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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF  
THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES**

Held in the Coral Room  
The Alexander All-Suite OceanFront Resort  
5225 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, Florida

on  
March 18, 2006  
9:20 a.m.

The March 18, 2006 meeting was called to order by President Thomas S. Rue at 9:20 a.m. In addition to President Rue, the following officers also were present:

Lizabeth L. Burrell, First Vice President  
Warren J. Marwedel, Second Vice President  
James W. Bartlett, III, Secretary  
Patrick J. Bonner, Treasurer  
Philip A. Berns, Membership Secretary  
Raymond P. Hayden, Immediate Past President

The following directors also were present:

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Dennis L. Bryant     | Edward F. LeBreton, III |
| Robert J. Gruendel   | Stephen V. Rible        |
| Christopher O. Davis | John M. Ryan            |
| Allan R. Kelley      | Harold K. Watson        |
| Sandra L. Knapp      | John M. Woods           |

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary James W. Bartlett, III of Baltimore reported that the meeting materials relating to the MLA Spring Meeting in New York on May 2-5, 2006 would be e-mail-"blasted" to the membership next week and would also be mailed to all members. Secretary Bartlett also reported that the PROCEEDINGS is at the printer's and is expected to be in the hands of PC Solutions for mailing to the membership before the end of March.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 3, 2005 meeting of the Board of Directors were unanimously approved and

accepted. The minutes of the November 3, 2005 meeting of the Board of Directors will be published in the Fall 2005 issue of the PROCEEDINGS.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Patrick J. Bonner of New York presented the Treasurer's report for the three months ended October 27, 2005. He reported that the MLA is approximately \$25,000 ahead of last year and doing well, with approximately \$300,000 in the bank.

Treasurer Bonner reported that approximately \$351,000 in dues bills have been sent out. This total is down somewhat from prior years, due to removal from the rolls of members who were not paying their dues. Expenses have also been going down, due in part to publishing the Directory on a biannual, rather than annual, basis and due to savings on stationery attributable to a letterhead template prepared by Secretary Bartlett.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Treasurer's report was unanimously approved and accepted. A copy of the Treasurer's formal written report for the three months ended October 27, 2005 will be appended to the original of these minutes.

### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Membership Secretary Philip A. Berns of Henderson, Nevada reported that the applications of 21 lawyers have been received and were recommended by him for Associate membership. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the applications of the following 21 Associate members were approved:

Limor Ben-Maier of Covington, Louisiana  
Christine Z. Carbo of Houston, Texas  
Cody D. Constable of New York, New York  
Hamilton H. Emery, IV of Portland, Oregon  
Robert Louis Gardana of Miami, Florida  
Noah Jarrett of Portland, Oregon  
Paul B. Kerlin of Houston, Texas  
Christopher Michael Raney of Houston, Texas  
Jeanie Marie Tate of Houston, Texas  
Sook H. Lee of Downy, California  
Tara L. Leiter of Birmingham, Alabama

[14514]

Julie A. Nelson of Washington, D.C.  
Christopher Nolan of New York, New York  
S. Brian Perry of Lafayette, Louisiana  
LCDR Jose A. Quinones of Bayamon, Puerto Rico  
Kim Robins of Fort Lauderdale, Florida  
Irwin H. Schwartz of Seattle, Washington  
Nyka M. Scott of New Orleans, Louisiana  
Alberto E. Struck of New Orleans, Louisiana  
José Juan Torres Escalera of San Juan, Puerto Rico  
Douglas R. Williams of Tampa, Florida

Mr. Berns reported the receipt of one application for reinstatement of a former member, Evanthia Coffee of New York, New York. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the reinstatement of Evanthia Coffee as an Associate Member was approved.

Mr. Berns reported with regret the deaths of the following MLA members:

MacDonald Deming of Tampa, Florida  
Milton I. Goldstein of St. Louis, Missouri  
William T. Foley, Jr. of Tinton Falls, New Jersey  
The Hon. Joel K. Tyler of White Plains  
The Hon. William Byrne, Jr. of Los Angeles, California  
Steven A. Frank of New York, New York  
William J. Burke of New York, New York  
Carter T. Gunn of Norfolk, Virginia  
Howard L. Myerson of New York, New York

After the admission of the 21 new Associate members, and the reinstatement of one Associate member, the total membership of the MLA is 3,078.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Membership Secretary's report was unanimously approved and accepted. A copy of the Membership Secretary's written report will be appended to the original of these minutes.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

### **Comité Maritime International**

President Rue reported that he, First Vice President Burrell, Second Vice President Marwedel, Director Christopher O. Davis, and other members of

the MLA attended the CMI Colloquium on February 12–15, 2006 in Cape Town, South Africa. It was an excellent meeting, addressing such subjects as fair treatment of seafarers, places of refuge, and other timely subjects.

A CMI Assembly will be held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in April 2007. A CMI Conference will take place in Athens in October 2008, and the next CMI Colloquium will take place in Chile in 2010.

### **UNCITRAL**

Developments relating to the UNCITRAL Working Group on Transport Law are being monitored by Chester D. Hooper. A meeting of the Working Group will be held in Vienna in November 2006.

### **ABA Resolutions on Ocean Policy**

The MLA is attempting to get Robert B. Parrish of Jacksonville, Florida appointed to the ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law. He is officially registered as a candidate for that Committee.

### **MLA Website**

President Rue reported that Kevin G. O'Donovan of Philadelphia, Chair of the MLA Website and Technology Committee, has been requested to provide an instruction sheet for accessing and effective use of the upgraded MLA website and its interactive features. It is anticipated that this instruction sheet will be distributed to the MLA membership before the Spring Meeting.

Edward F. LeBreton, III of New Orleans pointed out that certain documents that have historically been on the MLA website are no longer on the website. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that a committee should be formed to determine what is and is not on the website and to ensure that all appropriate documents are on the website. A Board Website Committee consisting of Director Dennis L. Bryant, Second Vice President Warren J. Marwedel, and Secretary James W. Bartlett, III was appointed.

### **2006 Spring Meeting**

The next General Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on May 5, in the Great Hall of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. The Annual Spring Dinner will be held that evening at Pier 60, 23rd Street and

the Hudson River. As reported earlier by Secretary Bartlett, materials relating to the meeting and dinner will be distributed to the membership by email and regular mail next week.

### **2006 Fall Meeting**

Details of the 2006 Fall Meeting, to be held in San Francisco on October 3-7, 2006, were reviewed by Membership Secretary Berns.

Director Sandra L. Knapp of Chester Springs, Pennsylvania pointed out that notice of the San Francisco meeting, which is being held approximately a month earlier than Fall Meetings traditionally have been held, needs to go out to the membership, so that they can take special notice of the date and arrange their schedules accordingly. During the discussions that followed, it was pointed out that while there is a MLA Calendar of Events on the MLA website, members do not always take notice of the dates of the events. It was suggested that an email message should be sent to the entire MLA membership on a quarterly basis advising them of the upcoming MLA schedule of events. Secretary Bartlett will undertake sending a quarterly e-mail message to the MLA membership advising them of the upcoming events on the MLA schedule.

### **Fall 2007 Meeting**

The Fall 2007 Meeting will be held at the Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa, 17260 Harbour Ponte Drive, Fort Myers, Florida 33908, [www.sanibel-resort.com](http://www.sanibel-resort.com), October 21-28, 2007. Dennis Minichello of Chicago is Chair of the 2007 Fall Meeting Arrangements Committee.

### **Law Students**

President Rue will be sending a letter to admiralty law professors requesting their insights and suggestions as to how the MLA might interact with law students interested in maritime law.

### **Career/Employment Opportunities Page on Website**

Treasurer Bonner will be preparing a template for a career/employment opportunities page on the MLA website that will be offered to MLA members without charge. It is anticipated that this website feature will be used primarily by law firms, insurance companies, and other entities having employment openings.

### **MLA Publications**

Second Vice-President Marwedel is investigating the possibility of making MLA publications available to non-members on a regular basis for a subscription fee of \$135 per year for subscribers within the United States and \$155 per year for foreign subscribers.

### **Resolutions of Appreciation**

RADM John E. Crowley, currently Chief Counsel and Judge Advocate General of the United States Coast Guard, will be leaving that post on April 18, 2006 to become Commander of the Ninth Coast Guard District in Cleveland, Ohio. President Rue proposed that a certificate containing a resolution of appreciation of the MLA be presented to RADM Crowley. A motion to present RADM Crowley with a certificate containing a resolution of appreciation was made, seconded, and duly approved by the Board.

Captain William Baumgartner, currently Chief of the Office of Maritime and International Law of the United States Coast Guard, is being promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral and will be replacing RADM Crowley as Chief Counsel and Judge Advocate General of the Coast Guard. A motion was made, seconded, and duly approved that Capt. Baumgartner be presented with a resolution of appreciation with respect to his service as Chief of the Office of Maritime and International Law. Capt. Baumgartner will be replaced as Chief of the Office of Maritime and International Law by Capt. Charles D. Michel.

### **Nominating Committee**

A motion was made that the names of the members of the Nominating Committee be posted on the MLA website beginning in 2007, *i.e.*, in the weeks leading up to the 2007 Spring Meeting. After a discussion by the Board, the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

A motion was duly made and seconded that the MLA membership be advised that nominations for Officers and the Board of Directors for the term beginning May 2006 should be submitted to Past President Hayden, Chair of the Nominating Committee, by an appropriate date in April. The motion was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Board. Secretary Bartlett will include this notice in his email that accompanies the distribution of the Spring 2006 Meeting materials.

**Presidential Activities**

As previously reported, President Rue attended the CMI Colloquium in Cape Town, South Africa, on February 12–15, 2006. President Rue also will be taking part in the John R. Brown Moot Court Competition on April 1, 2006 in Houston and the IMO Meeting on April 24–28, 2006 in London.

**Future Officer and Board Meetings**

- A. MLA Spring Meeting, New York, New York—May 2–5, 2006
- B. Officers and Board Meetings, Mystic, Connecticut—August 4–5, 2006.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James W. Bartlett, III, Secretary

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