

**MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF GOVERNOR COMMITTEE MINUTES  
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2009  
OMNI BEDFORD SPRINGS RESORT  
2138 BUSINESS ROUTE 220  
BEDFORD, PA 15522  
2:00 P.M.**

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President Katherine Kelly Howard called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.. There were thirty-one Board of Governors members in attendance.

**I. MINUTES**

The Board of Governors minutes for April 19, 2009 were approved as submitted.

**II REPORT OF THE OFFICERS**

**A. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

1. President Katherine Kelly Howard reported on the ABA Days in D.C. indicating that the lobbying went well with regard to legal services, tax preferences, military law legal services and educational programs for detainees.

2. President Howard on behalf of the Maryland State Bar Association wrote to both of our US senators highly recommending the Hon. Andre M. Davis for the opening on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

3. With regard to various clippings that were attached it was pointed out that what had appeared to be a problem with Prince George's County Sheriff was not a problem and that the Sheriff's department, although having received significant cuts would continue to maintain appropriate service.

4. The President Elect Thomas C. Cardaro reported on the MSBA Mock Trial Program. He indicated that the CLREP sponsored the program throughout high schools in Maryland and that over 2000 students took part, with the four finalists appearing in the Court of Appeals and being judged by Associate Judge, the Hon. Joseph F. Murphy, Jr. The winner was Allegany High School. As Mr. Cardero pointed out all of those who participated, attorneys and high schoolers alike, were the real winners.

5. A sub committee made up of Susan F. Farace, the Hon. Joseph H.H. Kaplan, and David W. Lease moved for the Presidential Best Section awardees, the Business Law Section for their Entrepreneur's Almanac and the Taxation Section for their pro bono bankruptcy work. The motion was approved. The Awards will be made at our Annual Business Meeting.

6. With regard to the Anselm Sodaro Judicial Civility Award the motion was made and the Board authorized the sub committee to make the selection prior to the annual meeting.

7. With regard to the selection of delegates to the ABA House of Delegates, Gwendolyn S. Tate will represent the Young Lawyers, Thomas D. Murphy as President Elect was the second delegate and Alison L. Asti, immediate past president, was chosen as the third delegate, by printed ballot.

8. With regard to the Long-range Planning Committee, since the Hon. Lynne A. Battaglia, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals could not be present because of hearings in the Court of Appeals, it was indicated that the report of the Long-range Planning Committee will be made at the annual meeting.

## **B. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Executive Director, Paul V. Carlin, was unable to attend the MSBA Board of Governors meeting because of illness. This was the first time that he had missed any Board meeting in twenty-four years. All wished him well.

1. The Board was presented with the membership information indicating for deletion 4 deceased, and for addition 10 new members and 24 reinstatements bringing the present membership as of the May 8, 2009 meeting to 23,373 members.

2. With regard to MICPEL, the task force has hired an outside consultant to make recommendations after reviewing the entire MICPEL situation from soup to nuts. In the meantime, they have set aside the search for a new executive director until such time as we get a final report. The trustees will meet later this month and report back at the June meeting.

3. Information items - it was reported that the Southern Conference of Bar Presidents had some controversy with regard to the role of the Judiciary within their Bar Association, particularly with regard to leadership positions. It was noted by President Katherine Kelly Howard that we were indeed fortunate to have such an excellent relationship with the Judiciary, particularly in regard to various leadership positions.

## **C. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

Secretary Thomas D. Murphy observed that in looking at the forward to the lawyers manual from 1968 it was signed by Herb S. Garten who has since that time again and again continued to work diligently for the Maryland State Bar Association and is a model for all those who would undertake to put their hands on the plow.

## **D. REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

1. Treasurer John P. Kudel gave the report indicating that dues income of \$2,731,000 was ½ % over budget and indicated that the percent variance of income of 15.48% would be made up by the annual meeting, putting the MSBA in a strong financial position, as reflected in the summary income statement that was given to the Board.

2. Mr. Kudel also reported that the Investment Committee had signed all of the necessary paperwork to continue with Jeff Graham and Rich Duvall, our former brokers who moved to a new brokerage firm (The Baird Group).

3. At this point there was a presentation for approval of the 2009-2010 MSBA Annual Budget by Debra G. Schubert, Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. The Board approved the budget as presented by the committee.

**E. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT ELECT**

President Elect Thomas C. Cardaro indicated that a decision has been made to recommend to the Board a five star resort in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, where every room has a Junior Suite with a jacuzzi. This was achieved at an excellent all inclusive cost of \$1,812.00 plus tax. The Board overwhelmingly supported the motion.

**III. REPORTS ON STANDING COMMITTEES - NONE**

**IV. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES - NONE**

**V. REPORTS OF SECTIONS**

**A. YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION**

The Young Lawyers Section reported on the success with regard to the Wills for Heroes and Habitat for Humanity programs. President Katherine Kelly Howard also indicated that the Leadership Academy had a very successful disaster planning meeting in Prince George's County last month.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS & GENERAL ORDERS - NONE**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT**

Board member Rebecca L. Strandberg indicated that Judge Anne S. Harrington would be retiring from the Montgomery County Circuit Court and that she was collecting letters of appreciation to present to Judge Harrington.

**VIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry E. Dugan, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary