



HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Board of Directors of the HCBA Tuesday, August 14, 2007 HCBA Offices

The Board of Directors of the Hennepin County Bar Association met at the HCBA offices on August 14, 2007 for its first Board meeting of the 2007-2008 year. The attached attendance list indicates who was present for the meeting.

President Sonia Miller-Van Oort called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

The meeting began with Board members introducing themselves and sharing information about their current employment, prior bar involvement, and other non-profit board experience. Members and staff in attendance also participated in a mixer in which interesting, but unknown facts about themselves were shared. Everyone concurred that we have a diverse and experienced Board.

The Board discussed what they understood the role of the Board of Directors to be. The collective understanding was that the Board has responsibilities that include:

- Providing guidance to HCBA committees, including the Executive Committee
- Supporting the Bench
- Promoting the Association
- Representing the profession to the public and the legislature
- Attending and participating in HCBA activities/events
- In the fiduciary sense
- Representing and explaining HCBA goals and mission to members
- Providing member benefits
- Enhancing professionalism
- Sharing their ideas and perspectives freely

President Miller-Van Oort also iterated her hope that the Board would be an interactive group that would foster lively discussion and ultimately act to improve the Association.

After reviewing the Board materials provided to the Board with governing documents, President Miller-Van Oort highlighted the three issues that the Board will address and take action on this year: The Quie Commission Report, the Call for Justice initiative, and the Board of Advisors Recommendation from May 2007. The Board briefly discussed the timeline related to the Quie Commission Report, which involves education to members in October and November via *The Hennepin Lawyer*, CLE's, and possibly a forum. The goal is to get as much education out to members by November, then direct the membership to an online survey regarding the position HCBA should take on the Quie report, which will then allow the Board to take informed action at December's meeting. Duane Stanley discussed the Association's use of online surveys in the past.

President Miller-Van Oort next discussed her three initiatives and focus for this bar year: Pride in the Profession, diversity efforts within HCBA, and increasing benefits and perceived value to members. She explained that these initiatives sprang from the current Strategic Plan. In



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conclusion, President Miller-Van Oort explained that she hoped that all meetings this year would be substantive and worth Board members' time. She also indicated that Board members should allocate time for each monthly meeting from noon until 1:30 p.m.

Ms. Paula Schulze gave a brief summary of the financials. The Board then approved the minutes from the June 12, 2007 Board meeting prior to adjourning the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Ward-Reichard, Secretary