

Minutes of NYSALJA Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 9, 2005.

Prepared by Christine C. Traskos (Secretary).

Location: NYS Tax Appeals Board Office , Troy, NY
Audio participation from New York City

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. Difficulties were encountered with the speaker phone in Troy.

Copy of previously distributed minutes of January 24, 2005 and Attendee List is attached.

Minutes of board meeting (January 24, 2005) discussed. Typos amended. Minutes as amended and corrected were accepted by acclamation.

The **Treasurer's Report** was offered by Marc Zylberberg. (See attached). The overall total of assets is **\$9,289.59 as of 8/8/05:**

105.01	Checking
32.69	Mint Share
1,067.02	Preferred Saving
6,066.64	NYSALJA CD
<u>2,018.23</u>	NYSALJA CD 1
9,289.59	TOTAL ASSETS
0.00	LIABILITIES
\$9,289.59	OVERALL TOTAL

Motion made and approved for reimbursement to Treasurer for expenses for membership mailings (also labels, business cards etc.) in the amount of \$95.77.

Motion made and approved to renew CDs when they come due for another 6 month period.

Discussion re: scholarships for upcoming NAALJ conference. Marc Zylberberg indicated that there was sufficient funding to cover 2 scholarships as discussed at the previous meeting. The scholarships will be issued via a drawing to comply with the Ethics Commission recommendations. Cathy Bennett reminded everyone about the \$600 reimbursement for conference fees from PEF. Suggestion made that scholarships be awarded to those who haven't attended in the past or don't get reimbursed by their agency.

Website Update: Minimal updates recently made. John Farrell's article and new application form has been added. Please advise Marc Zylberberg of any problems with website. Cathy Bennett noted that the "click here for application" form does not work but the "renewal" form works. Suggested that we continue with Albany Law School services for now. Proposed NAALJ website overhaul may offer future ideas for our website.

Membership: Currently 25 paid members plus one honorary as of July 1st. Reminder recently sent out to 111 former members "encouraging" them to renew.

Old Business:

Impartial Hearing Officers (IHOs) Training Program for Attorneys Who Appear Before Them. Discussion ensued on how to accomplish this. Consensus reached that if Albany Law School offers a training program on this topic, NYSALJA should offer some type of social event to promote membership.

President's Report: Nothing to report at this time.

NAALJ Update: Annual meeting in Chicago October 30th-November 4th. The Conference fee is \$350 if you register before October 1st. (A separate course on Mediation is offered at an extra charge) You can register on the NAALJ website. Discussion ensued on getting CLE credits from Illinois which is not on the approved list in New York State. Consensus was that you should take the forms offered by Illinois and they should automatically be approved in New York State which is a self-recording State.

Further discussion on scholarships to be offered by NYSALJA. Motion made and unanimous approval given to offer 2 scholarships at not more than \$350 each, the early registration fee. A majority of the Executive Committee believes that the winners can apply the \$350 to the costs of the trip, not just limited to registration fee because agency policies differ/change on what they reimburse. However, anyone whose expenses are paid 100% by another source should be disqualified from applying for a scholarship so that other members can benefit. Also to qualify, your NYSALJA membership must be current. Unanimous motion made for Marc Zylberberg to prepare a notice to the membership that will be approved by the Executive Committee before it is sent out. The winners will be picked in a lottery drawing. Please note that the next mid-year conference will be in Iowa on June 4-6, 2006.

How NAALJ can more effectively support NYSALJA and other affiliates.

Marc Zylberberg raised the issue that if NYSALJA continues to offer scholarships to the national conference, why can't NAALJ waive the registration fee as a further inducement to attendance. Considering that NYSALJA is one of the largest affiliates we send a lot of money to NAALJ each year. Cathy Bennett stated that NAALJ could not afford to do this for all 14 affiliates due to other expenses like publishing the Journal, but she will raise the fiscal support issue at the next meeting. Also NAALJ would like to know more about the affiliates, what directions they are taking, are they reaching out to the private bar, students etc. They are always looking for information from the affiliates to place in the newsletter so that it can be shared with all other affiliates.

Discussion raised about having a NAALJ Board member like Jim Horan or Cathy Bennett become the person responsible to convey information from the NAALJ Board to NYSALJA. A motion was made by Michael Danziger and seconded by Cathy Bennett to abolish the official title of "Liaison", so that someone actually serving on the Board can provide timely information to the membership. The motion was carried unanimously by the Executive Committee.

Nominating Committee.

Motion made and unanimously carried to appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of Cathy Bennett (Immediate Past President), Chris Traskos and Jim Horan. Some members have already expressed interest in specific offices. The Nominating Committee will present a full slate of candidates prior to the NYSALJA annual meeting. Nominations can also be taken from the floor.

Date of Annual Meeting: October 7, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. at NYS Department of Health Offices at 90 Church Street, (4th Floor), New York City.

All notices regarding the annual meeting, scholarships and the report of the nominating committee should be sent out by September 2nd.

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.