

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND OF THE BOARD RETREAT OF THE DIRECTORS OF  
TOM HOMANN LAW ASSOCIATION

A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

July 8, 2000

The specially scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors and Board of Directors Retreat of the Tom Homann Law Association was called to order on Saturday, July 8, 2000, at 9:20 a.m. in the conference room of the twenty first floor of the Koll Center, located at the corner of Broadway and India Street, San Diego, California. Co-Presidents Bill Hargreaves and Linda Cory Allen chaired the meeting.

The following Board Members were present in addition to Co-Presidents William Hargreaves and Linda Cory Allen: Secretary Darin Wessel, Treasurer Leigh Kretzschmar, and Directors at Large, Jerry Davis, Tristan Higgins-Goodell, Rebecca Jones, Andrea Kimball, Jeff Orr, Lauri J. Stock, and Theresa Talplacido.

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Whereupon an abbreviated meeting of the Board of Directors was held.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the June 5, 2000 Board of Director's Meeting were approved with minor amendments.

Co-sponsorship of Reception at State Bar Convention:

Kurt Hermansen, on behalf of the State Bar's Committee on Sexual Orientation Discrimination, has requested that THLA co-sponsor a reception at the State Bar convention and has requested a \$200.00 contribution for the cost of the reception. Upon motion duly made and seconded, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board, THLA will co-sponsor the reception and contribute the requested \$200.00 toward the cost of the reception.

Whereupon the July meeting of the Board of Directors was concluded and the annual Board of Director's retreat was commenced at 9:30 a.m.

**Board of Directors Retreat**

1. Call to Order:

The Board of Director's Retreat was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Whereupon Agenda Item 2 (Co-presidents's Comments) was taken out of order and thereafter combined with Agenda Item 1 (Introductions) and Agenda Item III (Membership - how to expand).

## **II. Co-presidents' Comments - Goals for 2000; Focus/Theme for 2000:**

Co-president Bill Hargreaves asked each member of the Board to introduce themselves and to identify what each member thought THLA's goals, focus and theme for 2000 should be. This introduction/discussion among the board members covered Agenda Items I, II, and III.

### **I. (Introductions), II. (Goals, Focus/Theme for 2000) and III. (Membership - how to expand):**

The following is a summary of the introductions and general comments from each member present at the Board Retreat which generated a free-flow discussion among the members as comments were made.

- Andrea Kimball: THLA should focus efforts on increasing the number of firms which offer Domestic Partner benefits; mentoring programs.
- Tristan Higgins-Goodell: Focus on methods of decreasing support of the Boy Scouts in light of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision; agreed with the idea of focusing on Domestic Partner benefits.
- Lori Stock: "Bitch'n parties;" increased student participation; having meetings every other month to help increase focus and membership participation.
- Jeff Orr: Take a more pro-active approach towards elimination of sexual orientation harassment/discrimination, e.g. the school lecture program that THLA has been conducting to help educate school boards, educators, parents and students about sexual orientation harassment/discrimination issues.
- Theresa Talplacido: Identifying topics for membership meetings earlier so that members have more advanced notice.
- Bill Hargreaves: Getting membership involved - BOD activities and general meetings.
- Jerry Davis: Sponsoring debates, e.g. the November campaign; increased law student involvement and outreach.
- Leigh Kretzschmar: Student scholarship funding, especially in light of GSDBA agreement to match THLA fundraising; continued improvement in social functions, MCLE and mentoring programs.
- Darin Wessel: Increased membership participation - decrease monthly meetings and have lunch meetings rather than evening meetings (evening meetings too late); use of SDCBA Bar Center and MCLE provider

status.

Linda Cory Allen: Enliven member interest and involvement; continue to focus on increased law student activity.

Rebecca Jones: Increased contact with membership; BOD members to have personal contact with membership, e.g. phone calls regarding upcoming meetings, invite to lunch, etc.; focus on MCLE/events and mainstream to appeal to broader audience.

Whereupon Agenda Item VI was taken out of order.

**VI. Projects and Programs:**

Amicus Participation - Tabled.

General Meetings - a general discussion was held among the board members where upon the following was agreed to by the board:

1. Obtain MCLE provider status and/or use SDCBA MCLE provider status;
2. Have programs approximately every other month at lunch time;
3. Attempt to have one meeting per year with an interesting speaker/guest;
4. Continue to have a GLBT focus on programs while appealing to a broader audience;
5. Issue photo/press releases for programs of interest to the general community, e.g. gay issues in family law;
6. Coordinate with SDCBA committees/sections for co-sponsorship of programs.

The Board unanimously agreed to the following schedule of programs for 2000/2001:

Month	Program Manager	Topic
July	n/a	Pride Parade 7/22 12:00 p.m. Summer Party - 7/30 4-7 p.m. @ Jeff Orr's House
August	n/a	Off
September	Jerry Davis, Lauri Stock, and Theresa Talplacido	Law Student Reception - date and time TBA - potential location @ Cal. Western's courtyard.

October/November	Jeff Orr Bill Hargreaves	Family Law - MCLE brown bag lunch program
December	n/a	Holiday Party - Theme to honor THLA Past Co-presidents and founders
January, 2001	tba	Substance Abuse - MCLE brown bag lunch program
February	n/a	Off
March	tba	Estate Planning - MCLE brown bag lunch program
April	n/a	Off
May	2001 Dinner Committee	Annual Dinner
June	n/a	Off

A discussion was also held regarding sponsoring and holding a "Law Day at the Center" in conjunction with Law Week.

Jeff Orr was also appointed as the new Programs Chair.

Finally, a discussion was held regarding acting on the San Diego County Superior Court's prior offer of wall space at the court house for a THLA Board of Director's photo display. No action was taken.

#### **IV. Annual Dinner:**

Re-Cap of 2000 Dinner: The law schools still needed to be invoiced for their tables. Tristan Higgins-Goodell also found an additional \$300+/- in checks for the dinner. Overall, the Treasurer estimated that THLA will net approximately \$2,200.00 from the dinner.

Plans for 2001 Dinner: Co-chairs Jerry Davis and Jeff Orr were appointed to head the 2001 Dinner Committee. Tristan Higgins-Goodell will serve as an assistant/advisor to the Committee.

Initial efforts of the Dinner Committee will be to develop a time line and budget for use in planning the 2001 and future dinners.

The Board also discussed the possible appointment of Kurt Hermansen to serve in the position of Archivist. This position would organize past invitation, award, and related Annual Dinner information into a Dinner Committee manual for future use by the Dinner Committee.

22. Pride Parade Plans:

Pride Parade is Saturday, July 22, 2000, at noon. It was anticipated that THLA would have a large contingent in the parade with signs and dignitaries in the car. Lauri Stock was working towards a better showing for the briefcase brigade.

**VII. Miscellaneous:**

Summer Party: Thanks to Jeff Orr for making his home available for the summer party. Jeff, Jerry and Lauri will look into getting a keg from Rock Bottom; Program to be called something like THLA Summer Kegger.

Lambda Fundraiser: A request was made for use of THLA's membership list to mail invitations to Lambda's San Diego fundraiser. On motion duly made by Lauri J. Stock and seconded by Jeff Orr, and by unanimous vote of the Board, the request was approved.

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Other: The Treasurer requested that the Chairs of the various THLA Committees formulate budget requests with amounts for the year to help manage THLA's annual expenditures.

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Clerk/internship program for Jerry Davis and other law students. Thomas Jefferson School of Law will grant students credit for clerk/internship programs, especially where it has benefits to communities in San Diego.

Whereupon the Board Retreat was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2000

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DARIN L. WESSEL  
Secretary