

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019
January 19, 2019
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

Call to Order. The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Saturday, January 19, 2019, via Google Hangouts Meeting (meet.google.com/hsy-aeqe-vbv) and via conference call. The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. (CST) by President, Valentina Harris (OLPA).

Valentina Harris (OLPA) welcomed everyone in attendance to the Board Meeting and Teresa Hartwig (MAL) read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

Roll Call. Roll call was taken by Secretary, Teresa Hartwig (MAL), as follows:

Roll Call of Officers:	<u>Present/Absent</u>
Valentina Harris, President	Present
Sheila Anderson, Vice President	Present
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Jody Weinmeister, Parliamentarian	Present

Roll Call of Chapter Representatives, Members-at-Large, and Chapter Count:

	<u>Present/Absent</u>	<u>Chapter Count</u>
LLPA –Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	4
OLPA – Doris Crayton	Present	6
Members-at-Large – Teresa Hartwig, Karen Niedfelt, Deb Sweley (Absent), and Jody Weinmeister	Present	3
Total		13

A quorum was established.

Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present. Nadine Ostrow (OLPA), Sherry Mitchell, PLS (OLPA), Bonnie Kudron (OLPA), Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), Jean Roeder (OLPA).

Officer Reports:

President: Valentina Harris (OLPA) noted she did not have anything new to report other than what will be discussed later in this meeting.

Vice President: Sheila Anderson (LLPA) stated NLPA currently has 92 members as follows:

Total Membership Count as of 10/12/2018				
Chapter	General	Students	Honorary	Total
MAL	4	0	0	4
LLPA	42	1	0	43
OLPA	37	2	6	45
Grand Total	83	3	6	92

Secretary: Teresa Hartwig (MAL) noted sympathy cards were sent to OLPA members, Laura Cejka and Jeannine Foupht for the loss of Michelle Foupht. Retirement cards were sent to Sharon Huber and Karen Niedfelt.

Treasurer: Alicia Hunt (LLPA) reviewed the Treasurer's Report. The check register balance as of October 13, 2018 was \$10,226.13 and the check register balance as of January 18, 2019 was \$8,597.83. There were receipts in the amount of \$702.10 and disbursements in the amount of \$1,330.40. It was noted the Treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit.

Parliamentarian: Jody Weinmeister (MAL) was present and had no report at this time.

Committee Reports:

1. **Annual Convention.** Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), reported the convention will be held April 26, 27, and 28, 2019 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Lincoln, Nebraska. She noted the Hilton is honoring the prices as of two years ago when the convention took place at the Hilton. A proposed budget using the figures from 2016 was distributed and reviewed.
2. **Audit.** Members of (LLPA) had no report at this time as they will not meet to perform the audit until just prior to Annual Convention.
3. **Cap on Mileage.** Alicia Hunt and Sheila Anderson, representatives of the gas ad-hoc committee presented the committee's proposal stating, "The only travel expense that qualifies for any reimbursement is gas for the voting officers with a cap at \$30.00 per meeting and a maximum of \$150.00 per fiscal year. Receipts must show a fill-up before and after the trip and must be submitted within one month of the final expense." Discussion then ensued. Bonnie Kudron (OLPA) noted Standing Rule 7(k) allows for Chapter Representative/Chapter Representative pro-tem to be reimbursed for expenses incurred up to \$100.00 for attendance at each event. After more discussion, Bonnie Kudron moved that Standing Rule 7(k) be amended to state, "all voting members be allowed to be reimbursed for expenses incurred up to \$100.00 for attendance at each event." Sherry Mitchell, PLS (OLPA), seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Sheila Anderson-nay; Teresa Hartwig-aye; Alicia Hunt-aye; Jody Weinmeister-aye; Sandie Smith, PLS-aye; Doris Crayton-aye; Sheila Anderson on behalf of Members-at-Large-aye. The ayes carried and the motion was approved.

Valentina thanked the committee for all of their work and the Ad-Hoc Committee was then released of their responsibilities.

4. **Historian.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
5. **Legal Education.** This position is vacant at this time.
6. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
7. **Nominations and Elections.** Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA) reported on November 30, 2018 she sent out a notice for nominations for President. Currently we have three nominees and they need to respond to Kathy by February 15, 2019. On January 4, she sent out a notice for nominations for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and responses are due back by February 15, 2019. Once all deadlines have passed, a ballot will be prepared and sent out on March 15, 2019 for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We will vote for President at the March 2, 2019, Board meeting. The other officers will be elected at the Annual Convention.
8. **Publications.** This position is vacant at this time.
9. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister (MAL) stated she sent scholarship details to the Chapter Representatives and Members-at-Large. She also sent the applications to 25 different schools across the state. The scholarship application will also be on the website. If someone has a judge suggestion for the scholarship applications, please let Jody know.
10. **Fall Seminar 2018.** Valentina Harris (OLPA) reported the overall feedback on the seminar was good. The venue was conducive to our needs and it was a good seminar.
11. **Fall Seminar 2019.** It was noted this date and location will be announced after the Annual Convention.
12. **Ways & Means.** Sandie Smith, PLS, (LLPA) stated the committee is working on this project and more details will be forthcoming.
13. **Website/Web Master.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) distributed information regarding “Wix” premium plans. “Wix” has several different plans and add ons are possible. The “Pro” plan would cost around \$19.00 per month and would result in a savings of \$70.00-\$75.00 per month. Alicia will rebuild the website and let everyone review it prior to deciding on the final product. She also noted there will be a time when Wild Apricot and the new plan will overlap; however, this will only be temporary. Alicia will proceed and it was noted no motion was necessary at this time.

Chapter Reports:

LLPA: Sandie Smith, PLS, (LLPA) reported LLPA’s November Lunch & Learn was held on November 8, 2018, at the Lincoln Community Foundation Building. Attorney, James Zalewski, with Olson, Zalewski, Wynner, LLP was our speaker. His topic was “Pros and Cons of Employment Discrimination in Nebraska Federal Court”.

Our annual Holiday Party was held on December 13, 2018, at Woods & Aitkens. Guests enjoyed finger foods prepared by Kathy Eidenmiller. Everyone enjoyed the white elephant gift exchange and Christmas Carol trivia. Our 2018 Charitable Organization was the Legal Aid of Nebraska as their office has been displaced due to a fire early in 2018.

Our January Lunch & Learn was held on January 10, 2019 at the Lincoln Community Foundation Building. Shawn Ryba with the South Downtown Community Development Organization spoke on what this organization is doing for this area of Lincoln. He stated that this area is the oldest area in Lincoln.

OLPA: Doris Crayton, LPA, (OLPA) reported OLPA's General Membership Meeting was held on October 17, 2018, at the Pizza West on West Maple Road. Scot Mertz and Omaha Managing Attorney for Legal Aid of Nebraska was our speaker. His topic was "How Legal Aid delivers legal assistance across the state."

Our November General Membership Meeting was held on November 14, due to the Thanksgiving Holiday taking place during the third week of November. Our speaker was Lucrece Bundy, ESQ she is the founder of Bundy Law Office. Her topic was Legal Adoptions she brought a whole new aspect to the realm of Legalized Adoptions.

Our annual Holiday Party was held on December 05, 2018, at Pizza Ranch. Guests enjoyed a variety of foods and their famous fried chicken. Everyone enjoyed the white elephant gift exchange and games. Rada Cutlery catalogs and order forms were given to get orders for holiday gifts.

Our January General Meeting was held on January 16, 2019 at the Legends Patio Grill and Bar. Kenny Jacobs of Jacobs Alexander Law office spoke on "Driving Buzzed."

Old Business:

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes. It was noted the minutes of the October 13, 2018, Board Meeting were approved via email on October 17, 2018 and are on the website.

New Business:

Disbanding NLPA. Kathy Eidenmiller has offered to reach out to members regarding their views on continuing NLPA or disbanding. She will gather information and report back to the group at Annual Convention.

March 2, 2019 Board Meeting Location. It was decided to hold the March 2, 2019 Board Meeting at Chances "R" in York, Nebraska at 10:00 a.m. Kathy Eidenmiller will contact the new convention center in York for a possible tour after the meeting.

For the Good of the Organization.

1. **Acknowledgements/Celebrations.** It was reported that Karen Niedfelt (MAL) recently retired and congratulatory greetings were bestowed upon her.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m. The next Board Meeting will be held at Chances "R" in York, Nebraska on Saturday, March 2, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa Hartwig". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Teresa Hartwig, Secretary

On January 29, 2019, Sheila Anderson (LLPA) moved via email to approve the January 19, 2019, Board minutes. Doris Crayton (OLPA) seconded the motion. Motion carried.