

American Society for Legal History
Board of Directors
Minutes of the November 12, 2009 Meeting
Dallas, Texas

DRAFT – NOT YET APPROVED

Officers and Board Members Present (in alphabetical order): Constance Backhouse (President-Elect), Alfred Brophy, Christine Desan, Charles Donahue (Immediate Past President), William Forbath, Thomas Gallanis (Secretary), Sally Hadden, Martha Jones, Craig Klafter (Treasurer), Adam Kosto, Michael Lobban, Maeva Marcus (President), Matthew Mirow, Robin Stacey, Karen Tani, and John Wertheimer.

Also Present (in alphabetical order): Stuart Banner, Michael Churgin, Daniel Ernst, Sarah Barringer Gordon, Thomas Green, Charles Grench, Michael Grossberg, Craig Joyce, Bruce Mann, Rayman Solomon, David Tanenhaus, and Joshua Tate.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the November 2008 meeting in Ottawa, Canada, were approved.
2. Secretary's Report. Thomas Gallanis presented, and the Board accepted, the Secretary's report.
3. Treasurer's Report. Craig Klafter presented, and the Board accepted, the Treasurer's report.
4. Report of the Committee on Conferences and the Annual Meeting. Craig Joyce presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report. A motion that the Society hold its 2012 annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico **failed**. A motion that the committee explore, and poll the views of the membership on, the possibility of holding the 2013 annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, **passed**.
5. Report of the Advisory Committee on the Cromwell Prizes. The Board accepted the committee's report. Maeva Marcus reported that, going forward, the Cromwell Foundation has generously agreed to fund separate prizes for the best article and best dissertation, respectively.
6. Report of the Committee on Documentary Preservation. Michael Churgin presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report. A motion for the Society to sign the petition (referred to in the committee's report) to update PACER **passed**.

7. Report of the Finance Committee. Sarah Barringer Gordon presented orally, and the Board accepted, the committee's report.

8. Report of the Committee on the Future of the Society. Rayman Solomon presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report.

9. Report of H-Law. The Board accepted the H-Law report.

10. Report of the Committee on Honors. No report was submitted this year, as no honors have been awarded.

11. Report of the Committee on the Hurst Memorial Fund. Rayman Solomon presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report. A motion to authorize the outgoing or incoming President to sign an agreement with the University of Wisconsin Law School, continuing the Hurst Institute for five further summers beginning in 2013, **passed**. A motion authorizing the incoming President to send letters of appreciation to Professor Howard Erlanger and Ms. Pam Hollenhorst of the Institute for Legal Studies at the University of Wisconsin Law School **passed**.

12. Reports of Law and History Review and of the University of Illinois Press. Alfred Brophy presented, and the Board accepted, the Law and History Review report. A motion authorizing the incoming President to send letters of appreciation to President Neil Smatresk, Dean John V. White, Dean Christopher Hudgins, and Department Chair David Wrobel of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, **passed**.

No report was received from the University of Illinois Press.

13. Report of the Membership Committee. Sally Hadden presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report.

14. Report of the Nominating Committee. The Board accepted the committee's report. The Secretary reported the results of the annual election:

a. For the office of President-Elect, Bruce Mann **stands elected**.

a. For seats on the Board of Directors, Mary Sarah Bilder, Holly Brewer, Risa Goluboff, Dylan Penningroth, and Victoria Saker Woeste **stand elected**.

b. For seats on the Nominating Committee, Sarah Barringer Gordon and David Konig **stand elected**.

15. Report of the Preyer Memorial Committee. The Board accepted the committee's report.

16. Report of the 2009 Program Committee. Stuart Banner presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report.

17. Report of the Publications Committee. Bruce Mann presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report. A motion to raise, effective immediately, the annual dues of emeritus members to \$35 and student members to \$25 **passed**. A motion to authorize the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee to explore the idea of further increases in non-student dues as might be appropriate to cross-subsidize student dues **passed**. A motion to keep the category of life membership but raise the dues for new life members, effective immediately, to \$2,000 **passed**. A motion to set the annual rate for institutional subscriptions at \$175, effective immediately, **passed**.

18. Report of the Committee on the Reid Book Award. The Board accepted the committee's report. The Board expressed some concern that, for the second time, the Reid Prize and the Cromwell Prize were awarded to the same book. A motion directing the committee to use its best efforts to seek out all eligible books, rather than relying on submissions, **passed**. A motion encouraging the committee and the Advisory Committee on the Cromwell Prizes to keep each other apprised during their respective deliberations **passed**.

19. Report on the Committee on Research Fellowships and Awards. Michael Grossberg presented, and the Board accepted, the committee's report. A motion authorizing Professor Grossberg to write a letter, on the Society's behalf, thanking the Cromwell Foundation **passed**.

20. Report of Studies in Legal History. Daniel Ernst and Thomas Green presented, and the Board accepted, the editors' report. The Board expressed its appreciation to the University of North Carolina Press, represented at the meeting by Charles Grench.

21. Report of the Surrency Prize Committee. The Board accepted the committee's report.

22. Report of the Sutherland Prize Committee. The Board accepted the committee's report.

23. New Business: Amendments to the By-laws. In connection with item 17 above, a motion to make the following amendments to the Society's by-laws **passed**:

- a. Delete "or institution" in Article I, section 1.
- b. Replace "institutional member" with "institutional subscriber" in Article I, section 2.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas P. Gallanis
ASLH Secretary