

The Board of Directors of the HCBA
Tuesday, September 12, 2006
HCBA Offices

The meeting was called to order at 12:11 p.m. by President Michael Unger.

The board members present introduced themselves and the role that they play that makes them a member of the board. Additionally, they identified their employer and practice environment.

President Unger then addressed the scope and magnitude of the association, beginning with the mission statement. He noted that his column in the last issue of *The Hennepin Lawyer* expressed his view of the role of the association. He emphasized the public service component of the mission, at the same time that he stressed the role of the association in serving its members. Additionally, he addressed the importance of a positive relationship between the association and the judiciary.

Mr. Buxbaum and Mr. Stanley then discussed the structure of the bar association, as the mission of the HCBA is implemented organizationally. They discussed CLE and collegiality, pro bono activities, professionalism and bench/bar relations, and communication (written and electronic).

Mr. Unger then addressed the legal and practical responsibilities of directors and the reasonable expectations of directors. He stressed the duty of care and the duty of loyalty to the association. He reminded the board that the prior board had voted that all members of the board meet the pro bono obligations of the professional rules. He advised that a conflict of interest policy exists and that board members will be asked to sign a conflict of interest statement. Finally, he stressed the need to attend meetings and to participate.

The minutes of the meeting of June 13, 2006 were approved.

The next item on the agenda was the election of five at large members to the Finance and Planning Committee. The candidates recommended by the Executive Committee were approved. They are Phil Trobaugh, Glen McCluskey, Courtney Ward-Reichard, Clark Updahl and Frank Abramson

The next item was the election of alternates to the MSBA Assembly. The Executive Committee recommended five alternates. Ms. Vasaly withdrew her name, as she is an Assembly member in another capacity. As amended, the following alternates were declared elected; Michael Unger, Christopher Morris, Elizabeth Larsen and Hon. Cara Lee Neville. Mr. Rogers

emphasized the importance of participation by all elected voting representatives in Assembly meetings and meetings of the MSBA committees. Mr. Unger concurred.

Mr. Unger then delivered a President's report. He cited the very successful HCBF Golf Tournament and expressed appreciation to those responsible. He encouraged every board member to attend the Judges Social on September 19th. He updated the board on judicial election issues, giving the background of bar involvement in the wake of the *Republican Party v. White* decision. He reviewed the policy and affirmation agreement adopted by the HCBA Board last spring and announced that the vast majority of candidate in Hennepin County have signed and returned affirmations. He discussed the changed position of the MSBA relative to affirmations and the different course pursued by the HCBA. He stated that the HCBA was confident that our affirmation does not constitute electioneering.

Ms. Garvis shared with the board the decision of the MSBA Policy Committee to recommend submission of the MSBA Diversity Task Force report an adoption of a resolution to create and implementation committee. Additionally, the Policy Committee recommends adoption of the LAD Committee proposal to grant limited CLE credit for pro bono activity. She also reported that she and others presented a plaque to the warehouse owner who helped the Katrina Relief Effort by donating warehouse space.

Ms. Schulze described the financial statements that are presented to the board on a monthly basis. She indicated that she will highlight significant income or expense items. She described the investment of dues income.

Mr. Buxbaum reported on additional actions involving contested judicial races. He discussed the plans for a judicial plebiscite and forum, which may be augmented by a county attorney's candidate's forum. He encouraged involvement in the LINC program and asked for recommendations. Finally, he discussed possible federal court actions to protect the civil rights of incarcerated sexual offenders, under the Commitment Defense Contract with Hennepin County.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Morris
Secretary