

CONNECTICUT BAR EXAMINING COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
JANUARY 29, 2016

The Chair, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), called the public portion of the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. (EST). Present were Richard F. Banbury, Hon. Nina Elgo, Edward J. Gavin, Eric M. Gross, Karen L. Karpie, Gail E. McTaggart, David A. Moraghan, Hon. Elliot Solomon, and Matthew Wax-Krell. Present by invitation were: Kathleen B. Harrington, Deputy Director, Attorney Services and Jessica F. Kallipolites, Administrative Director.

At 10:08 a.m., members Robert D. Silva and Alix Simonetti arrived.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. McTaggart, seconded by Mr. Gross, it was voted unanimously to accept and record the minutes of the public session of the Special Meeting of December 4, 2015. An amendment was made to include “concerns about the equivalency of foreign law schools” to the paragraph addressing the Foreign Trained/Licensed Lawyers Subcommittee as a topic of discussion.

Discussion was had regarding a comparison of the Committee’s income and expenses from the second quarter of the current fiscal year to the second quarter of the previous fiscal year. Upon motion duly made by Ms. Karpie, seconded by the Judge Solomon, it was voted unanimously to approve the Second Quarterly Report (October – December 2015).

At 10:34 a.m., the Vice-Chair, Michael J. Whelton, arrived.

Mr. Wax-Krell presented information on behalf of the Foreign Trained/Licensed Lawyers Subcommittee concerning the number of foreign applicants in other northeast states, the extent to which those applications placed an administrative burden on those offices, and the requirement of certain states for foreign applicants to provide an educational equivalency report as part of their application. Discussion was had regarding the potential for the ABA to accredit foreign law schools, the ability of graduates from non-ABA approved law schools in the US to apply for admission in Connecticut, the requirements and abilities of the companies that produce educational equivalency reports and the Committee’s use of such companies in the past, LLM requirements, and declining law school enrollments. It was the consensus of those in attendance to draft regulations for consideration at the May 6, 2016 meeting with Ms. Karpie, Ms. Simonetti, and Mr. Whelton against.

The Chair presented information regarding a request from a local law school that the ethics requirement be waived for law school faculty applying for admission without examination under certain circumstances. Discussion was had regarding the current requirements with respect to taking a course in lieu of the MPRE, specifically as to the ability of students taking a course to use the course grade in lieu of the MPRE but requiring that the professor teaching the course to take the MPRE or to take a course.

Draft amendments to Article IV of the Committee's regulations will be presented for consideration at the May 6, 2016 on this issue.

The Administrative Director provided an update on the February 2016 bar examination, provided information to the Committee regarding a pretest of Multistate Essay Examination questions that Connecticut will participate in this spring, and provided an update on declining law school enrollment numbers at local law schools.

The Chair provided an update on the CBA Task Force on the Future of Legal Education and Standards of Admission, specifically with respect to the use of paraprofessionals in other jurisdictions to perform certain legal services similar to the use of nurse practitioners or physician assistants in the field of medicine and the importance of the licensing of such individuals to be a function performed by the Judicial Branch should this be allowed in Connecticut in the future.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Simonetti, seconded by Mr. Whelton, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the public portion of the meeting at 11:19 a.m. (EST) and to reconvene in the non-public portion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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RICHARD F. BANBURY  
Secretary *Pro Tem*