

MINUTES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PILOT BAR ASSOCIATION

The Third Annual Meeting of the Pilot Bar Association was held beginning at 6:00 p.m. on October 27, 2020. Because of restrictions imposed by COVID-19, in-person participation was limited and a number of members participated via Zoom video. Those members able to appear in person were at De La Salle Collegiate High School located at 14600 Common Road, Warren, Michigan 48088, pursuant to a written notice of such meeting, distributed electronically by Joe DeLave.

Opening Remarks

The meeting opened by Justice David Viviano (DLS '90) who acted as the emcee for the meeting. During his opening remarks, Justice Viviano commented on the challenges that De La Salle has faced over the course of the past 18 months, to include football hazing, the termination of John Knight, shaky enrollment figures, and COVID-19, all of which have had a negative impact on the endowment. De La Salle now has a much more positive outlook. Justice Viviano was honored to deliver the commencement address for the 2020 graduating class, and he is pleased with the positive attitude of the new administration, which is doing its best to increase enrollment.

Keynote Address

Larry Rancilio (DLS '86), the new president of De La Salle, delivered the keynote address. Mr. Rancilio commended the service of Dennis Koch, Chris Dean, Greg Esler, and Br. Ken who have been and continue to be valuable parts of his team. From last year to this year there has been positive improvement at the school and De La Salle is on an upswing. The faculty, students, and administration have a positive attitude and are excited to be at De La Salle.

Mr. Rancilio has three goals: 1) he wants the LaSallian mission to permeate throughout the institution to ensure that the students have a great experience; 2) he wants to increase the school to full enrollment by improving the image and reputation of the school and putting out a positive message; and 3) he wants to make sure that every teacher, coach, and staff member has all of the resources needed to make sure all of the students have a great experience.

With respect to the State of the School, Mr. Rancilio advised that while the school is in a better position than it was last year, it needs to improve its reputation and increase enrollment. There are many new teachers and staff this year. All of the teachers, staff, administrators, and students are committed to social distancing in every classroom and throughout the school. Everyone has been very diligent, and as of October 27, 2020, there had been just one case in 60 days.

Financially, the school is running at a budget deficit. Enrollment is down and the school needs more paying students. Tuition is currently \$13,500.00, the average amount paid by the students is \$9,000.00, but it actually costs over \$15,000.00 to educate each student. The endowment is currently at \$6 million, which is where it was 20 years ago. Increasing enrollment and the endowment will be his focus for the immediate future.

Annual Meeting of the Pilot Bar Association

The meeting was then called to order by Joe DeLave (DLS '80) as Chairman and Tim Orlando acted as Secretary for the meeting.

The Chairman thereupon referred those present and those participating via Zoom to the meeting agenda that had been emailed to all members; a copy of the agenda is attached to these minutes of the meeting.

I. Introduction of New Board Members

Joe DeLave introduced the following new members of the Pilot Bar Association Board of Directors: Mark Vanneste, Donovan Asmar, and Steve Pacynski. Departing members Michael Bartnik, Paul Addis, and Joe Pittel were all thanked for their service.

II. Remembering Dan Marsh '81

A moment of silence was held for Dan Marsh, a former Board Member, who went to be with his savior on March 31, 2020.

III. Treasurer's Report, Mike Kus '69

Mike Kus reported that there is \$1,800.00 in the PBA account. He commented that we don't need to right the PBA ship, but we need to raise the sails. That can be accomplished by more members paying their annual dues. Members were asked to respond positively to the new membership package to be distributed.

IV. Recap of Actions of the Board, Past Events and Other Matters, Joe DeLave '80

Joe DeLave reported that this has been a difficult year. The PBA has some lethargy that needs to be overcome. The concept of the organization is fantastic, and it has provided some good support for the school's fundraising efforts and career day, but attendance at PBA-sponsored events has not been good. The pre-football game event and Mass for Commerce in the Fall of 2019 were poorly attended, and the Communion Breakfast and March Madness events had to be canceled due to both lack of interest and COVID-19.

As a Board we are seeking input from the members. We need to know what we're doing right and what we may be doing wrong. Although there were no issues with the PBA during the 2019-2020 school year, the problems at the school. COVID-19 and competing obligations negatively impacted member's interest and involvement with the PBA. Based on a phone survey conducted by Board members, we understand that members are looking primarily for camaraderie and referral opportunities. If any members have ideas on how to make the organization better, please share them with the Board.

The PBA is not alone in its struggles as Mr. DeLave learned that the Shamrock Bar Association and the Cub Lawyers are having similar problems. The Shamrock Bar Association has one event a year, which consists of a mass followed by a dinner. The other groups are open to

establishing some type of collaborative networking event that would be sponsored by each organization on a rotating basis. If anyone is interested in spearheading this effort on behalf of the PBA, please contact the Board.

V. Future Events

a. Virtual Mastered Meals, Nov. 11, 2020, Frank Briguglio '02

The PBA was invited to participate in a Virtual Mastered Meals event with the Macomb County Bar Association that was coordinated by Frank Briguglio. All ingredients are available for purchase at Vince & Joes Gourmet Market located at 55178 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Twp., Michigan 48316. The virtual cooking event was hosted by Chef Angelo Loria.

b. March Madness Event at TopGolf – March 18, 2021* - Tim Orlando

The PBA is coordinating with the Pilot Medical Association and the Pilot Business Association to hold a March Madness Event at TopGolf. We are in the process of gathering information from all professional organizations to determine interest before committing funds (50% down payment) for this event. The event would include a golf tournament, a buffet in the Signature Room, and televisions for the games.

* A temporary hold has been placed on this event pending additional information from the governor over the number of people that can attend events and confirmation from the NCAA that the event will take place as planned.

VII. Volunteers for Mock Trial Team, Kyle Kole '06/Hon. James Biernat '87

There is a strong contingent of students who have signed up for the Mock Trial Team, several of whom are upperclassmen who have been on the team in the past. Pending a lifting of current restrictions, Judge Biernat will make courtrooms available for the team to use for practice. Kyle Kole continues to coach the team and is always looking for assistance.

VIII. Structured Mentorship Program, Dennis Koch '94/Tim Orlando

This program is in its incubation stage, and we are looking to build off the success of career day. The Board is open to suggestions for structuring the program as well as volunteers to assist with its creation and implementation. We envision this as a one-on-one program that targets three groups of individuals: a) current De La Salle Students interested in learning about the practice of law; 2) De La Salle graduates currently attending college who are looking for information and assistance on applying to and getting into law school; and 3) De La Salle law students who looking for mentoring as they try to navigate law school as well as looking for clerkships or jobs when they graduate. Anyone interested in assisting, please contact one of the board members or Dennis Koch.

IX. Communications

A general discussion took place concerning better communication and a more targeted use of social media. In his new position as Director of Marketing and Communications, Brendan Johnson will seek to improve the PBA's presence on the DLS website and make it a more useful tool for members, and he will be working in conjunction with Joe DeLave (LinkedIn) and Mark Vanneste (Facebook) to provide members with more information about events and opportunities to help out.

X. Toast of the Town, November 7, 2020, Dennis Koch '94

Dennis Koch provided a preview of the event at the Detroit Athletic Club that was to feature Isiah Thomas. Ticket sales were better than expected and still ongoing and sponsorships will help make the event more profitable for De La Salle.

XI. Christian Brothers Dinner, April 29, 2021, Dennis Koch '94

Dennis Koch continued to inform everyone that the annual Christian Brothers Dinner will again be held at Penna's. Gary Buslepp and another honoree will be named as co-honorees. Koch explained that the school is also looking into alternate sites for the event in case government restrictions force the school to move the event outside.

XII. Christian Brothers Classic, June 21, 2021, Dennis Koch '94

Dennis Koch reported that the golf outing will once again be held at Indianwood Golf Club. Last year's event at Indianwood was a tremendous success and he looks forward to improving the event this coming year.

Dennis will disseminate additional information on the preceding events as it becomes available.

There being no further business, upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

/s/ Timothy G. Orlando 11-30-2020

Timothy G. Orlando, Secretary

APPROVED:

/s/ Joseph DeLave

Joseph DeLave, President

/s/ Dennis Koch

Dennis Koch, Director of Alumni Relations



PILOT BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

**De La Salle Collegiate
14600 Common Road
Warren, MI 48088
and Via Zoom Call**

Agenda

- 6:00 p.m. Welcoming remarks by Master of Ceremonies, Justice David Viviano '90**
- 6:15 p.m. Keynote address, Larry Rancilio '86, President of DeLaSalle Collegiate**
- 6:30 p.m. Q & A with Larry Rancilio**
- 6:45 p.m. Introduction of and remarks by DeLaSalle Principal, Br. Ken Kalinowski '84**
- 7:00 p.m. Meeting of the Pilot Bar Association is called to order**
- I. Introduction of New Board Members, Joe DeLave '80**
 - II. Remembering Dan Marsh '81**
 - III. Treasurer's Report, Mike Kus '69**
 - IV. Recap of Actions of the Board, Past Events and Other Matters, Joe DeLave '80**
 - V. Future Events**
 - a. Virtual Mastered Meals, Nov. 11, 2020, Frank Briguglio '02**
 - b. March Madness Event at Top Golf – March 18, 2021 - Tim Orlando**
 - c. Suggestions**
 - VII. Volunteers for Mock Trial Team, Kyle Kole '06/Hon. James Biernat '87**
 - VIII. Structured Mentorship Program, Dennis Koch '94/Tim Orlando**
 - IX. Communications**
 - a. Website – Brendan Johnson '15**
 - b. Linked In – Joe DeLave '80**
 - c. Facebook – Mark Vanneste, '97**
 - X. Toast of the Town, November 7, 2020, Dennis Koch '94**
 - XI. Christian Brothers Dinner, April 29, 2021, Dennis Koch '94**
 - XII. Christian Brothers Classic, June 21, 2021, Dennis Koch '94**
 - XIII. Any other business**
- 8:00 p.m. Move to close meeting of the Pilot Bar Association**