

Minutes of NYSALJA Annual Membership Meeting and Elections

Friday, October 7, 2005 at 5:30 PM
90 Church Street, 4th floor, New York, NY

Meeting called to order by President Michael Danziger

Minutes of August 9, 2005 Executive Meeting approved.

Treasurer's report:

Received and accepted.
Bottom line: we have \$9533.82 in the various accounts

Membership update—Marc Zylberberg:

63 paid members
1 honorary member (Professor Hutter)
31 unpaid members who stay on list till December 2005.

Web-site Update:

Website is up and running. Information is posted within 3 or 4 days.
Meeting is posted; minutes are posted; information about annual meetings is posted.

NAALJ Annual Meeting and NYSALJA Scholarship:

Cathy Bennett spoke about the high quality of the presentations at the national conference.

Special Education presentation will be made by Dr. Justison, from US Department of Education—call in type session—of value to many of the IHO(s) who do the special education hearings.

Discussion as to the choice of conference sites. It is a huge undertaking. We did it in 2000 in Albany. Attempt is made to choose varied locations.

Next year is Seattle; in 2007 it will be D.C.

A mid-year is much less work to put together. Maybe Albany Law would be interested in getting involved and could partner with us in hosting a mid-year.

Scholarship Awardees:

We had two winners of the scholarship to the national conference in Chicago: Cathy Bennett and Sinai Halberstam.

Also PEF provides some money to its members--up to \$600 per year-- for professional meetings. Can use it for conference fees, but not for travel expenses. NB: one must apply for the money within sixty days of attending the conference.

Old Business:

Joel Ziev advised that the state is providing training to IHO(s) in two sessions: one in Albany March 1 and 2 at the Desmond and March 9 and 10 at Southgate Hotel across from Penn Station in New York City.

Motion carried to sponsor such receptions.

Joel will work with group in NYC. Jim Horan will work with group in Albany.

President's Report:

Mike Danziger noted it is the end of his term. Mike Danziger thanked all for their help and support and noted that our numbers have increased.

Cathy Bennett has taken on the presidency of the NAALJ. She is president elect. We congratulated her.

New York State Bar Association has a committee—CAPS—chaired by our member, Jim Horan. The committee is sponsoring a cle program on administrative adjudication that may be helpful for us. There is a subcommittee on ALJs, anyone can join by contacting Pat Wood at Pwood@ nysba.org.

Mike again thanked all for their help and support in his year as president.

Annual Election of 2005—2006 Executive Committee Members and Officers

At the Annual NYSBA Annual Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2006 in New York City:

The CAPS committee is presenting a CLE program: Supreme Court update will be one half of session—and the other half will be on the topic of government reform including 3 one hour panels: court reform, procurement reform, and government reform in general (Hutter group of Bar Assn)

Also, the Bar is sponsoring a program on Special Education—people with disabilities on Wednesday, the 25th.

Teleconferencing Capability

Joel thinks it is working great. We need a better conference phone. There are special phones designed for group meetings such as this.

Cathy Bennett—meeting bridge. NYSBA uses it, Cathy signed up for it on our behalf. It is 11 cents per caller per minute.

It is a monthly bill. Cathy will pay as member and NYSALJA will reimburse her. It is a good system and seems to be working for us pretty well. We all just call in and we can get an operator if needed.

Joel feels this works as good as any and he is familiar with many other more pricey services.

Court Security Breaches

Cathy Bennett contacted NYSBA about a study it is doing and asked if we should get involved. Mr. Buzzard forwarded our response to OCA who advised they were limiting their involvement to the court system.

New York City Charter Revision Committee

Creation of code of ethics. Cathy Bennett wondered if NYSALJA should advise that a panel should be used for the creation of the code? Does anyone know how the item becomes code? Is there a comment period? Membership will be advised there is an item regarding code of ethics on NYC ballot. We are not taking a position on it, however.

Amendment to Constitution and Bylaws

Cathy Bennett summarized the changes: Omit from Executive Committee: liaison to NAALJ so: Executive Committee consists of: elected officers, past presidents still members and five members.

Officer section, section 4, clarifies that president elect shall be next president and that president elect shall step in should president not be able to act.

Secretary was custodian of records. We found that Treasurer was actually custodian. So we moved the duties of custodian to treasurer. Treasurer remits to NAALJ money at end of fiscal year but since we find it easier to just pay periodically this change was made.

Amendments voted on and accepted.

Election of Executive Committee Members and Officers

Term: October 2005 through September 06

President: Anne Murphy
President Elect: John Farrell
Vice-President: John Farago
Treasurer: Marc Zylberberg
Secretary: Jean Greinert

Executive Committee Members: Stephen Aronson; Abigail Bernhardt, Christine Traskos, Joel Ziev and Sue Novick Wasko.

Slate nominated was voted on and installed.

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Anne Murphy as new president took over the meeting and advised that the next meeting will be held during NYSBA's annual meeting at the Marriott Marquis in New York City on either January 23 or January 24, 2006.
Conference Calling is not possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Greinert
Secretary