Pennsylvania Bar Association  
Diversity Team  
Conference Call Meeting  

July 5, 2016 – 12:00 p.m.  

Minutes  

Attendance:  
Committee Members - Wes Payne, Chair, Jill Scheidt, Vice Chair, James Antoniono, Jennifer Ellis, Mohammad Ghiasuddin, Melinda Ghilardi, Marisa Lattimore, Mike Reed, Cheryl Young,  
Staff – Barry Simpson, Trent Hargrove, Dick McCoy & Louann Bell  

Wes chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.  

Approval of Minutes  
The minutes of the March 10 meeting were approved unanimously.  

Award Subcommittee Report  
Wes reported that the annual Diversity & Inclusion Award was presented to the Women in the Profession during their conference luncheon at the PBA Annual Meeting. There was discussion as to finding a permanent home for the award presentation. One option to consider is the Awards Breakfast which was recently reinstated to be held prior to the House of Delegates meeting. It was noted that the attendance during the 2016 Awards Breakfast was good.  

Report of PBI Executive Director  
Dick reported that the PBI is continuing its efforts to work with the various affinity bars on CLE programs. PBI members have been tasked to join the affinity bars to provide informal contacts within the associations. A small handout is being developed for distribution at each PBI conference center which highlights PBI’s commitment to diversity and inclusion.  

Report of the Diversity Officer  
Trent reminded the members that the Business Development Forum is scheduled for September 20. Ten companies are needed to commit to participate in the Forum. To date six commitments have been made.  

Trent also noted that a panel discussion is being planned for Dickinson Law School in the Fall on explicit bias. Another panelist may be needed and suggestion are welcomed.  

Attorney Registration/Data Collection  
Barry reported that President Sara Austin received a letter from the Chief Justice and he advised that the attorney registration issue will be considered in October 2016. Sara and Barry will reach out to him again in September to make sure this item remains on their agenda.
House Term Limits Resolution
Barry advised that he spoke to then President Pugh about the possibility of creating a task force and was told that he did not feel the issue was timely. Barry suggested that the Team might do better with either Sara Austin or Sharon López during their respective terms of office. He again encouraged the members to get the involvement of other groups such as the YLD and the WIP. He will talk to both Sara and Sharon about this and report back to the Team.

New Business
Amendment to Professional Rules of Conduct Related to Prohibiting Discrimination - Wes advised the members that Sharon López requested the Team to consider preparing a resolution in regards to amending the Professional Rules of Conduct relating to prohibiting discrimination as the ABA is expected to do at its August meeting. After discussion it was decided to defer this until after the ABA’s vote as there is a need to see the ABA language before this can be considered further.

Next Meeting Date
The next meeting is scheduled for September 6 at noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.