Thursday, January 22, 2015
4:30 p.m.

Westin Colonnade Hotel
180 Aragon Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida  33134

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
John G. Levi, Chairperson
Robert J. Grey Jr.
Charles N.W. Keckler
Martha L. Minow
Father Pius Pietrzyk, O.P.
Herbert S. Garten (Non-Director Member)
Thomas Smegal (Non-Director Member)
Frank B. Strickland (Non-Director Member)
Allan J. Tanenbaum (Non-Director Member)

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Victor B. Maddox
Laurie Mikva
Julie A. Reiskin
Gloria Valencia-Weber
STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT:

James J. Sandman, President
Lynn Jennings, Vice President for Grants Management
Wendy Rhein, Chief Development Officer
Rebecca Fertig Cohen, Special Assistant to the President
Ronald S. Flagg, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary
David L. Richardson, Comptroller and Treasurer, Office of Financial and Administrative Services
Carol A. Bergman, Director, Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs
Carl Rauscher, Director of Media Relations, GRPA
Marcos Navarro, GRPA
Jeffrey E. Schanz, Inspector General
Laurie Tarantowicz, Assistant Inspector General and Legal Counsel, OIG
Daniel O'Rourke, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, OIG
David Maddox, Assistant Inspector General for Management and Evaluation, OIG
Lora M. Rath, Deputy Director, Office of Compliance and Enforcement
Bristow Hardin, Office of Program Performance
Allan J. Tanenbaum, Non-Director Member, Finance Committee
Nikole Nelson, Executive Director, Alaska Legal Services Corporation
Rafael E. Rodriguez Rivera, Community Law Office, Puerto Rico

Don Saunders, National Legal Aid and Defenders Association (NLADA)
Robin C. Murphy, NLADA
Lisa Wood, American Bar Association SCLAID Chair
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**OPEN SESSION**

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CLOSED SESSION

1. Approval of minutes of the Committee's Closed Session meeting of October 6, 2014

2. Approval of minutes of the Committee's Telephonic Closed Session meeting of December 2, 2014

3. Current donor report

4. Consider and act on prospective funders

5. Consider and act on prospective members of Leaders Council

6. Consider and act on adjournment of meeting

Motions: 5, 5, 14, 18
(4:30 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: We're going to now start the main Institutional Advancement Committee meeting. That was a subcommittee of the Institutional Advancement Committee, so actually, we open the meeting and ask for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION

MR. GREY: So moved.

FATHER PIUS: Second.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: And now we have a series of minutes. And unless there are changes in any of them that people have, maybe we can approve them with one motion.

MOTION

MR. GREY: So moved.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Second?

FATHER PIUS: Second.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor of approving the minutes of October 1, 6, and December 2?
(A chorus of ayes.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Against?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: As you saw in the handout, this is a new Committee this year. It's worked very hard -- I guess we're in our second year -- and particularly had a huge focus on the 40th and the September event, but also in launching efforts to raise some private funds, which had not been done.

I think there's a recognition in the evaluations of the hard work of the staff and of the Committee on those fronts, and a sense of optimism about what we may be able to do together in the coming months and years.

So I want to ask Wendy if you have anything more you want to say about that, and discuss 2015 goals.

MS. RHEIN: Thank you all for all of your hard work on this Committee. We started almost a year and a half ago putting together just policies and procedures and trying to figure out who our prospects would be and how we would go about even looking at private money.
A lot has been accomplished in the last year and a half, you will see later on. But this Committee has overseen the staff, and with the Committee and with John and Jim, raising more than $4 million in the last 18 months.

So it's really been an incredible effort in a very short period of time to get a development program off the ground, and I thank you all for your support in that.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: And I should say that one of the handouts -- is this supposed to be closed session?

MS. RHEIN: All of the materials you received, handouts, are closed session.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: I wanted to make sure that people didn't start talking about them.

MS. RHEIN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: So, then, anything else on item 5? Martha?

DEAN MINOW: I notice that somebody wrote in the evaluation of the Committee work that after the 40th is done, it's time to reevaluate our goals. And I just wondered if you had thoughts about that.
MS. RHEIN: For me, one of the goals we have -- the 40th anniversary year has been a great kickoff point for a development program, but that's what it is. It's a kickoff point. And now we need to start thinking about sustainability.

For my part, I really want to start focusing more on foundation work, less on larger events and more on looking at building sustainable relationships for LSC to secure ongoing private funding for grant-specific projects, things that are in our case statement that the Board and the staff have agreed are long-term goals -- several years to have things like a fellowship program and a summer program, to be able to work on continuing to fund those things.

That will take some work and some relationship-building. But I certainly think that that's a good direction for us to go in.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: I would say if there was a learning out of the 40th about where we might also go, I think the American business community is ready to hear from us. And I think that it's a combination of things.
I always say that as much as fundraising
itself may be distasteful to folks, often a development
activity is what gets you in the door to tell your
story, whether people are with you or not. And the
more you get the chance to tell your story, and we have
a very compelling one, we a building bricks, putting in
bricks and building for the future even now. Things
that we're doing now will pay off for the next Board.

So I just want people to realize it's not just
about this moment. It's about other moments. And one
of the things that -- when I heard Martha's question,
I've been reminded how hard it's been, actually, with
some of the larger firms who say, well, we're used to
supporting the locals. And I think that's true. They
support everything else, though, too.

Maybe some of you are listening to me. I hope
you are, on the open line. But that fact of the matter
is that two generations ago, a very prominent group of
lawyers around the country thought that it was an
imperative in terms of the rule of law that they get
behind some part of federal funding for civil legal
aid.
They knew about it because they worked so hard on it. Well, once they accomplished it and went back to their places, the next generation and the generation after, well, they haven't heard about it as much because it happened.

So it's part of how we continually get in front of people to tell people the story, and understand what it is and what it isn't, and dispel certain notions about what it is, and enforce, if we can, the reality of what it is and how important it is.

So that's my little pep talk about goals. But I think we're feeling our way a bit, and carefully, and trying to be careful here, intentionally careful.

Item 6, which is the Leaders Council. And again, Wendy has described this for us before. This is the second meeting in which we've actually discussed it. It sort of comes out of the 40th and people saying, how can we have some relationship to you so that we can be helpful and so that we can know a little bit about what's going on? Don't leave us out of the discussion. And so this is, I think, in that vein.

MS. RHEIN: We did have an opportunity to
briefly discuss the idea of the Leaders Council at our last telephonic meeting. But I'm hoping that everyone has had a chance to think about it again and to bring up some more thoughts and comments about it.

But as John said, a large part of the reason to have this Leaders Council comes out of the last September conference. We had an incredibly diverse audience of people who attended that event, and people that have since said, I would like to continue to support you, I would like to continue to work with you; and those that we very specifically want to cultivate.

This is an opportunity to reach out beyond the traditional civil legal aid community to look at having additional venues, additional voices, for both financial support and helping us secure additional private financial support, but also to continue to spread messages for us and with us.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: I also think it helps augment pro bono, tech, you name it. If we all think about -- and we didn't know it when we got into it -- but the Fiscal Oversight Task Force and then the Pro Bono Task Force, that was 80-plus people who didn't have a
relationship.

They are still so interested. I hear from them all the time. I'm sure some of you do, and you run into them. And many of them are the names you see here. This is a way of keeping in touch. So this is a little bit like -- but it's a little more than that, certainly.

But it's actually asking them to do much less than folks -- I mean, the folks that were on the Fiscal Oversight Task Force and the -- I mean, if you remember, Paul Snyder and David Hoffman were on that task force; the Pro Bono Task Force, when we think about what it's led to now already with the Pro Bono Innovation Fund.

So these are people who have really worked hard and want to be involved and still hear about us. So some of those folks are actually on the Leaders Council suggested list.

MS. REISKIN: The nonprofit world has to think of a name for everything, and they call this friendraising. And that's a term that people use.

When we're thinking about this, I just want to
really encourage people from various media, not just
newspaper but people that -- like marketing people
because we need to market justice, is what we need to
market, as well as people in the tech world.

Because I think there's stuff that we haven't
even thought of. And getting those kinds of people
bought into us is -- I just feel real strongly that we
need those kinds of people as we go find people.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Any other questions or
comments about the specifics of the resolution?
Because we'd love to be able to move along with this.

Yes, Herb?

MR. GARTEN: I think between what took place
in Washington and then in New York, there's a gold mine
out there of people who appeared before us and spoke to
us, like this Shari -- was it Goldstein?

MS. RHEIN: Redstone.

MR. GARTEN: I'd never heard of her. I knew
nothing about her. But she made a presentation that I
really felt was very interesting, and someone who would
be a dynamic leader for this new council. And she's
just one of several that appeared before us who showed
CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, can we move the resolution?

MOTION

FATHER PIUS: I move the resolution as given in the Board book.

MR. GREY: Second.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Comments? Any?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

FATHER PIUS: Just one question. One thing I just want to say -- it's in the document but I think it should be spoken aloud as well -- one thing that we should be concerned about is the fact, of course, that we are given authority by Congress itself, and to make sure that it's very clear that this Board is not meant to replace or have any role in that governance or oversight.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: It's not a board.

FATHER PIUS: It's merely advisory to the Board to help us in the mission, and that this Board qua Board still maintains all of the authority and
oversight responsibility.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: This is honorific.

FATHER PIUS: I just want to say that

publicly. It's in the document. I want to say it

publicly, and I want to make sure that that's an issue

that we constantly make clear to people.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: I'm glad you said that. And I

started to say, this group has less of a -- I don't

want to diminish it; it's an important thing -- but

it's not the kind of workload that we asked of the Pro

Bono Task Force.

FATHER PIUS: Yes. And not because we don't

trust them --

CHAIRMAN LEVI: No, no, no.

FATHER PIUS: -- but just because we have a

congressionally mandated responsibility that we cannot

delegate to anyone else.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Absolutely. This is

honorific, largely.

MS. RHEIN: And the way it's set up right now,

this particular council would actually report in to the

Institutional Advancement Committee. And we would be
able to ask ideas and suggestions from them, but we're very clear that there is no fiscal or management authority at all.

FATHER PIUS: And I was glad to see that that reporting line was to the Committee and not to the Board directly to maintain the levels of authority.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: With just this sensitivity in mind, I might say. So thank you for bringing it out.

Other comments?

MS. REISKIN: I just wanted to also reiterate publicly my understanding is that there's a continued commitment to not compete with local -- this is all to help local and improve the visibility, so to make fundraising better for them. But there is in no way an intention or there will not be any movement to compete. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN LEVI: That's certainly our intention. I can't say that at some point that somebody won't say that that's what they're worried about. But frankly, I've had the opposite said to me, and more recently. And frankly, at NLADA, a number of directors came up to me and actually said as much, that
they were happy to report we weren't in their hair.

(Laughter.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay. Julie, it says Communications Subcommittee report. But maybe you don't have one other than we just had a meeting.

MS. REISKIN: We just had a meeting.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Carl is on here. Do you have anything further you want to say to the Institutional Advancement Committee?

MR. RAUSCHER: No. We covered it.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: In your defense or otherwise? Wendy, is there anything else there for you?

MS. RHEIN: Nothing in open session, no.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: Public comment? Any grantees out there that want to complain?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN LEVI: None that did. Okay. So they got their minute.
Consider and act on other business? Don Saunders is laughing. We can put that on the record.

We can now move -- I guess we have to have a motion to move to closed session.

**MOTION**

MR. KECKLER: So moved.

FATHER PIUS: Second.

CHAIRMAN LEVI: All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

(Whereupon, at 4:45, the Committee was adjourned to Closed Session.)

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