

**NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING  
NEW YORK HILTON MIDTOWN, NEW YORK CITY  
JANUARY 31, 2020**

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**PRESENT:** Aaron; Adigwe; Alcott; Alomar; Arenson; Baum; Behrins; Bennett; Berman; Billings; Braunstein; Breeding; Brown, T.A.; Buholtz; Burke; Buzard; Caceres; Castellano; Chang, V.; Christensen; Christian; Christopher; Cilenti; Coffey; Cohen, D.; Cohen, M.; Cohen, O.; Cohn; Connery; Crawford; Dean; Disare; Doerr; Doxey; Eberle; Effman; Eng; Fallek; Fennell; Fernandez; Ferrara; Finerty; First; Fishberg; Fogel; Foley; Fox; Freedman, H.; Friedman; Frumkin; Genoa; Gerstman; Grady; Graves-Poller; Greenberg; Griesemer; Griffin; Grimaldi; Gross; Gutekunst; Gutenberger Grossman; Gitierrez; Haig; Harper; Heller; Fines; Hobika; Holtzman; Jackson; Jaglom; James; Kamins; Karson; Katz; Kean; Kearns; Kelly, K.; Kelly, M.; Kiernan; Koch; Krajewski; Kretser; LaBarbera; Lau-Kee; Lawrence; Leber; Leventhal; Levin Wallach; Levin; Levy; Lewis; Lindenauer; Lugo; MacLean; Madden; Madigan; Maldonado; Mandell; Margolin; Marinaccio; Markowitz; Marotta; Martin Owens; Martin; Matos; May; McCasnn; McNamara, C.; McNamara, M.; Meyer; Miller, C.; Miller, M.; Minkoff; Minkowitz; Miranda; Mohun; Montagnino; Moore; Muller; Mulry; Napoletano; Nowotarski; O’Connell; O’Donnell; Onderdonk; Palermo, C.; Perlman; Pessala; Pitegoff; Pleat; Poster-Zimmerman; Purcell; Radick; Ranni; Richardson; Rivera, J.; Russell; Ryan; Santiago; Scheinkman; Schofield; Schrag; Schraver; Schriever; Scott; Sen; Shafer; Shamoan; Sharkey; Sheldon; Sigmond; Silkenat; Simon; Singer; Skidelsky; Sonberg; Spolzino; Standard; Starkman; Sweet; Taylor; Tennant; Tesser; Triebwasser; van der Meulen; Ventura; Vigdor; Warner; Westlake; Wimpfheimer; Yeung-Ha; Young; Younger.

Mr. Karson presided over the meeting as Chair of the House.

1. Approval of minutes of November 2, 2019 meeting. The minutes were deemed accepted as distributed.
2. Report of the Treasurer. The Treasurer’s report for twelve months ending December 31, 2019, which had been presented by Treasurer Domenick Napoletano to members of the Association at the Annual Meeting, was received with thanks.
3. Report of the Nominating Committee and election of officers and members-at-large of the Executive Committee. Claire P. Gutekunst, chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee had nominated the following individuals for election to the indicated offices for the 2020-2021 Association year: President-Elect: T. Andrew Brown, Rochester; Secretary: Sherry Levin Wallach, White Plains; Treasurer: Domenick Napoletano, Brooklyn; and Vice Presidents: First District – Diana S. Sen and Carol A. Sigmond, New York City; Second – Aimee L. Richter, Brooklyn; Third – Robert T. Schofield IV, Albany; Fourth – Marne Onderdonk, Saratoga Springs; Fifth – Jean Marie Westlake, East Syracuse; Sixth – Richard C. Lewis, Binghamton; Seventh – Mark J. Moretti, Rochester; Eighth – Norman P. Effman, Warsaw; Ninth – Adam Seiden, Mount Vernon; Tenth – Donna England, Centereach; Eleventh – David L. Cohen, Kew Gardens; Twelfth – Michael A. Marinaccio, White Plains; Thirteenth – Jonathan B. Behrins, Staten Island. Nominated as

members-at-large of the Executive Committee were Mark A. Berman, New York City; Jean F. Gerbini, Albany; Sarah E. Gold, Albany; Ronald C. Minkoff, New York City; Mirna M. Santiago, Pawling; Tucker C. Stanclift, Queensbury.

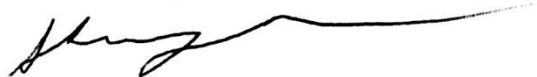
There being no further nominations, a motion was made and carried unanimously to elect the above-named individuals as officers and members-at-large of the Executive Committee.

4. Report of President. Mr. Greenberg highlighted items contained in his written report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.
5. Report of Task Force on Free Expression in the Digital Age. David E. McCraw, co-chair of the Task Force, provided an informational report on the Task Force's work to date to address problems in local journalism, including strengthening FOIL provisions, legal threats to local journalism, non-profit funding, and legal services. The report was received with thanks.
6. Report and recommendations of New York County Lawyers Association. Hon. Jed S. Rakoff and Lewis F. Tesser presented a report setting forth recommendations to address the problem of innocent people pleading guilty in criminal dispositions. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations.
7. Address by Hon. Janet DiFiore, Chief Judge of the State of New York. Chief Judge DiFiore addressed the House of Delegates with respect to the status of Unified Court System initiatives. She provided an update on legislation to restructure the court system; the Excellence Initiative; early presumptive ADR criminal justice reform; increased 18-B rates;; the Judiciary's budget request; expanding access to justice; and a planned convocation on civic education. The chair thanked the Chief Judge for her report.
8. Presentation of the Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award. Mr. Greenberg presented the annual Ruth G. Schapiro Award to Hon. Rosalyn Richter in recognition of her judicial service and commitment to championing equal opportunities for all.
9. Report and recommendations of Committee on Cannabis Law. Aleece E. Burgio, co-chair of the Committee on Cannabis Law, presented the committee's recommendations for legalizing the recreational use of cannabis and detailed measures regarding safety, social equity, research, and taxation. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations.
10. Report and recommendations of Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. Violet E. Samuels, Vice Chair of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, together with committee member Lillian M. Moy, outlined the committee's proposed Diversity Plan for the Association and recommendations for its implementation. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the plan and implementation.
11. Report of Task Force on the New York State Bar Examination. Hon. Alan D. Scheinkman, chair of the Task Force, presented an informational report on the Task Force's work to investigate and report on the experience and impact of New York's adoption of

the Uniform Bar Examination, including statewide public hearings the Task Force held in Fall 2019. The Task Force plans to present its report and recommendations at the April 2020 House meeting. The report was received with thanks.

12. Report of Task Force on Rural Justice. Hon. Stanley L. Pritzker and Taier Perlman, co-chairs of the Task Force, presented an informational report on the Task Force's work to develop recommendations for encouraging lawyers to work in rural communities. The Task Force plans to present its report and recommendations at the April 2020 House meeting. The report was received with thanks.
14. Report of Task Force on Mass Shootings and Assault Weapons. Margaret J. Finerty and David M. Schraver, co-chairs of the Task Force, presented an informational report on the Task Force's recommendations, which have been posted online, with a detailed report to be presented at the April House meeting. The report was received with thanks.
15. Report and recommendations of Committee on Standards of Attorney Conduct. Roy D. Simon, co-chair of the committee, outlined the committee's proposals to recommend to the Appellate Division the amendment of Rules 1.8, 3.4, 8.1 and 8.3 of the Rules of Professional Conduct. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations.
16. Administrative items. Mr. Karson reported on the following:  
  
NYSBA delegates to ABA House of Delegates. At the April 4, 2020 meeting, the House would be requested to elect six of the Association's 11 delegates to the American Bar Association House of Delegates. The Nominating Committee had nominated the following individuals: T. Andrew Brown, Rochester; Sharon Stern Gerstman, Buffalo; Henry M. Greenberg, Albany; David P. Miranda, Albany; Kenneth G. Standard, New York City; Natasha Shisov, New York City (Young Lawyer Delegate).
17. Date and place of next meeting. Mr. Karson announced that the next meeting of the House of Delegates would take place on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at the Bar Center in Albany.
18. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the House of Delegates, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sherry Levin Wallach  
Secretary