

**WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**November 19, 2016**  
**Albany Law School**  
**Albany, NY**

A quorum being present, the Executive Committee meeting was called to order at approximately 10:10am.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon review of the minutes, a revision was made to reflect an email change to the NYWBA president's email. A motion was made by Greta Kolcon, seconded by Deidre Hay to approve the Executive Committee minutes of September 24, 2016. The motion passed.

**President's Report**

President Flug reported on the many events she attended in the past month. To wit: an event with our newly formed Del-Chen-O chapter, Judge DiFiore's wrongful conviction task force, the WBASNY/NYSBA Domestic Violence Initiative and the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event for the Second Circuit. Furthermore, President Flug reported that WBASNY's voter registration drive resulted in 1,356 newly registered voters for the state of New York. This was a very successful event for WBASNY and President Flug thanked the chairs of this working group and all of the chapters that were involved. President Flug reminded the chapters to provide our treasurer with all quarterly reports in a timely fashion as WBASNY has strict deadlines for our tax filings. In conclusion, President Flug reminded the committee of the great work that the Legislation committee put forth thus far. WBASNY has supported the Bills pertaining to Infertility and Indigent Criminal Defense. We have supported the Mandatory Diversity CLE and we have drafted a position letter on the bill for restrictions on reproductive rights.

**Treasurer's Report**

In addition to answering specific chapter questions, Treasurer Lourdes Ventura reported that WBASNY is doing well at this time. Most of the Chapters have submitted their finance and membership reports and dues but there are a few delinquent chapters. Some chapters still owe for Leadership Training, board meeting assessment and membership dues. Reminders have gone out to Chapter treasurers and presidents.

**Northwestern Mutual**

Shaun Miller and Scott McCauley from Northwestern Mutual presented to the board about a member benefit regarding 529 College Savings Plans.

**CLE**

President Flug reminded the committee that if you are hosting a Free CLE to the members, WBASNY will not charge the chapter for the certificate fee. Each chapter will receive this incentive for two free CLEs that are offered to their chapter this year.

**Judicial Screening**

Hon. Eugene F. Pigott is retiring from the bench. WBASNY will be conducting a Judicial Screening on December 15, 2016. President Flug reminded the executive committee of the staggered three year term limits for the judicial screening committee members.

### **Constitutional Convention**

Vice President Greta Kolcon addressed the committee on the upcoming referendum on the state constitutional convention. The NYS Constitutional convention referendum will be placed on the November 7, 2017 ballot as specified in our state's constitution and New Yorkers will vote either in favor or in opposition to convening a convention. If the state votes in favor of convening a convention, then on November 6, 2018, New Yorkers will elect delegates to the convention. On April 2, 2019, the Convention will convene and propose amendments to the constitution. In November 2019, New York State will vote to approve or reject each amendment that is proposed by the convention. Please keep this on your radar as WBASNY members may want to secure positions as delegates.

### **New Business**

GRAWA expressed concerns over Judge DiFiore's Excellence Initiative and the time constraints on the State Civil and Criminal Courts. There has been discussion in the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and GRAWA is looking for ways to comment on this issue. The Mid-Hudson chapter will collaborate with GRAWA on this as they are having a brown bag lunch to discuss the Excellence Initiative with their members. The Orange-Sullivan chapter has received requests regarding the Million Women March in Washington and is interested in seeing if WBANSY will take part in the March. A further discussion will be held in the Board meeting.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

A motion was made by Kara Cavallo, seconded by Joan McNichol, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea F. Composto  
Immediate Past President for the Recording Secretary