

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 1980 - NEW YORK HILTON HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY

STAVE

PRESENT: Members Adamson, Amdursky, Aspland, Baer, Barrera, Belknap, Beshar, Brenner, Brennglass, Britt, Brown, Callahan, Citrynell, Clabby, Clark, Colish, Connolly, Cook, Daly, D'Ambrosio, Dee, DelleCese, Denton, Diamond, Dougherty, Emmett, Eolis, Erickson, Fales, Fallon, Field, FitzPatrick, Forger, Garrity, Glasheen, Gold, Granville, Greenberg, Grossman, Hand, Harrigan, Haskel, Hederman, Heming, Hester, Hoffmann, Jones, Kahn, Kilsch, Klein, Lagarenne, Lapp, Leinhardt, LeSeur, Levy, Maas, MacCrate, Milburn, Mitchell, Mosès, Mousaw, Mullan, G.F. Murphy, Neale, J.C. O'Brien, R.E. O'Brien, Palermo, Patterson, Pedowitz, Peet, Pritchard, B.J. Reilly, Robfogel, Rothenberg, Russell, Scott, Smith, Spivack, Sugnet, B.I. Taylor, L.B. Taylor, Thoron, Tondel, Traficanti, Trombley, Tucker, Urbano, D.A. Whalen, Williams, Witmer, R.G. Wright and Yetter.

1. Approval of minutes of September 29, 1979 meeting. The minutes were approved as distributed.

2. Report of Nominating Committee. Mr. Russell, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee had met at the Bar Center on October 26, 1979 and nominated the following persons for election to the respective offices indicated:

President-elect	David S. Williams, Albany
Secretary	Louis Young, Syracuse
Treasurer	Thomas A. Pritchard, Schenectady
Vice President, 1st District	Haliburton Fales 2d, New York City
Vice President, 2nd District	Frank A. Barrera, Brooklyn
Vice President, 3rd District	Francis X. Tucker, Kingston
Vice President, 4th District	Henry A. Fischer, Malone
Vice President, 5th District	John J. Dee, Syracuse
Vice President, 6th District	Robert I. Williamson, Ithaca
Vice President, 7th District	Delon F. Mousaw, Rochester
Vice President, 8th District	Philip A. Erickson, Jamestown
Vice President, 9th District	Henry G. Miller, White Plains
Vice President, 10th District	Michael P. Aspland, Mineola
Vice President, 11th District	Robert L. Klein, New York City
Member of Executive Committee	Everett M. Barlow, Buffalo
Member of Executive Committee	John J. Clabby, Flushing
Member of Executive Committee	Charles E. Heming, New York City
Member of Executive Committee	Maria L. Marcus, New York City
Member of Executive Committee	Bernard J. Reilly, Babylon
Member of Executive Committee	Joseph E. Rosch, Ballston Spa

Mr. Russell further reported that the Committee had nominated the following persons for the position of delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates for election at the April 26, 1980 meeting: Alexander D. Forger; Anthony R. Palermo; Robert J. Pearl, young lawyer delegate; Edwin F. Russell; Henry J. Smith and David S. Williams

There being no further nominations, a motion was made and carried that the nominations be closed. The Secretary then cast one ballot for the election of the officers and members of the Executive Committee.

3. Establishment of Section on the General Practice of Law.

Mr. Ostertag, chairman of the Special Committee to Consider the Creation of a General Practice of Law Section, summarized the proposal of his special committee to establish a section. A motion was adopted approving the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that there be established a Section on the General Practice of Law within the New York State Bar Association, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the chairman of the Special Committee to Consider the Creation of a General Practice of Law Section shall serve as chairman of a steering committee, appointed by the President of this Association, to take all steps necessary to implement the establishment of a Section on the General Practice of Law, and it is further

RESOLVED, that an appropriate budget be approved by the Finance Committee and that the necessary funds be allocated from the general funds of this Association to carry out the foregoing.

A further motion was adopted approving the bylaws as proposed.

4. Report of Committee on Membership. Mr. Yetter summarized the Committee's report and proposed program for increasing membership by recruitment of law students, attorneys in large firms, corporate and government counsel, and methods of approaching other attorneys and non-renewing members. He indicated the proposal had been endorsed by the Executive Committee at its January 24, 1980 meeting, and that initial emphasis would be given to the enlistment of law students in cooperation with the Young Lawyers Section. The report was received with special thanks to Mr. Yetter and the members of his committee.

5. "Lawyer Competency: The Role of the Law Schools". Roger C. Cramton, Dean of Cornell Law School, summarized the report of the ABA Task Force, and described areas in which students could be instructed concerning relevant practical skills and the manner in which law schools curricula could be structured to accomplish this purpose. He also outlined ways in which the services of practicing attorneys could be effectively utilized in this teaching process.

6. Report and Resolution of Special Committee on Public Access to Information and Proceedings. Mr. Crimi, Chairman of the Special Committee on Public Access to Information and Proceedings, summarized the Committee's report and recommendations concerning public access to information and proceedings. After discussion, the following resolution was adopted upon motion by the House:

RESOLVED, that the House of Delegates of the New York State Bar Association recommends that audio-visual coverage of Civil and Criminal Trials be permitted on a controlled experimental basis in a few selected instances in diverse locations in New York State, including urban, suburban and rural communities, before permanent rules of general application are adopted; provided that audio-visual coverage at the trial court level be permitted only in cases where the parties consent thereto.

7. Report and Resolutions of Special Committee on Group and Prepaid Legal Services Plans. Mr. Adair, Chairman of the Special Committee on Group and Prepaid Legal Services Plans, summarized the Committee's report and proposals, which had been endorsed by the Executive Committee at its January 24, 1980 meeting. After discussion, the following resolution was adopted upon motion by the House.

RESOLVED, that the House of Delegates of the New York State Bar Association hereby authorizes the creation of a new not-for-profit corporation which shall have as its only member the New York State Bar Association, and which will sponsor, market and encourage development of group and prepaid legal services plans; and further

RESOLVED, that the Certificate of Incorporation of said corporation presented to this meeting is hereby approved; and further

RESOLVED, that the officers of the New York State Bar Association are hereby authorized and directed to take all such action as they deem appropriate to implement the foregoing resolutions.

8. Report of President. Mr. Palermo reported the following matters:

a) He would submit a written report at the conclusion of his term recapitulating his activities during the past year for inclusion in the August issue of the New York State Bar Journal.

b) The Executive Subcommittee on Internal Communication and Publications was in the process of evaluating Association publications, and would submit a report of its findings.

c) Recent meetings with leaders of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of State government concerning topics of mutual interest had been productive and served to improve relations.

d) He and Mr. Forger had met with Hon. Lawrence H. Cooke, Chief Judge of the State of New York, concerning court congestion and delay. He indicated that he had been in communication with concerned committees and sections within the Association, requesting comments on the matter. Mr. Palermo also announced that to facilitate examination of the root causes of delay and the development of permanent solutions to the problem, the Executive Committee, at its January 24, 1980 meeting, had authorized him to add additional members to the Committee on Judicial Administration or, in the alternative, to appoint a special committee composed of members drawn from interested committees and sections.

e) The Gannett Foundation had granted the Association \$3,000 to support its second Educational Seminar for the Working Media, to be held at Tarrytown on April 18, 1980.

f) In connection with the Annual Meeting, the firm of Lobsenz-Stevens of New York City had been retained to provide greater media coverage of Annual Meeting events, especially those relating to the public interest aspects of the work of the Association. He indicated this had resulted in several media appearances, and that he would report further concerning the success of the experiment after a proper evaluation had been made.

g) Action Unit No. 4 was in the process of preparing proposed legislation to implement the resolutions adopted by the House of Delegates at its September 29, 1979 meeting.

h) An organizational meeting of Action Unit No. 5 had been held on December 6, 1979, and that the Action Unit was in the process of reviewing the problem of over-regulation and possible regulatory reforms.

9. Report of Chairman. Mr. Forger stated that due to the unavailability of the New York Hilton Hotel, the Annual Meeting dates of April 27-30, 1983, could not be honored. A motion was adopted approving the dates of April 20-23, 1983 for the Annual Meeting.

10. Date and Place of next meeting. Mr. Forger announced that the next meeting of the House of Delegates will be held at the Bar Center in Albany on Saturday, April 26, 1980.