NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING THE OTESAGA, COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK, AND REMOTE MEETING JUNE 10, 2023

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PRESENT: Abneri, Adigwe, Ahn, Antongiovanni, Arenson, Averna, Babbie, Barreiro, Baum, Beecher, Bello Burke, Beltran, Berlin, Besunder, Bladykas, Block, Bondar, Bouse, Braunstein, Breen, Broderick, Brown, Bucki, Buckley, Buholtz, Campbell, Carlisle, Carter, Chandrasekhar, Christian, D. Cohen, B. Cohen, Cohn, Davidoff, Degnan, Dennis-Taylor, Dubowski, Duvall, Effman, Feal, Fellows, H. Fernandez, L. Fernandez, Filabi, Finerty, Finkel, Frenkel, Gauntlett, Gerstman, Getnick, Gilbert, Gilmartin, Glover, Goffer, Gold, Graber, Grande, Grays, Griesemer, Gutekunst, Gutierrez, Haig, Harper, Harwick, Heath, Henderson, Hoffman, Holder, Houth, Islam, Jackson, Jacobson, Jaglom, James, Jamieson, Jayne, Jimenez, Jones, Kamins, Kaufman, Kelley, Kobak, Koch, Lamb, Lapp, LaRose, Lathrop, Lau-Kee, Leber, Lenci, Levin, Levin Wallach, Levy, Lewis, Lissauer, Livshits, Loyola, Mack, MacLean, Madigan, Marinaccio, Markowitz, Maroney, Marotta, Martin, Mason, Masri, Matos, Mazur, McCann, McElwreath, McGinn, McKeegan, McNamara, McPherson, C. Miller, M. Miller, Minkoff, Montagnino, Moretti, Morris, Muller, Murphy, Napoletano, Nasser, Nielson, Nimetz, Noble, Nowotarski, D. O'Connor, J. O'Connor, O'Donnell, A. Palermo, C. Palermo, Pappalardo, E. Parker, J. Parker, Petterchak, Pierson, Quaye, Randall, Reale, Reckess, Richter, Riedel, Russell, Ryan, Safer, Samuels, Sargente, Schwartz-Wallace, Sen, Sharkey, Silkenat, Simels, Skidelsky, Spring, Stoeckmann, Strenger, J. Sunshine, N. Sunshine, Sweet, Tambasco, Taylor, Treff, Treibwasser, Vaughn, Waterman-Marshall, Welden, Whittingham, Williams, Yeung-Ha, Young

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

- 1. <u>Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, and introduction of new members</u>. The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mr. Napoletano welcomed the new members of the House.
- 2. <u>Approval of Minutes of April 1, 2023, meeting</u>. The minutes were deemed accepted as distributed.
- 3. Report of Treasurer. Susan L. Harper, treasurer, reported that through April 30, 2023, the Association's total revenue was approximately \$13,200,000, an increase of approximately \$1,218,000 from the previous year, and total expenses were approximately \$7,568,000, an increase of approximately \$1,525,000 over 2022. The report was received with thanks.
- 4. <u>Installation of President</u>. Mr. Lewis was formally installed as the one-hundred and twenty-sixth President of the New York State Bar Association. The oath of office was administered by Hon. Elizabeth A. Garry, Presiding Justice of the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Third Department.
- 5. <u>Report of President</u>. Mr. Lewis addressed the House with respect to his planned initiatives for his term as President. A copy of the written report is appended to these minutes.

- 6. Report and recommendations of Task Force on Modernization of Criminal Practice. Task Force co-chairs Catherine A. Christian and Andy Kossover outlined the recommendations contained in the report pertaining to justice courts, sentencing reform, technology, discovery, and e-filing, and the Vehicle and Traffic Law. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations. Judge Murphy and three other members abstained from the vote.
- 7. Report of Task Force on the Post-Pandemic Future of the Profession. Task Force co-chairs Mark A. Berman and John H. Gross reviewed the recommendations contained in the Task Force's report in advance of final consideration at the November 2023 meeting of the House of Delegates. The report was received with thanks.
- 8. Report and recommendations of Task Force on Mental Health and Trauma Informed Representation. Task Force co-chairs Joseph A. Glazer and Sheila E. Shea presented the Task Force's report and recommendations contained therein. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations. Two members abstained from the vote.
- 9. Report of Special Committee to Examine Selection of Judges for the Court of Appeals. Special Committee co-chairs Damaris Hernandez and Vincent E. Doyle, III, presented on the role, composition, and work of the special committee since its establishment in January 2023. The report was received with thanks.
- 10. Reconsideration of Report of Task Force on Modernization of Criminal Practice. A motion to reconsider approval of the report of the Task Force on Modernization of Criminal Practice failed to carry. Judge Murphy abstained from the vote.
- 11. <u>Reconsideration of Report of Task Force on Mental Health and Trauma Informed Representation</u>. A motion to reconsider approval of the report of the Task Force on Mental Health and Trauma Informed Representation failed to carry.
- 12. Report and recommendations of Committee on Membership. Clotelle D. Drakeford and Michelle H. Wildgrube, co-chairs of the Committee on Membership, reviewed the committee's proposal to implement a revised fee structure and subscription model of membership. After discussion, a motion was made to adopt the resolution, after which a motion to amend the sixth clause of the resolution to read "THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the House of Delegates endorses the concept of implementation of a subscription payment model for membership dues" was duly carried. The main motion was then approved, and the following resolution was adopted by the House:

WHEREAS, the New York State Bar Association, as a membership organization, delivers certain benefits for the purpose of the professional development of its members;

WHEREAS, the benefits of membership with the New York State Bar Association include access to Continuing Legal Education programming,

publications and articles, legal templates and forms, and other memberspecific content;

WHEREAS, the implementation of a subscription payment model for membership dues would allow members to process Section membership and access to virtual and on-demand Continuing Legal Educational programming as part of their respective annual membership renewal;

WHEREAS, the implementation of a subscription payment model for membership dues would assist the administration of the Association through consolidated marketing efforts, allocation of staffing and resources, and stronger long-term revenue forecasting.

WHEREAS, the implementation of a subscription payment model for membership dues would streamline online transactions for both members and non-members and would facilitate the expansion of membership amongst New York licensed attorneys who are not currently members of the New York State Bar Association;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the House of Delegates endorses the concept of implementation of a subscription payment model for membership dues;

RESOLVED, that any subscription payment model would be available to those persons eligible for membership within the classes of Active Members, Associate Members, and Law Student Members of the Association;

RESOLVED, that the powers and privileges incumbent on each of the above-referenced classes of membership would not be abrogated or altered by implementation of a subscription payment model;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and report be commended to the Committee on Bylaws for such review so that the appropriate Bylaws amendments can be drafted as necessary for consideration and subscription at the November 5, 2023, meeting of the House of Delegates;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that such appropriate Bylaws amendments, if subscribed to by the House, will be presented for discussion and adoption at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Association.

One member abstained from the vote.

13. Report and recommendations of Committee on the New York State Constitution. Desmond C.B. Lyons, chair of the Committee on the New York State Constitution's subcommittee on simplification of the state constitution, reviewed the committee's proposals for simplification of articles VI (Judiciary), VII (State Finances), and VIII (Local Finances) of

- the New York State Constitution. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the report and recommendations. Two members abstained from the vote.
- 14. Report of Working Group on Facial Recognition Technology and Access to Legal Representation. Thomas J. Maroney, a member of the Working Group, reported on the mission, composition, and goals of the Working Group, including a review of activity since the group was established in February 2023. The report was received with thanks.
- 15. Report of Committee on Annual Awards. John H. Gross, committee chair, reported that the Gold Medal Award would be presented to Jeh C. Johnson, former Secretary of Homeland Security, at the 2024 Gala Dinner. The report was received with thanks.
- 16. Report of The New York Bar Foundation. Carla M. Palumbo, president of the New York Bar Foundation, updated the House members on the ongoing work and mission of The Foundation, including fundraising and grand-making capabilities. The report was received with thanks.
- 17. Administrative Item. Mr. Lewis reported that at its June 8, 2023, meeting, the Executive Committee had confirmed the reappointment of Jackie J. Drohan, Andre R. Jaglom, and Tara Anne Pleat as members of the Finance Committee, each to serve a two-year term. Pursuant to the Bylaws, the House is required to ratify the selection of these members. A motion was adopted to ratify the members' selection.
- 18. New Business. Mr. Napoletano encouraged eligible members to participate in the New York State Unified Court System Office for Justice Initiatives' Attorney Emeritus Program.
- 19. Date and place of next meeting. Mr. Napoletano announced that the next meeting of the House of Delegates would take place on Saturday, November 4, 2023, with options for participation in person at the Bar Center in Albany or remotely via Zoom.
- 20. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the House of Delegates, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary