

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TOM HOMANN LAW ASSOCIATION
APRIL 3, 2000**

I. Call to Order. The regular meeting of the board of directors of the Tom Homann Law Association was called to order by co-president M.E. Stephens on Monday, April 3, 2000, at 5:43 p.m. in the conference room on the second floor of the California Western School of Law Annex, located at the corner of Third and Cedar Streets, San Diego, California. Co-president M.E. Stephens chaired the meeting.

The following board members were in attendance in addition to co-president Stephens: Bill Hargreaves, Lauri Stock, Linda Cory Allen, Darin Wessel, Jerry Davis, Leigh Kretzschmar and Robert Lynn. Bradley Youngston, California Western student representative, was also in attendance.

II. Transgender - Add it to GLB Mission? In deference to the expected public attendance, which did not materialize, this item was taken out of order on the agenda.

Bill Hargreaves reported that response to the membership survey ran 3-1 in favor of adding Transgender to the THLA mission statement. Due to the lack of public attendance, the matter was tabled to allow board members to review the responses to the survey.

III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes. Noting that there were two items number IV on the agenda, the first was made "IV-a" and the second was changed to "IV-b." The agenda was then approved as corrected. The March minutes were corrected to spell "Murry" in ¶VIII as "Murray" and approved as corrected.

IV-a. Co-President's Reports. M.E. Stephens reported on a letter from Sun & Moon Productions requested a donation to complete a video on student harassment. This matter was tabled to the next meeting to discuss contributions in general and this request in particular.

She announced that Ted Roberts and Jeffrey Orr had agreed to run for the THLA board at the April general meeting. She further reported that the recent La Raza event was attended by 15-20 persons and that she suggested that THLA consider doing a joint party with

La Raza in July. She further announced two upcoming events: (1) Juvenile Justice 2000 on April 26th from 6-8 p.m. at the Historical Society and (2) the National Lawyers Guild Far West Regional Conference at Thomas Jefferson School of Law on April 8-9, 2000.

Co-president Hargreaves discussed the stuffing party for invitations to the annual dinner.

IV-b. Second Co-President's Report. Kudos were awarded to Apex Type & Graphics and Hillcrest Copy for their assistance in, respectively, designing and printing the Student Project Brochures. Kudos were also given to member Jeff Orr for his copy writing and general assistance with this project. Co-president Hargreaves was tasked to write each of the above conveying THLA's appreciation for their efforts.

II. The Transgender item was removed from the table and discussed. It was first noted that this vote was not about support of the legal rights of transgendered persons. THLA has been on record, by amicus briefs and otherwise, in support of this community.

A motion was made to add Transgender to the Mission Statement of the Tom Homann Law Association. The proponents argued that transgendered persons were part of the gay, lesbian and bisexual community in that they faced discrimination based on gender roles in the same way as the present members of the community. It was further argued that the transgendered community is presently suffering worse discrimination than gay, lesbians and bisexuals and is in need of assistance.

The opposition argued that transgendered persons are essentially heterosexual in sexual orientation and that THLA is a minority bar association based on sexual orientation. To add transgendered would open the organization to adding any discriminated against minority to the mission statement. It was further argued that adding other minorities to the THLA mission statement dilutes the long cultural history of gays, lesbians and bisexual persons.

After an extended discussion, the board voted to add "transgender" to the mission statement.

V. Treasurer's Report. The treasurer reported that there was a net income to the organization of \$807.39 from January 1-April 3,

2000 and the total current equity is \$6,745.76. A copy of the report is attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

VI. Secretary's Report. No report.

VII. Newsletter Editor's Report. Congratulation to Becky Jones whose child Trevor was born on March 31, 2000. Member Kurt Hermansen is assisting with the newsletter.

VIII. Amicus Report.

a. Murray. Oral argument was held on March 15th and the panel questions appeared favorable.

b. Griffiths. Permission has been received from the Court of Appeal for THLA to file an amicus brief in this case. The brief is limited to 20 pages and due on April 17th. The Amicus Committee is meeting on April 5th at Lynn Stock & Stephens LLP to discuss the brief.

c. Dale v. BSA. The committee made inquiries regarding filing a amicus brief in this case which is presently pending before the United States Supreme Court. It was determined that the filing deadline had expired.

Darin Wessel announced his intention to run for the SDCBA Board of Directors.

IX. Programs. The programs for the upcoming months are as follows:

April - Deaf Community Services
May - Annual dinner
June- Workplace equality
July - Party

The July party preparations were tabled to next month to explore options.

X. Membership Report. It was announced that the THLA Directory was printed this week and has been posted on the organization's web page.

XI. Publicity Report. Lauri Stock having resigned as chair of this committee, a new chair is required.

XII. Social/Networking Report. Lauri Stock has been appointed the new chair of this committee replacing Al Garcia.

XIII. Dinner Committee 2000. There was a general discussion of the impending dinner on May 4th. Each board member was asked to phone ten persons seeking their support for the dinner. The dinner will run from 5:30-8:30 p.m. It will be a formal sit-down affair. Each table will seat 10 people of which three have been sold to date.

XIV. New Business.

A. Bylaw Changes. This item was deleted as accomplished.

B. Linda Cory Allen has accepted the position as incoming female co-president. M.E. Stephens gave a rousing farewell address which was warmly received by all board members.

XV. Old Business.

A. GSDBA/THLA Scholarship. There was a general discussion of this topic. Leigh Kretzschmar announced that she had entered into discussions with GSDBA president Brian Garrity regarding the \$2,000 scholarships to students GSDBA gives out each year. They have discussed donations which THLA would contribute which would be matched by GSDBA. This would provide a 501(c)(3) funnel for THLA funds. It was moved, seconded and passed to do a joint scholarship with GSDBA whereby THLA would raise money, to be matched by GSDBA, for scholarships to be awarded annually at the GSDBA scholarship dinner. A representative of THLA will be on any committee evaluating and selecting candidates for scholarships funded, in whole or part, by THLA.

B. Bill Hargreaves read a letter which he proposed sending to Governor Davis objecting to remarks the governor is reported to have made regarding the administration of justice and the independence of the judiciary. M/S/P to send the letter to the governor on THLA letterhead.

C. M/S/P to cancel the May board meeting in light of the annual dinner.

XVI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

ROBERT H. LYNN
Secretary *finitio*