

**TOM HOMANN LGBT LAW ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2015 MEETING**

<p>Date: 5 November 2015 Time: 6:00 p.m. Location: The Center 3909 Centre Street San Diego, CA 92103</p>	<p><b>GENERAL MEETING MINUTES</b></p>
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**I. CALL TO ORDER.**

**a. Opening Roll Call.**

The Board was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Aguilar. The following Directors of the THLA Board were present (members arriving late are reflected in the closing roll call):

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

There was quorum.

**b. Approval of the Minutes. (Aguilar)**

The prior minutes were circulated to the Board via email and received some amendments. The amended minutes were adopted without objection. The Minutes for the November Meeting will be distributed to the Board members after the meeting.

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

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

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- Ben Aguilar – Co-President

- Kim Ahrens – Co-President
- Kevin Davis – CFO, Treasurer
- Shawn P. K. Huston – Secretary
- Eran Bermudez
- Tom Bunton
- James Cekola
- Miranda Condra
- Nicholas Fox
- Loren Freestone
- Anita Margolis
- Kyle Nageotte
- Jonathan Schneeweiss

## II. SPECIAL BUSINESS.

No special business was discussed.

## III. INTERIM ACTIONS.

- a. Co-Presidents Aguilar and Ahrens signed engagement agreement for pro bono services/representation with Procopio on October 20, 2015. The scope of representation provided by Procopio will include legal services to form a 501(c)(3) organization affiliated with THLA.
- b. Co-Presidents agreed to co-sponsor in name-only the Women of Color in Law Luncheon. The event took place on November 1, 2015

## IV. REPORTS.

### a. Chief Financial Officer Report (Davis).

The finance report for the month was presented by Davis. Self Audit information will be sent out to the Board members by Davis.

### b. Endorsements Committee Report (Margolis & Bunton)

There was no Endorsements Committee Report this month.

### c. Advisory Committee Report (Ahrens & Aguilar)

The Advisory Committee met on October 22, 2015 at 6:30pm at the San Diego County Bar Center. The Advisory Committee includes, Judge Rosentein, Judge Rubin, Matthew Stephens, Robert Dekoven, Marriane Dean, and Michael Growe. All members were present except Michael Growe.

- i. Recap from first meeting on October 22, 2015

1. Suggestions / Feedback from the Advisory Committee included:
  - a. Survey Members / Membership Drive. Members should be surveyed to find out the services and programs that renewing members would like to see from the THLA.
    - i. The Advisory Committee expressed a goal for THLA to offer programming to the membership that could draw from the experience of the Advisory Committee to make the programs successful including CLE Panels using judges as resources The AC discussed a school bullying program.
    - ii. The Advisory Committee suggested expanding fund raising for outside the THLA annual dinner.
  - b. Newsletter / Weekly Email – Guest Blogger – could be added to our blast email to members regarding THLA activities.

At 6:22 p.m. the THLA Board adjourned went into a closed session to discuss legal issues.

The closed session ended and the regular meeting re adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**d. Public Relations Committee Report (Fox & Cekola)**

The Public Relations Committee will begin working on sending surveys out to members to update and expand on THLA activities. The goal is to send the survey to the membership in conjunction with our request for membership renewal.

**e. Events Committee Report (Schneeweiss & Condra)**

There are two main events currently being planned by the Events Committee and one was just completed.

- i. Student-Attorney Recap. The Board expressed appreciation for the Rubin/Stephens household for hosting a fun event.
- ii. Holiday Party – Update currently set for Friday, December 11, 2015
  1. Budget - \$800.00
  2. Venue: Yacht Club, Heat, Park & Rec, Gossip Grill and Tea Lounge were considered. Grove, Freestone, and Bunton are willing to host as well. An issue is what to do if it rains on the day of the event. The matter was tabled for an email discussion and vote to explore more options. Board discussed the possibility of increasing the budget for the holiday party given that the current budget was approved under the assumption that the holiday party would be hosted at a member's home and not at a restaurant/bar. The board will vote by email in the next week or so on whether the budget will be increased.

**f. Community Outreach / Planning Committee Report (Ahrens, Condra & Huston)**

- i. Mentor/Mentee Program. (Fox) 27 mentees signed up for the program and the Board is asked to reach out to the mentees if they have not contacted the mentors yet.
- ii. Past Co-Sponsored Events:
  1. Luncheon w/ Toni Atkins (Ahrens). Atkins spoke for twenty minutes and then answered questions.
    - a. Ahrens reported the Lawyers Club Diverse Women's Committee approved a revision to its mission statement to add lesbian, bisexual and transgender women . Ahrens further reported the next step is for the Diverse Women's Committee to seek approval from the Lawyers Club Board of Directors.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

- a. City Attorney Debate
  - i. Date: January 14, 2016 or January 21, 2016
  - ii. Venue: USD and TJSJ are the venues of choice as of this date.
  - iii. Co-Sponsors: Other minority/diversity bar association that are co-sponsoring are requested not to endorse until after the debate is held. The proposed budget for the pre debate meet and greet is \$3,000.00

**VI. NEW BUSINESS.**

**a. 2016 THLA Annual Dinner (Aguilar)**

- i. Speaker Ideas – Thomas Roberts, Tony Atkins, Rachel Maddow, Samantha Power, Jennifer Pizer, Governor Brown, Tim Cook, the mayor of Houston.
- ii. Venue Ideas – Nageotte and Aguilar contacted the US Grant, Westin, Omni, and Hilton and ask for a better deal than last year (or for the hotels to match the prices from 2015).

**b. Cal Bar Foundation Scholarship (Ahrens)**

Ahrens reported the California Bar Foundation ("CBF") is pairing with local minority bar associations to offer a joint bar stipend scholarship. Aguilar and Ahrens met with CBF in the winter of 2014 and discussed this idea. At the 2014 THLA Annual Dinner the Prosecco Challenge donations were sought to fund

either the joint CBF scholarship or an additional scholarship offered solely by THLA. The Board is still trying to forge a one-time alliance for a joint scholarship where the Cal Bar Foundation would match our contribution of \$2,500 for an LGBT scholarship for Bar preparation costs for one person (totaling \$5,000). Terms are still being discussed. But the Board is concerned that this event is a one-time only event and will create unfulfilled expectations for following years.

The Board discussed alternative scholarship options for the Prosecco Challenge donations in the event THLA does not partner with CBF.

**c. Liability Insurance Renewal (Aguilar)**

*i. Cost: Waiting on Quote*

Freestone moved to renew the liability insurance for the THLA. Margolis seconded the motion. The motion was carried as follows:

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



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**d. 2015 Membership Drive (Fox, Ahrens & Aguilar)**

This matter was tabled for next meeting or online.

**e. Earl B. Gilliam Annual Dinner (Ahrens)**

- i. Date: Saturday, November 7, 2015
- ii. Time: 6:00pm – 9:30pm
- iii. Location: Westin Gaslamp Quarter

Ahrens moved to allow the Board to purchase two tickets for the annual dinner at \$130 per ticket. Freestone seconded the motion. The motion was carried as follows:

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

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- f. PALSD / FALSD Toy Drive (Aguilar)**
  - i. Date: Thursday, December 3, 2015
  - ii. Time: TBD
  - iii. Location: TBD // Possibly Werewolf Pub Gaslamp

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

THERE WERE NO ANNOUNCEMENTS.

## **VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS & DEADLINES.**

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

- a. Holidays Around the World**
  - i. Date: Thursday, November 12, 2015
  - ii. Time: 6:00 p.m.
  - iii. Location: SDCBA
  - iv. Volunteers Needed
  
- b. Stepping Up to the Bar**
  - i. Date: Friday, December 4, 2015
  - ii. Time: 7:30 p.m.
  - iii. Location: SDCBA

**c. THLA Holiday Party**

- i. Date: Friday, December 11, 2015
- ii. Time: TBA
- iii. Location: TBA

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS.**

No miscellaneous business was discussed.

**X. ADJOURNMENT.**

**a. Closing Roll Call.**

The Board adjourned at 7:01 p.m. The Following Board members were present:

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