

# Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society

## Board of Directors Meeting

April 29, 2021  
Via Zoom  
Minutes

Present: Wesley Horton (President), Jeff Babbin, Kathryn Bare, William Bevacqua, Henry Cohn, Proloy Das, Pat Fahey, Bill Fish, Clare Kindall, Stanton Krauss, Daniel Krisch, Kevin McMahon, Matt Necci, Eboni Nelson, Donald Rogers, Erick Sandler, Deborah Schander, Barbara Schellenberg, Eric Sonnenberg, Kate Stith, Jon Weiner, Jeff White, Mike Widener, Laura Zaino, Peter Zarella

I. President Wesley Horton called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

II. **Minutes.** The group approved minutes for the January 11, 2021 meeting unanimously on a duly offered motion and second.

III. **Treasurer's Report.** Babbin submitted his report indicating no revenue from dues (suspended this year), but also few expenses. The standing balance is \$77,742.36. **On a duly moved and seconded motion, the group unanimously approved the treasurer's report.**

#### IV. **Nominating Committee.**

- A. Horton introduced new ex officio members of the board, new Connecticut State Librarian Deborah Schander and new University of Connecticut Law School dean Eboni Nelson.
- B. Committee chair Bare introduced slate of Class C directors (See attached report.) who will serve 2021-2024 terms, including new members, Proloy Das and Eric Sonnenberg. **On duly proposed motion and second, group elected Class C directors unanimously.**
- C. Bare then proposed the slate of officers for the year 2021-2022, including Wesley Horton president, Jeffrey White vice president, Jeffrey Babbin treasurer, Donald Rogers secretary, and Jonathan Weiner assistant secretary-treasurer. (See attached report.) **On a duly proposed motion and second, the group elected the officers unanimously.**
- D. Horton welcomed the new members, and **appointed newcomer Sonnenberg to head the society's archives committee along with the assistance of Schander.**

IV. **Program Committee.** Sandler reported that his group is planning an in-person meeting for next fall and seeks speaker. Horton thanked the committee for its fine job on the annual meeting.

V. **Law Day Committee.** Fish stated that this year's Law Day ceremony will take virtually at 10:00am on May 3, 2021 with American Bar Association Theme, "Advancing the Rule of Law, Now." At the event, the society will award its \$1,000 art prize to Isaiah Friedman-Ringwood

(Wethersfield High School) for his drawing "Myopia," and its essay prize to Kevin Lu and Weiss Yuan (Amity Regional High School) for their writing, "Our Oath." Professor Khalilah Brown-Dean (Quinnipiac University) will deliver the keynote. The Internet link will follow shortly.

**VI. Social Media Committee.** Bevacqua indicated that his committee has set up a Facebook page to publicize the society's events such as Law Day. Followers will be able to post pictures of past events. The member group link (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/755723435104050>) and the public page link (<https://www.facebook.com/CTSupremeCourtHistoricalSociety>) were shared. His committee will also create an Instagram page, necessitating a society gmail account.

**VII. History Day Prize.** Rogers reported that Connecticut's History Day competition is wrapping up, but that no worthy entries fit the society's description for its \$500 junior and senior division prizes, and thus neither will be awarded. Bevacqua suggested that this year's History Day theme "Communication in History" was not conducive to legal topics. Horton noted that this is a first time happening, but Kindall wondered whether prize criteria might too tight. **Horton directed Rogers to review that criteria and report back at next board meeting.**

**VIII. Connecticut Bar Association COVID Documentary.** As part (along with Weiner) of a Connecticut Bar Association panel to document the Connecticut legal community's experience with the COVID pandemic, Rogers reported that the committee has interviewed dozens of lawyers, judges and historians in the state, that a University of Connecticut student project assistant is now editing excerpts, and that release of the documentary is hoped this summer.

**IX. Connecticut Supreme Court History journal report.** Schellenberg outlined articles planned for the next edition of society's journal planned for release in spring 2022: Judge Cohn on adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment, James Sexton and Brendon Levesque on remote court hearings during the pandemic, former chief Justice Rogers on Connecticut women and law.

**X. Zarella Prize.** Necci reported that emails about society's Zarella scholarships were sent to Connecticut universities on April 16, 2021, with deadline of June 18, 2021, and hoped announcement of winners on July 16, 2021.

**XI. Membership Committee.** Having worked on retaining membership during the current year, partly by waiving membership fees, Zaino hoped next year to focus on recruiting new members, using media platforms. Horton observed that now is a good time to join with dues waived.

**XII. Next Board Meeting.** Horton set the next board meeting for 2:00pm September 13, 2021, live in-person (hopefully) at the Connecticut Supreme Court lawyers' lounge.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald W. Rogers, Secretary



**CONNECTICUT SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Report of Nominating Committee (Cohn/Bare)**  
**Annual Meeting - April 29, 2021**

**\*Officers for One-Year Terms**

President	Wesley Horton
Vice President	Jeffrey White
Treasurer	Jeffrey Babbin
Secretary	Donald Rogers
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer	Jonathan Weiner

**\*Directors for Three-Year Terms (Terms to Expire in April 2024) (Class C)**

Wesley Horton  
Kevin McMahon  
Jeffrey Babbin  
Donald Rogers  
Eric Sonnenberg  
William Fish  
Harry Weller  
Proloy Das

**The Following Directors' Terms Expire in April 2022 (Class A)**

Henry Cohn  
Daniel Krisch  
Barbara Schellenberg  
Jeffrey White  
Erick Sandler  
Laura Pascale Zaino  
Matthew Warshauer

**The Following Directors' Terms Expire in April 2023 (Class B)**

Clare Kindall  
Glenn Falk  
Jonathan Weiner  
Patrick Fahey  
Kathryn Bare  
Matthew Necci  
Peter T. Zarella  
Michael Besso

*Note: This list does not contain ex-officio members of the Board*

*\*To be voted on at the Annual Meeting*