finally, she pointed out that, on May 2nd at the University of Maryland, the Leadership Academy would be having a discussion of financial and other disaster planning that would be open to the public.

B. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Executive Director Paul V. Carlin discussed the Economic Resource Guide on the MSBA website and also advised on the flyer for the Annual Meeting which is now available.

2. The Executive Director pointed out that we had six deletions from our membership, added sixteen new members and had fifty-eight re-instatements. Our membership count as of March 19, 2009 was 23,278 members.

3. With regard to our sections, the Executive Director advised that the Animal Law Section lost a considerable number to their membership whereas the Immigration Law, Entertainment and Intellectual Property Sections added a considerable number to their membership, with the other sections being relatively constant.

4. The Executive Director indicated that the Baltimore City election went smoothly and our present process seemed to work very well.

5. With regard to miscellaneous matters, the MSBA was paid over \$2000.00 for the elimination of phone service for four days by the carrier. For purposes of these minutes the Executive Director pointed out that the office is now engaged in Twitter and Face Book programs to make more information available to our members.

C. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Assistant Secretary Henry E. Dugan, Jr. indicated that the Executive Committee meeting minutes refer to the items that were being discussed at the present meeting.

D. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Since Treasurer John P. Kudel and son were AWOL at the Greatful Dead concert, the report was given by Executive Director Paul V. Carlin who indicated that our dues income was up \$53,000.00 over last year and our average is \$52,000.00 per year. A summary income statement was attached to the agenda for all Board members to review.

E. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT ELECT

President Elect Thomas C. Cardaro indicated that we would be having next year's mid-year in the Dominican Republic and that he was in the midst of discussions with regard to price with a couple of different locations. There was some discussion on the Board with regard to whether or not the programs from the mid-year meeting should be videotaped and made available at some later time for those who were not able to attend.

III. REPORTS ON STANDING COMMITTEES

A. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAWS

Report given by Richard A. Montgomery, Director of Governmental Relations, indicated that the Legal Services Corporation did not have their funding cut, but would be required to do various reporting that had not been necessary in the past. He also indicated that Senate Bill 497, Creating Additional Judgeships was contingent on funding and had been tied up pending the Senate's willingness to go along with the House's proposal with regard to immigrant licensing, which in fact occurred. He also reported that unfortunately the Uniform Power of Attorney Act did not pass and that the Bill to raise the District Court jurisdiction, which was opposed by the MSBA, was defeated. Judicial compensation would be dealt with next year according to Mr. Montgomery.

IV. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES - NONE

V. REPORTS OF SECTIONS

A. YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

Michelle E. Stawinski reported for the Young Lawyers Section, indicating they raised approximately \$2,000.00 for charity at their event. She also discussed several upcoming events for further raising monies for charity.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & GENERAL ORDERS - NONE

VII. NEW BUSINESS

President Katherine Kelly Howard reminded all of the Extra Legalese Awareness program which seeks to inform inmates of legal rights and resources upon their re-entry in the community. A letter from the Office of The Public Defender was attached to the Board materials for their perusal.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry E. Dugan, Jr.
Assistant Secretary