

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

**July 30, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. PDT**

**Blaine, Washington**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The July 30, 2022, meeting was called to order by President Barbara L. Holland at 9:00 a.m. PDT. The following Officers were present:

Barbara L. Holland, President  
Grady S. Hurley, First Vice President  
James F. Moseley, Jr., Second Vice President  
Edward J. Powers, Secretary  
William Robert Connor III, Treasurer  
Alexander M. Giles, Membership Secretary  
Lynn L. Krieger, Website & Technology Secretary  
David J. Farrell, Jr., Immediate Past President

The following Directors were present:

**Term expiring 2023**

Charles G. De Leo  
Brian Eisenhower  
Michael F. Sturley

**Term Expiring 2025**

Samuel P. Blatchley  
Ivan M. Rodriguez  
Imran O. Shaukat  
Thomas M. Wynne

**Term expiring 2024**

Carolyn Elizabeth Bundy  
William J. Riviere  
Jennifer Porter

At President Holland's invitation, Past President Chester Hooper was present.

**II. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

***A. Minutes of May 5, 2022, Board Meeting in New York City***

Secretary Powers presented the Minutes of the May 5, 2022, Board Meeting in New York City.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 5, 2022, meeting of the Board of Directors.

***B. MLA Proceedings***

Secretary Powers reported to the Board that the *MLA Proceedings* from the Spring 2022 meeting in New York will be delivered to the printer for formatting and should be printed before the Fall meeting.

***C. Membership Dues for New Members of the Association***

Secretary Powers reported that when the Board met on May 5, 2022, and agreed to waive Membership dues for new Members during their first year in the Association, the Board failed to adopt an implementation date for the waiver. It was thereafter proposed that beginning in 2023, dues for new Members would be waived for the remainder of the calendar year following admission to the Association.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved a motion to waive Membership dues for the remainder of the calendar year following admission to the Association for all new Members after January 1, 2023.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

***A. Quarterly Treasurer's Report***

Treasurer Connor reported that the finances of the Association for the three-month quarter ended June 30, 2022, were in fine shape, consistent with their status on January 1, 2022.

***B. Dues Status***

Currently, there are 539 Members who have not paid dues within the last year, and included within this number are 89 Members who have not paid dues within the last two years. These amounts are not unusual for this time of the year, and it is expected that many Members will pay by the end of the year.

***C. Group Concepts signature authority for Association checking account***

Since the Association formalized its relationship with *Group Concepts*, Treasurer Connor reported on the necessity that *Group Concepts'* President, Andrea Casillas, be added to the persons having signature authority on the Association's checking account. The persons currently having such signature authority are the Association's President, Immediate Past President, First Vice President, and Treasurer.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved a motion to add Andrea Casillas as a person having signature authority on the Association's checking account.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

#### **IV. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Mr. Giles presented the Membership Secretary's Report.

Mr. Giles reported that the following five (5) applicants for Associate membership were recommended for approval:

Joshua Aaron Filzer  
Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas  
40 Paterson Street  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

James Frederick Lynch  
Lynch Mediation Service  
4176 Wallis Court  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Paul Michael Mullen  
Welder Leshin, LLP  
800 N. Shoreline Boulevard, Suite 300 N.  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Susan Shapiro  
Cox, Wootton, Lerner, Griffin & Hansen  
900 Front Street, Suite 350  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Phillip M. Smith  
Neuner Pate  
1001 West Pinhook Road, Suite 200  
Lafayette, LA 70503

Mr. Giles reported that The Adjunct Membership Committee considered one application for Adjunct Membership and recommended the following for approval:

Michael Anthony Venturella  
Envista Forensics  
2104 Chainbridge Court  
Crofton, MD 21114

Mr. Giles reported that the following four (4) former Members of the Association applied for reinstatement and were recommended for approval:

Sandra M. Kelly  
Ray Robinson Law Co., LPA  
6100 Oak Tree Boulevard, Suite 200  
Cleveland, OH 44131

Michael Kenny, Jr.  
Wiggin and Dana  
437 Madison Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022

Ren Rong Pan  
Ren Rong Pan, Attorney at Law  
75 Main Street, Suite 201  
Millburn, NJ 07041

Joseph D. Turano  
Joseph D. Turano, Attorney at Law  
Brooklyn, NY

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the new Members recommended by Mr. Giles.

Mr. Giles informed the Board of the following deaths that had been reported since the meeting on May 5, 2022:

Michael E. Conroy  
Miami, FL

Keith Gillette  
Walnut Creek, CA

John "Jack" Walsh  
New York, NY

Mr. Giles reported that as of July 30, 2022, following the approval of the above new Members, the MLA's total membership is as follows:

**MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY AS OF JULY 30, 2022**

**VOTING (ACTIVE) MEMBERS**

PROCTORS	1126
ASSOCIATES	889
NON-LAWYERS	117
ACADEMIC	<u>15</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2147</b>

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

EX-OFFICIO	25
HONORARY	3
JUDICIAL	75
LAW STUDENTS	30
SUBSCRIPTION	<u>1</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>134</b>

**TOTAL MEMBERS**                      **2281**

The total number of new and reinstated members proposed for the July 30, 2022, Board Meeting is ten (10), comprised of five (5) Associates, one (1) Adjunct, and four (4) Reinstatements. Three Law Students have been approved for membership since the May 2022 meeting.

Mr. Giles also reported that of the total Membership, 646 are Life Members.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Membership Secretary's Report.

**V. WEBSITE AND TECHNOLOGY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Website and Technology Secretary Krieger reported that the Association has begun the process of migrating the Association's database to a more robust platform using software recommended by *Group Concepts*. Ms. Krieger estimated that the migration would be completed sometime in November 2022, following the Association's Fall meeting in San Diego, California.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Website and Technology Secretary's Report.

## **VI. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS, UPDATES**

### ***A. The MLA Report in Electronic Format***

Past President Chet Hooper reported that since the decision to discontinue the printing and mailing of *The MLA Report* at the Board meeting on May 5, 2022, he and David Nourse decided to retire from editing *The MLA Report*. President Holland thanked Past President Hooper and Mr. Nourse for their long and distinguished service as co-editors of *The MLA Report*. Thereupon, a discussion ensued regarding the efforts to edit and maintain *The MLA Report* in electronic format, including prospective editorial candidates.

Website and Technology Secretary Krieger also mentioned the possibility of posting summaries of recent notable maritime cases on the Association's website, as well as prospective editorial candidates for same.

### ***B. The Association's Continuing Legal Education Programs***

Mr. Imran Shaukat reported that there will be 7.5 hours of CLE credit offered at the Association's October 2022 meeting in San Diego, California. The Association is working with the Pacific Admiralty Seminar to provide the substantive content of the CLE, while the Association's CLE Committee will provide the logistical assistance for credit certification with the various state bars.

Mr. Shaukat also reported on efforts to edit and integrate the CLE presentations from the Tulane Admiralty Law Institute Seminar for posting on the Association's website and general availability to Members.

### ***C. Board Liaisons to Standing Committees***

Second Vice President Moseley reported on the need for reappointment of Board liaisons to the Standing Committees and the role of the Board liaisons in communicating with the Second Vice President regarding compliance of the Committee Chairs with their respective duties and responsibilities.

### ***D. Creation of Autonomous Ships and Marine Technology Committee***

President Holland reported that, pursuant to her duties under Section 305.1 of the Bylaws of the Association, she established a Standing Committee on "Autonomous Ships and Smart Marine Technology" to be Chaired by Sean Pribyl.

## VII. DISCUSSION TOPICS

Consistent with the Motion approved by the Board at the May 5, 2022 meeting, regarding electronic apostilles, President Holland reported that she sent a letter to the National Association of Secretaries of State supporting its resolution for the adoption and implementation of a mechanism for the secure issuance of electronic apostilles.

President Holland also reported on the commencement of the relationship with *Group Concepts* and the evolution and transition of duties and responsibilities traditionally handled by the Association and its long-time Administrator, Robin Becker.

President Holland then led a discussion on the location and timing of future Board meetings, as well as the purpose and principles behind holding them at various venues around the country. The discussion included a cost-benefit analysis of holding meetings in different regions, including the role played in recruiting efforts. Consensus among the Board was that a future meeting should be held in the Great Lakes region. Concerns were also expressed with the scheduling of the Admiralty Law Institute's Tulane Seminar so closely to the annual Spring meeting in New York City, and the possible adverse impact it would have on scheduling a Board meeting in conjunction with the Tulane Seminar.

## VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Ms. Krieger and Mr. Giles reported on the planning and arrangements for the Fall 2022 meeting in San Diego, including the solicitation of sponsorships to offset the cost of registration. The Association had currently received sponsorship commitments totaling \$6,000, and Mr. Giles expressed optimism that an additional \$40,000 could be raised prior to the meeting.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business proposed.

## X. ADJOURN

After thanking the Board of Directors for their service, and there being no further business of the Board of Directors of The Maritime Law Association of the United States, President Holland adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Powers, Secretary