

Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Supreme Court Courtroom, Connecticut State Library, Hartford CT
September 19, 2022

Present: Wesley Horton (President), Jeffrey Babbin (remotely), Kathryn Bare, Honorable Greg D'Auria, Patrick Fahey, Glenn Falk, William Fish, Clare Kindall, Pamela Nagy, Donald Rogers, Eric Sonnenberg, Jonathan Weiner, Harry Weller, Laura Zaino.

I. President Wesley Horton convened the meeting at 1:08pm.

II. Secretary's Report. The group unanimously approved minutes for the June 15, 2022 meeting as amended, on motion by Bare, second by Kindall.

- A. Rogers reported that he had duly submitted the society's annual report with the Secretary of the State's office on June 22, 2022.
- B. On motion by Rogers, seconded by Weller, the group unanimously approved two \$500 prizes, one each for the junior and senior divisions of the Connecticut History Day competition again for the coming spring 2023.**

III. Treasurer's Report.

- A. In a written report (attached), Babbin reported (remotely via telephone) that the society's bank balance rests at \$71,295.30, a drop from June's report due to ten expenses that outweighed receipts in dues and annual meeting payments. He explained that the drop reflected a normal flow of receipts and expenses, and that the society's budget remains on track. **On motion by Weiner, second by Kindall, the group approved the report.**
- B. Babbin raised the suggestion of changing the society's **fiscal year** to a July 1 to June 30, and after brief discussion supporting the idea, **Horton asked him and Weiner to study the matter and to report back to the next meeting with a recommendation.**
- C. Weiner reported that the audit is in progress.

IV. Committee Reports.

- A. **Connecticut Supreme Court History.** Editor Cohn sent a written report on plans for the journal's spring 2023 Vol IX. The report proposes four articles for that next issue, which Horton observed is great. In response to his question, Rogers (on the board of editors) said that the volume will likely go into production by year's end.
- B. **Membership Committee.** Zaino stated the society is restoring its contacts with members after the COVID pause, and has received some renewals. She is in the process of merging separate membership lists into one accurate streamlined version. Since she reported not having heard back from appellate court clerks who got free memberships last year, Horton asked her to follow up to encourage their renewals. She indicated that the society plans to extend free one-year memberships to clerks again this year, and asked for suggestions on other ways to recruit more new members.

- C. **Zarella Scholarship Committee.** Necci also submitted a written report stating that his committee split the \$5,000 Zarella prize this year between two very worthy candidates, \$3,500 for Aya Cruz and \$1,500 for Shaoshi Huang. **Then, on motion by Weiner, second by Weller, the group unanimously approved a new \$5,000 prize for next year**
- D. **Program Committee.** Sandler conveyed a written report indicating that plans are underway to have current state supreme court justice Maria Araujo Kahn speak at the society's fall meeting sometime in November, but suggested that the society get ready for an alternative, if she is not available. Given her nomination to the U.S. Second Circuit, Court of Appeals, the group discussed holding a reception in her honor in conjunction with the fall meeting. Sandler's report also indicated that the **date for the spring annual meeting has already been set for May 16, 2023**, likely at the New Haven Lawn Club.
- E. **Archives Committee.** Sonnenberg stated that his committee continues to gather and synthesize materials for consolidation in official records held by the Connecticut State Archives. He said that work needs to go into removing duplicate materials held in what have been separate repositories. Justice D'Auria offered to help with materials held in the state supreme court records.

VI. Old/New Business

A. Long-Range Planning Report

1. Reviewing the society's long-range planning report prepared in 2015, Horton expressed pleasure at how many goals have been met, but called attention to several important ones that have not, particularly an update of the society's website and the forging of ties with outside groups, notably public librarians and CT-N. Discussion confirmed that the current website is much out of date, and then considered ways to bring it up to date and manage it, whether by the Judicial Branch or some new outside group like CT-N, even with additional cost. Discussion noted that CT-N President William Bevacqua is an ex-officio member of this board, so Horton proposed that he, Bevacqua and Weiner meet to decide what to do about the website. Also, Weiner was asked to invite judicial branch social media/public education director Alison Chandler to the next meeting.
2. Horton declared that it was time to update the long-range planning report. **On motion by Fish, second by Bare, the group voted unanimously to form a new long-ranging planning committee and have it report back to the board by February 1, 2023 in preparation for the spring annual meeting. Horton named White as chair, and said that he would name other members later.**

B. There was no new business

XI. **Next Board Meeting.** Horton set the next meeting for Monday, January 9, 2023, at 2:00pm at the Connecticut Supreme Court building.

XII. Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald W. Rogers, Secretary