Pennsylvania Bar Association
Minority Bar Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 10, 2020

Attendees: Tony Thompson (Vice-Chair), LaToya Winfield Bellamy (Secretary), Susan Wolf (PBA), Rodney Akers, Sharon Barney, Fred Cabell, Patrick Cicero, Bill Cluck, P. Daniel Cortes, Anthony Cox, Jr., Verdell Dean, Thadeus Edwards, Andrea Farney, Bridget Gillespie, Marshal Granor, Barbara Griffen, Trent Hargrove, Brandon Jordan, Tsiwen Law, Marisa Lattimore, Sharon López, Brenda Marrero, Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith, L. Mimi McCormick, Ashley Murphy, Clair PapieredinWes Payne, E. Nego Pile, Michael Sand, David Schwager (President-Elect), Maraleen Shields, Jay Silberblatt, Gina Thomas, Patrice Turenne, Stella Tsai, Bill Warren, Tom Wilkinson and Phil Yoon.

A meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Minority Bar Committee (MBC) was held on Friday, July 10, 2020.

Vice Chair Tony Thompson called the meeting to order

I. Introductions of attendees:
   A. Brief introductions of attendees occurred.
   B. Comments by PBA President David Schwager and update on steps to address racial injustice and police reform.

II. Action Items.
   A. Approval of the June 12, 2020 Minutes on the motion by Tsiwen Law with amendments and second by Marisa Latimore.

III. Subcommittee Chair Reports:

   A. Diversity Summit – Presented by Andrea Farney and Jay Silberblatt; Co-Chairs/Members Sharon Barney, Anthony Cox, Jr., Andrea Farney and Patrice Turenne.

      An interactive virtual conference is confirmed for October 7, 2020. They're confirming brochures and registration materials. The conference will include breakout sessions, panel discussions and will include a closing by President David Schwager. Next meeting July 17, 2020.

   B. Community Outreach – Presented by E. Nego Pile.

      The subcommittee is working with County bar associations on civil rights and criminal law educational forums.

Arlene will circulate newsletter column categories. Articles are due to Arlene by August 31, 2020.

D. Legislative – Presented by Tsiwen Law and Ashley Murphy; Co-chair Brenda Marrero.

Four police reform bills are moving in the State legislature. House Bill (HB) 1841 and HB 1910 are on the Governor’s desk for signature. One key point of HB 1841 is that it requires a law enforcement agency to disclose employment information. HB 1910 requires a variety of training for officers such as de-escalation, implicit bias, trauma and use of deadly force. Senate Bill (SB) 459 requires police departments to maintain records on use of force incidents and SB 1205 requires municipal police departments to have use of force policies. The Federal Heroes Act and PA House Bill 196 about regional election of appellate judges were discussed.

E. Government Attorneys – No report. Phil Yoon announced a PBI one-hour CLE on diversity in government scheduled for July 27, 2020 at 4 p.m.

IV. Liaison Reports

A. YLD – Presented by Anthony Cox, Jr.

Introduced new liaison, Brandon Jordan. They’re working on ways to increase young lawyer membership.

V. New Business

A. PBA Diversity Committee Programming

The Committee presented a program on race in the legal profession that received very positive feedback. An invitation to collaborate with the MBC was extended and Tony Thompson requested interest from members to serve on a subcommittee. Brenda Marrero, Mimi McCormick, Michael Sand and Bill Warren volunteered.

VI. Member comments or concerns

A. Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith announced the MLK internship reception to be streamed on YouTube.

VII. Adjournment at 1:14 p.m.

Next Executive Council Meeting – August 3, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
Next Committee Meeting Date: August 14, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
Minutes submitted by LaToya Winfield Bellamy, Secretary.