

Nov 11th Earl B. Gilliam

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

A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

September 11, 2000

The specially scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tom Homann Law Association was called to order on Monday, September 11, 2000, at 5:33 p.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, Andrea Kimball, Jeff Orr, Ted Roberts, Lauri J. Stock, and Theresa Talplacido. Also in attendance for purposes of seeking Tom Homann Law Association's endorsement for the 2000 San Diego County Bar Association Board of Director's Elections were candidates Kate Bush, Darin Wessel, and Cindy Davis.

1. Call to order: The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Whereupon agenda Item XIV was taken out of order.

An introduction of the Members of the Board of Directors of THLA was given to candidates for the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Bar Association in attendance at the meeting.

Whereupon at 5:36 p.m. member Jerry Davis arrived.

Presentation by Kate Bush: A Deputy District Attorney for approximately 13 years. She has performed a lot of trial work over the years and has therefor not had much involvement in the SDCBA. She was raised in the Mennonite Church and was a youth minister. In that position, she sided with the D.C. based Mennonite gay organization for inclusion in the church.

Whereupon at 5:40 p.m. member Tristan Higgins-Goodell arrived.

Presentation by Darin Wessel: Emphasized work for THLA and EMRC; would do same on SDCBA Board of Directors.

Whereupon Co-president Bill Hargreaves posed the question of whether THLA should limit the number of endorsements to the number of open seats. A short discussion was begun and tabled upon the arrival of candidate Cindy Davis (5:48 p.m.).

Presentation by Cindy Davis: She is a senior trial setting deputy with the City Attorney's office. Past President of Lawyers Club. She helped oppose Proposition 22. She believes that there should be better outreach by the SDCBA to the specialty bars. She has been a SDCBA Delegate to the State Bar Conference and has quite often "rocked the apple cart."

Member Tristan Higgins-Goodell commented that Cindy Davis demonstrates that it is possible to be a prosecutor and liberal; "compassionate prosecution."

Whereupon the Board returned to the discussion of endorsements.

Member Lori Stock recommended that a vote be taken on endorsing candidates who appeared and table the decision as to whether to limit the number of endorsements to the next meeting.

Tristan Higgins-Goodell inquired whether THLA was approving candidates as acceptable to THLA (e.g. message to THLA members that endorsed candidates are okay to vote for) or acceptable for the election (e.g. these are the candidates THLA would like you to vote for).

Whereupon member Lauri Stock moved that the Board vote on endorsing the three candidates that appeared at the meeting and the one candidate who did not attend but returned the THLA survey. Member Tristan Higgins-Goodell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Whereupon a vote as to each candidate was taken by the Board as follows:

Kate Bush - Upon motion duly made by Member Jeff Orr to endorse Kate Bush, seconded by Andrea Kimball, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board Members voting, the motion passed. Member Tristan Higgins-Goodell abstained from voting since she had not heard this candidate's presentation.

Cindy Davis - Upon motion duly made by Member Lauri Stock to endorse Cindy Davis, seconded by Tristan Higgins-Goodell, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board, the motion passed.

Sam R. Judd - Upon a motion duly made by Co-president Bill Hargreaves to table the vote on endorsement of this candidate, seconded by Jeff Orr, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board, the motion to table was passed.

Darin L. Wessel - Upon motion duly made by Co-president Bill Hargreaves to endorse Darin Wessel, seconded by Lauri Stock, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board Members voting, the motion passed. Secretary Darin Wessel abstained from voting.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Upon motion duly made by Member Jeff Orr to approve the agenda and to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors for August 7, 2000, seconded by Co-president Bill Hargreaves, and upon a unanimous vote of the Board, the motion passed.

3. Co-presidents' Reports:

Co-president Linda Cory Allen - no report.

Co-president Bill Hargreaves - reported that:

(1) He was contacted by Katherine Yavenditti from the San Diego Volunteer Lawyers Program of the SDCBA regarding the recent presentation by San Diego Legal Aid. SDVLP is concerned that SDLA might be attempting to undermine and usurp the services provided by SDVLP.

(2) The \$200.00 for the State Bar social co-sponsored by the State Bar's Committee on Sexual Orientation Discrimination and THLA was delivered.

4. Correspondence / Handling of Mail:

An invitation was received from the California Association of Black Lawyers for attendance at their Annual Reception and Dance at the State Bar convention. (See attached.)

Correspondence from UCLA enclosing a survey (not attached to these minutes), from Oregon's No on 9 campaign (attached), from LHR (attached), and BALIF's newsletter (attached) were received.

5. Treasurer's Report:

See attached Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2000.

6. Secretary's Report:

Minutes of last Board meeting were completed in due time.

7. Membership Report / Contacting New Members:

Membership has been experiencing some problems with new members not receiving newsletter and related materials. Andrea Kimball has identified the new members.

8. Publicity Report:

Skipped.

9. Social Report:

Mailers to the hiring partners regarding the September Law Student Reception were sent out. (See attached exemplar.) Kudos were given to Bill Hargreaves staff for assisting in that endeavor. A list of the major law firms was passed around with each Member to identify and call three hiring partners and to report back to Member Tristan Higgins-Goodell with the names of who will attend.

The Law Student Reception was confirmed for September 21, 2000, to take place at California Western School of Law's Casterter Courtyard.

Whereupon a discussion was held regarding the cost of the reception, and selection of food/drinks to offer. Treasurer Leigh Kretzschmar identified an approximate amount of money that we had to operate with over the year, subtracting the amount that we will need for the annual dinner. A discussion ensued. Whereupon Member Jerry Davis offered to talk with Rock Bottom to see about a potential discounted rate and whether Rock Bottom would take care of set-up and take-down. Further discussion ensued, whereupon an informal consensus was reached that \$750.00 would be authorized with an e-mail vote of the Board to take place.

Further discussion was held regarding whether the law students should be allowed to bring resumes. The consensus of the Board was to keep the event social, with the idea that the hiring partners attending could always ask the students to exchange information.

10. Amicus Report:

Griffiths - The Court of Appeal issued an un-published decision in Griffiths affirming in part and reversing in part. The reversal in favor of Griffiths was on the key issues which THLA addressed in its Amicus Brief, namely sufficient evidence to demonstrate a triable issue of fact as to whether Mercy Hospital conducted its employment investigation of Griffiths in a discriminatory manner based on his sexual orientation.

Lammers - Although THLA did not participate in this case, a brief update was provided as the case has the potential of having a major impact on the local practice in Family Law proceedings related to the SDSC's local "pre-read" rule.

Boy Scout case - THLA was mentioned in the LA Daily Journal related to the filing of this case to have the City of San Diego void its lease of land in Balboa Park and Mission Bay to the Boy Scouts (for approximately \$1.00 per year) on the grounds that the lease violates the City's ordinance/policy of not leasing City land to organizations that discriminate.

11. General Meetings:

See discussion above under Social Report.

12. Newsletter Editor's Report:

Tabled.

13. Kudos:

Tabled.

14. New Business: Introduction of SDCBA Board Candidates:

Taken out of order. See above.

15. Old Business:

A meeting of the Annual Dinner Committee is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2000 at 5:30 p.m.

Whereupon the September meeting of the Board of Directors adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Dated: _____, 2000

DARIN L. WESSEL
Secretary