

# CONNECTICUT SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## MINUTES

### Board of Directors' Meeting - September 13, 2010

President Wes Horton called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. in the Supreme Court Lawyers' Lounge. Other Board members and committee chairs present were: Sheila Huddleston, Greg D'Auria, Mike Shea, Chuck Howard, John Farley, Jeff White, Molly Levan, Judge Cohn, and Kathy Calibey.

Mr. D'Auria moved the approval of the minutes of the May 11, 2010. Mr. Shea seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Shea presented the treasurer's report, a copy of which is attached. He noted that that the fee for our annual dinner speaker, Jeff Benedict, was \$1,000 plus expenses. He also commented that we are in about the same position financially as we were at this time last year. Mr. D'Auria moved the approval of the treasurer's report, Mr. Howard seconded the motion, and the treasurer's report was approved.

Mr. Farley reported that Volume IV of the Journal had been sent out to everyone on the membership list, including those who had not paid dues for the last year or two. He recommended that we purge those not current in membership fees from our rolls, and following discussion, there was a consensus that we proceed to do that. Mr. Horton indicated that he would work with Mr. Farley to accomplish that task. Mr. White observed that it may also be appropriate to examine whether a membership drive would be appropriate. Judge Cohn suggested greater outreach to those not in Hartford County, and Ms. Huddleston indicated that the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Supreme Court and State Library Building might be just such an occasion. After discussion, it was agreed that membership information tables would be set up in appropriate places and times during the anniversary celebration.

Mr. Horton reported that the anniversary celebration had been rescheduled from December 1 to November 30, and planning was now underway by a committee chaired by Justice McLachlan. Mr. Horton reported that three Supreme Court arguments would be scheduled for that day, the first to be argued in the Old State House, the second in the Old Judiciary Room at the State Capitol, and the final one in the current Supreme Court courtroom. All three will be televised by CTN, and the plan is to have a short presentation on the history of the courtroom prior to the beginning of each argument. The arguments will be open to the public. Following the arguments, a reception is planned at the State Capitol for 4:30 to 6, followed by a dinner (invitation only) in the

State Library. Based on the previous permission given by the Board, Mr. Horton indicated that the Society was willing to contribute up to \$2,500 for the anniversary celebration. Mr. Horton indicated that he and Ms. Huddleston would be attending the next meeting of the planning committee, scheduled for September 14.

Ms. Huddleston reported on the completion of Volume IV of the Journal and was complimented for the effort by Mr. Horton. She indicated that the theme of the next edition would be the Supreme Court and State Library building. She has commitments for articles from: Ken Wiggin (on the politics and history of the construction of the building); Patrick Pinnell (an architect who will write on the architectural significance of the building); Mike Besso (on the murals in the Supreme Court courtroom, focusing on Thomas Hooker); and Judge Cohn (chronicling the events of the anniversary celebration). She has also approached Ginny Apple to provide photographs and a discussion of the paintings and portraits of the justices. After discussion, it was agreed that efforts should be made to notify various other groups of the celebration events, including the Young Lawyers' section of CBA and the bar associations of the various counties.

Ms. Huddleston also reported that Colin Tait is working on an article for the following edition of the Journal on the influence of Zephaniah Swift both inside and outside of Connecticut.

Mr. White and Ms. Levan reported that Program Committee had not yet identified a speaker for the 2011 annual dinner and solicited suggestions. They reported that while the presentation by Mr. Benedict was somewhat atypical, they had received positive comments on it. It was generally agreed to try to have the annual dinner at the New Haven Lawn Club in May, as that seemed to be a location and time that worked. There was general agreement that it was good to have some events outside of Hartford.

Mr. D'Auria indicated that the anniversary celebration presented an opportunity for adding content to the website. He agreed to work with the planning committee.

**The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for November 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Lawyers' Lounge at the Supreme Court.**

There being no further business, Mr. Howard moved that that the meeting be adjourned, Mr. Shea seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles L. Howard,  
Secretary