

**TOM HOMANN LGBT LAW ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 12, 2014 MEETING**

<p>Date: 12 November 2014 Time: 6:00 p.m. Location: Littler Mendelson 501 W. Broadway San Diego, CA 92101</p>	<p>GENERAL MEETING MINUTES</p>
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I. CALL TO ORDER.

a. Opening Roll Call.

The Board was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Kimberly Ahrens. The following Directors of the THLA Board were present (members arriving late are reflected in the closing roll call):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicholas J. Fox – Co-President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Aguilar – CFO, Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Bunton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Davis
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Manley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kyle Nageotte | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Ahrens – Co-President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> James Cekola
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Loren Freestone
<input type="checkbox"/> Anita Margolis
<input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Schneeweiss |
|--|---|

Eran Bermudez was also present along with Todd Stevens. There was quorum.

b. Approval of the Minutes.

Prior minutes were adopted without objection.

Ahrens moved to adopt the minutes as presented to the Board prior to the meeting. Freestone seconded the motion. The motion was carried, after no Board discussion, as follows:

Y N A Yeah = Y Nay = N Abstain = A

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- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nicholas J. Fox – Co-President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kim Ahrens – Co-President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben Aguilar – CFO, Treasurer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tom Bunton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | James Cekola |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kevin Davis |

- Loren Freestone
- Michael Manley
- Anita Margolis
- Kyle Nageotte
- Jonathan Schneeweiss

II. SPECIAL BUSINESS.

a. Endorsement Request from Todd Stevens (Fox).

Todd Stevens has requested that THLA endorse him for the position of State Bar Board of Trustees for the California State Bar.

Freestone moved to endorse Todd Stevens for the Board of Trustees of the California State Bar. Davis seconded the motion. The motion was carried, after no Board discussion, as follows:

Y N A Yeah = Y Nay = N Abstain = A

- Nicholas J. Fox – Co-President
- Kim Ahrens – Co-President
- Ben Aguilar – CFO, Treasurer
- Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary
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- Kevin Davis
- Loren Freestone
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- Jonathan Schneeweiss

b. Elections of New Directors (Fox).

The THLA Board currently has two openings. Eran Bermudez has expressed an interest in filling one of the openings because of a deep interest in THLA

Huston moved to elect Eran Bermudez as a Director of the Board for THLA to fill the vacancy. Freestone seconded the motion. The motion was carried, after no Board discussion, as follows:

Y N A Yeah = Y Nay = N Abstain = A

- Nicholas J. Fox – Co-President
- Kim Ahrens – Co-President
- Ben Aguilar – CFO, Treasurer
- Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary
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- James Cekola
- Kevin Davis
- Loren Freestone
- Michael Manley
- Anita Margolis
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III. REPORTS.

- a. **Chief Financial Officer Report (Aguilar).**
Aguilar presented the finances for THLA for the month.

- b. **CLE Report (Schneeweiss).**

On November 20, 2014 a CLE regarding Ethics of Mediation MCLE will be held at TJSJL. THLA will send an email out to the membership when there is more information available. It is possible that Lawyer's Club may partner with THLA in the future for topics including bias in the legal profession and judicial system.

IV. INTERIM ACTIONS.

- a. There were no interim actions to discuss.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- a. There was no unfinished business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS.

- a. **THLA Annual Dinner (Fox)**
 - i. Speaker Ideas
 - ii. Sponsorship List/Flyer
 - iii. Venue Date

Progress is being made on acquiring sponsors. Todd Stevens bought a silver package, and CWSL will also be a sponsor.

John Abdallah Wambere is a civil rights activist from Uganda. He sought asylum here in the United States. He has a speaker fee up to \$1,000 and THLA would

have to pay his travel expenses to get here. The THLA has not paid speaker fees in the past.

It was suggested that Billy Jean King, Rosie O'Donnell, or Ellen DeGeneres would be a good speaker or an attorney arguing the 6th Circuit case or in the inevitable Supreme Court case, or the attorneys that argued for LGBT rights in the U.S. Supreme Court in the past (i.e., Ted Olson). Kamela Harris and Judge Margaret McKeown were favorable candidates.

The flyer will be updated when the speaker is selected.

Venue and date are dependent on the speaker, but it is important to price out the venues beforehand. Aguilar agreed to check with various venues to get the best competitive prices.

A raffle or silent auction was fielded. A donation envelope was suggested for each table with the champagne challenge (bottle of champagne for each table with 100% donation).

A desire for a different design for the event invitation was expressed.

b. Holiday Party (Ahrens).

- i. Date: Friday, December 12, 2014
- ii. Location: Mike Growe's
- iii. Budget: \$850.00
- iv. Set Up/Clean Up Crews

Fox and Nageotte agreed to acquire supplies from Costco. A save the date email was sent out to the membership and a follow up email will be sent. Board members should plan to arrive thirty minutes early to help set up.

c. Urban Street Angels

Urban Street Angels is a charitable organization dedicated to assist homeless youth (40% identify as LGBT in one capacity or another) become independent and able to have a home and a job. This sometimes entails helping people to break addictions or otherwise rebuild their lives. Manley will propose potential cooperative events for THLA members and Urban Street Angels.

d. Board Annual Retreat (Fox).

The Board agreed to move the January 2015 monthly THLA Board of Directors meeting to **Thursday, January 8, 2015**. This will also be the Board's annual retreat. The Annual Retreat will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Littler Mendelson

(tentatively) on January 8, 2015. Nageotte will handle ordering food for the retreat.

e. **Annual Membership Drive (Fox).**

This item was tabled until next meeting.

f. **CA LGBT BAR Association Update (Ahrens).**

The effort to have more LGBT attorneys appointed throughout California and especially in Orange County is pushing forward.

g. **Court Funding For San Diego (Ahrens)**

San Diego County Bar Association is looking for real stories to show how the budget cuts to the California Court system have detrimentally effected their lives.

h. **Website Updates (Manley).**

There are serious problems to the website regarding the engine that keeps track of renewals. Manley opines that a website rebuild is necessary at least for the membership section of the website. The Board directed and approved Manley's request to price out options/proposals to fix the website.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a. There were no announcements.

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

a. **Pride Resource Legal Clinic Update (Ahrens).**

The Pride Resource Legal Clinic will be held tomorrow, November 13, 2014.

b. **Stepping Up to the Bar (Ahrens).**

- i. Date: December 5, 2014
- ii. Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

The event will be at the above date and time.

c. **PALSD & FLSD Annual Dinner (Ahrens).**

- i. Date: Thursday, January 29, 2015
- ii. Location: Omni

The event will be at the above date and location.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Huston inquired whether the Board had D & O Insurance. Directors and Officers Insurance is relatively inexpensive and would provide the organization with insurance to cover the various events that THLA sponsors throughout the year. The Board authorizes Huston and Manley to get a bid for the insurance.

X. ADJOURNMENT

a. **Closing Roll Call.**

The Board adjourned at 7:16 p.m. The following Board members were present:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicholas J. Fox – Co-President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Ahrens – Co-President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Aguilar – CFO, Treasurer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary |
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