

**BERKELEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2009**

A meeting of the Berkeley County Bar Association Board of Directors was held on September 17, 2009, at the office of John West, Moncks Corner, South Carolina. Attending were John West, Chairperson, Grover Seaton, Sally Rhoad, Greg DeLuca, Ben Akery, and Chris J. Loudon. David Devane was absent. A quorum being present John West called the meeting to order.

First order of business that was discussed was the parking at the Berkeley County Courthouse. The Board discussed the limited parking available at the Berkeley County Courthouse and the possible loss of existing parking by the expansion of the Berkeley County Detention Center. Grover Seaton was asked to contact the Sheriff's Office to ascertain their plans with regards to eliminating parking spaces. The Board tabled this matter for further discussion at a later date.

The next order of business was the request by the William Shipley family regarding a Bar contribution towards a portrait commemorating Mr. Shipley's long term service in a judicial capacity to Berkeley County. The Board determined that individual members of the Bar should be solicited in a separate fund-raising to donate towards a portrait as opposed to having the Bar contribute. John West agreed to contact the Clerk of Court to see about placing a portrait in the Courthouse and to prepare a proposed letter to Bar members for their donations. Greg DeLuca agreed to investigate the cost of a portrait.

The next order of business was a website for the Berkeley County Bar Association. The Chair appointed Dennis Rhoad, Grover Seaton and Ben Akery to serve on a committee to investigate the costs and content of a website. The Board agreed that any website established by the Bar should be approved by the South Carolina Bar Association.

The next order of business was having the Bar sponsor free seminars for the community and also continuing legal education seminars for its members. The Board agreed that the benefits to the community of free seminars far outweigh the costs of producing the seminars and it would try to have an initial seminar prior to the end of the year focusing on the areas of probate law, bankruptcy law or family law. Sally Rhoad was appointed to investigate establishing a seminar for the Berkeley County Bar members and having it approved through the South Carolina Supreme Court for continuing legal education credits.

The next order of business addressed the annual dues of the Berkeley County Bar members. The Board recognized that with the additional programs being proposed it will be necessary for the Bar to raise additional funds particularly in light of the limited number of

members. The Bar resolved that the annual dues will be raised from \$100.00 per year to \$175.00 per year and will be billed in January of each year.

The next order of business was the appointment of a social committee on behalf of the Bar. The Chair appointed Dennis Rhoad, Greg DeLuca and David Devane to this committee for the purpose of promoting comradery and fellowship among the Bar members.

The next order of business was the possible establishment of a young lawyers division for the Berkeley County Bar members. The Board discussed the limited amount of Bar members under the age of 35, which could participate in this program and felt that to be viable it may need to expand it to include Dorchester County. Ben Akery was appointed to investigate the desirability and feasibility of a young lawyers division.

The next order of business was the establishment of a legislative-judicial committee to foster interaction and input between the Berkeley County Bar and legislative members to have a free discussion on issues affecting the Bar members. The Chair appointed himself, Grover Seaton and a third individual selected by the two.

The next order of business was the expansion of the membership of the Berkeley County Bar. The Board recognized with population growth of Berkeley County more attorneys are practicing in the County that may not necessarily maintain an office in the County. The Board recognized the desirability to have more individuals included in the Bar and resolved that when dues notices are sent out in January 2010, it will also send out invitations to attorneys who maintain offices in other counties to join.

The next order of business was a resolution by the Bar to acknowledge the service of the prior officers of the Bar those being, John B. Williams, President, George Bishop, Jr., Vice-President, and Mark Stokes, Secretary-Treasurer. The Bar recognized the invaluable service these individuals provided to the Bar over many years and approved a resolution acknowledging their service. John West agreed to draft a resolution.

Their being no further business before the Board, motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Prepared by : _____
Chris J. Loudon
Secretary-Treasurer