

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2009 CBA YLS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
The Quinnipiack Club  
New Haven, Connecticut**

**Present**

EC Members:

P. Das, J. White, J. Weiner, J. Shapiro, T. Archbault, A. Arscott, E. Boothroyd, A. Cenatiempo, M. Coppola, M. Corcoran, G. Daniels, D. DeRosa, A. Drega, M. Dunn, G. Goldman, E. Graner Sexton, R. Haskell, S. Haupt, J. Hecht, L. Hernandez, J. Janik, B. Kirsch, A. Knott, D. Krisch, F. Lefante, J. Lentini, B. Logan, N. Moses, K. Moyher, C. Nelson, D. Omasta, G. Podolak, S. Rosenberg, T. Shah, M. Sheehy, J. Sklarz, H. Spaide, J. Strutt, M. Todgham, J. Torres, C. Wasil, M. Weiner, S. Yoder

Also present:

B. Appleby, R. Benjamin, F. Brady, J. Brittain, M. Caldwell, D. Chenault, J. Crawford, Erick Diaz, M. Escobedo, M. Ford, V. Foreman, A. Friedland, B. Gallant, M. Garcia, C. Horton, D. Hrelac, K. Kane, P. Kaplan, D. Merriam, M. Muller, A. Parrent, J. Paul, D. Reif, A. Simonetti, M. Stone, P. Tegeler, E. Wilson

**I. Call To Order**

Meeting called to order by P. Das at 7:07 p.m.

**II. Introduction**

P. Das welcomed the group to the EC meeting and the Diversity Dinner. P. Das provided an overview of the EC.

### **III. Roll Call**

J. Shapiro indicated that people were signed in by the CBA staff as they entered the meeting and roll call was not necessary.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

J. Shapiro indicated that the minutes from the October EC meeting were distributed to the EC by e-mail and were also available at the registration table. J. Lentini moved to approve the minutes and J. Weiner seconded the motion. EC approved the motion unanimously.

### **V. Reports**

#### **A. Secretary's Report**

J. Shapiro advised the EC of the protocol for postings on LinkedIn and Facebook, and welcomed those interested to join the movement.

#### **B. Treasurer's Report**

J. Weiner indicated that the Treasurer's Report would be issued by e-mail the next day. J. Weiner also advised that the YLS Gala is scheduled for April 10 and proceeds from the Gala will benefit the YLS Soup Kitchen project.

#### **C. Chair-Elect's Report**

J. White waived the Chair-Elect's report.

#### **D. Chair's Report**

P. Das indicated that the holiday party is scheduled for December 17, 2009 at the New Britain Museum of American Art.

#### **E. Director and Committee Reports**

##### **1. CLE's**

J. Janik and S. Haupt reported the success of several events including the following CLEs: Understanding HIPAA held on October 19, 2009; Short Calendar held on October 26, 2009; and Elder Law on November 2, 2009. J. Janik and S. Haupt also reported upcoming CLEs were being held on November 30, 2009 and December 7, 2009 on Appellate Law and Estates & Probate respectively.

## **2. Diversity**

J. Lentini, G. Daniels and T. Shah reported that a diversity panel was being held on November 19, 2009 at Quinnipiac. The panels have been well received.

## **3. Professional Development**

C. Nelson and M. Dunn reported that several career panels have been held and planned at both UConn Law and Quinnipiac Law. M. Dunn reported that a career panel was held at UConn on family law. C. Nelson reported that a career panel was held at Quinnipiac on Real Property. It featured L. Gardner and J. Hecht of the YLS.

## **4. Public Service**

B. Logan and R. Haskell reported on the continued success of the Soup Kitchen service project. Over 1400 people have been fed through the YLS efforts.

## **5. Pro Bono**

R. Haskell reported on the success of the Pro Bono Annual Fair held at the CBA Law Center on October 28, 2009. R. Haskell also asked members to pick up flyers regarding the toy drive for the YLS Holiday Party.

## **F. House of Delegates Reports**

J. Strutt and D. Krisch reported on the October 14, 2009 meeting of the House of Delegates. The YLS soup kitchen

project and YLS projects were a main focus of the meeting. J. Strutt and D. Krisch asked for members to feel free to advise them of any issues to bring before the House of Delegates.

#### **G. Past Chair's Report**

Passed.

#### **H. ABA/YLD Report**

J. Sklarz discussed the recent ABA YLD meeting held on October 22-24 in Birmingham, Al. He spoke of the success of the “They Had a Dream Too” civil rights project and the Birmingham Pledge. The civil rights project is dedicated to teaching young people the impact of the civil rights movement. The Birmingham Pledge was started by young lawyers to facilitate racial reconciliation in Birmingham. It is now an national organization devoted to better race relations. <http://www.birminghampledge.org/> The Birmingham Pledge is:

- **I believe** that every person has worth as an individual.
- **I believe** that every person is entitled to dignity and respect, regardless of race or color.
- **I believe** that every thought and every act of racial prejudice is harmful; if it is my thought or act, then it is harmful to me as well as to others.
- **Therefore**, from this day forward **I will** strive daily to eliminate racial prejudice from my thoughts and actions.
- **I will** discourage racial prejudice by others at every opportunity.
- **I will** treat all people with dignity and respect; and I will strive daily to honor this pledge, knowing that the world will be a better place because of my effort.

#### **VI. Discussion: Amici briefs and legislation**

P. Das passed the discussion on amici briefs and legislation.

#### **VII. Old Business**

P. Das asked if there was any old business. No old business was reported.

## **VIII. New Business**

P. Das asked if there was any new business. No new business was reported.

## **IX. Announcements**

P. Das asked if there were any additional announcements. J. Lentini and T. Shah announced the upcoming Diversity Panel scheduled for November 19 at Quinnipiac Law. The Appellate Practice Committee announced the upcoming United States Supreme Court swearing-in program.

## **X. Program: Diversity Dinner**

P. Das entertained a motion to suspend the EC meeting to commence the evening's diversity dinner. T. Shah so moved. J. Lentini seconded. EC approved the motion unanimously.

Each year, the YLS honors a member of the legal community for their outstanding efforts on behalf of diversity. The award this year was given to Attorneys John Brittain, Matthew Colangelo, Wesley Horton, Dennis Parker, Martha Stone, Philip Tegeler and Holly Thomas in honor of their work on behalf of Sheff v. O'Neill. Sheff v. O'Neill was and is a landmark civil rights lawsuit that sought to prepare all children to live and prosper in an ever expanding, diversified and globally connected world. 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of the year the case was filed. In June 2008, a settlement was reached wherein the State of Connecticut set forth plans to work towards racially integrating Hartford students regarding educational opportunities within five years. The plaintiffs in this case continue to advocate for the State of Connecticut to uphold the constitutional rights of children in Hartford schools.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Motion by C. Nelson to adjourn meeting. M. Dunn seconded. EC approved the motion unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan M. Shapiro  
Secretary