LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE OPEN SESSION

Tuesday, December 2, 2014
4:32 p.m.

Legal Services Corporation 3333 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

John G. Levi, Chairperson

Robert J. Grey Jr.

Martha L. Minow

Father Pius Pietrzyk, O.P.

Herbert S. Garten (Non-Director Member)

Frank B. Strickland (Non-Director Member)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Harry J.F. Korrell, III

Julie A. Reiskin

Gloria Valencia-Weber

STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT IN THE CORPORATION'S OFFICES:

Wendy Rhein, Chief Development Officer

Ronald S. Flagg, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Atitaya Rok, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Affairs

Carol A. Bergman, Director, Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs

Jeffrey E. Schanz, Inspector General

Renee Hickman, Development Associate

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CLOSED SESSION

- 1. Briefing on donor report
- 2. Briefing on meeting with prospective funders
- 3. Discussion of prospective members for proposed LSC Leaders Council
- 4. Consider and act on adjournment of meeting

Motions: Page 4

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- (4:32 p.m.)
- 3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I'm going to call the duly
- 4 noticed meeting of the Legal Services Corporation's
- 5 Institutional Advancement Committee to order and ask if
- 6 we could have a motion to approve the agenda.
- 7 MOTION
- 8 DEAN MINOW: So moved.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Martha made the motion. Who's
- 10 seconding it?
- 11 MR. STRICKLAND: Frank Strickland seconds.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay. All in favor?
- 13 (A chorus of ayes.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN LEVI: So now Wendy is going to bring
- 15 us up to date on the 40th anniversary conference
- 16 financial report. And I think the report is reasonably
- 17 good news. So Wendy?
- 18 MS. RHEIN: Sure. Did someone else just join?
- 19 MR. GREY: Yes. Robert Grey.
- MS. RHEIN: Hi, Robert. Thank you.
- 21 We have had the opportunity now to go through
- 22 all of the expenses and reconcile the account that we

- 1 have for the 40th, and I'm very happy to report that we
- 2 came in under budget.
- In the end, we spent \$475,705 on the event,
- 4 and that includes all of the travel for the executive
- 5 directors, the banquets, the conference planners, all
- of the variety of expenses that we had for this event
- 7 for more than 500 people. The original budget, as you
- 8 may recall, was about 530,000, so we have about a
- 9 \$54,000 under budget account that we're very pleased
- 10 about.
- 11 DEAN MINOW: That's great.
- 12 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Yes. And Wendy, you want to
- 13 talk about, for a minute, the sponsors?
- 14 MS. RHEIN: Sure. So in the end we had
- 15 several sponsors that came in and either purchased
- 16 individual tables for the event or purchased a
- 17 sponsorship for the program itself. It certainly
- 18 wasn't as high as we wanted. There was about \$74,000
- 19 that was raised in sponsorships, table sales, and
- 20 individual ticket sales.
- One of the big areas of savings in the budget
- 22 was when, as a Committee, you all decided to transition

- 1 from having all of the receptions fully paid for and
- 2 moving to two cash bars for two of those receptions --
- 3 there was a cost savings there as well -- and also in
- 4 having some people purchase tickets for the events if
- 5 they were only going to attend a lunch or a dinner and
- 6 not the conference as a whole.
- 7 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, I just want to say, from
- 8 my standpoint, conferences of this kind are not
- 9 exercises in perfection. But they certain can do a lot
- 10 to lift an organization, to highlight a circumstance,
- 11 and I don't know that I've been to a conference -- I
- 12 have to say that, days later, the conference was still
- 13 with me. I know other people said that.
- 14 And we're particularly grateful to you and the
- 15 staff, Wendy. I know everybody worked so hard. But I
- 16 will continue to say it. It was, I thought, really
- 17 something. I'm sure if you let others of the Committee
- 18 say whatever they want on that point, but I thought it
- 19 was extremely helpful to LSC and to calling attention
- 20 to the issues that exist across the country in civil
- 21 justice.
- DEAN MINOW: It's Martha, and I absolutely

- 1 agree with that. And I have heard more raves about
- 2 this conference than many with which I've been
- 3 associated -- about the quality of the events, about
- 4 the speakers, about the surprising topics that people
- 5 raised, about the movement from the history to the
- 6 present, and emotion and reason and all of that stuff,
- 7 not to mention the star power.
- 8 So I know there were a lot of moving parts and
- 9 it was very complicated. But it was, I think, very,
- 10 very successful. And to know that it didn't actually
- 11 use up all the money we had budgeted is also a nice
- 12 punchline.
- 13 MS. REISKIN: This is Julie. And I was able
- 14 to go to NLADA; unfortunately, I wasn't able to do the
- 15 entire time. But while I was there, I can't count how
- 16 many people came up to me and just were raving about it
- 17 and were still, all that time later, talking about
- 18 specific things that they learned and took away from
- 19 it.
- 20 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I also guess I should say that
- 21 I was at NLADA, and a number of people came up to me
- 22 upset that they hadn't been invited because they'd

- 1 heard how phenomenal it was. So I think that's a good
- 2 thing.
- Any other discussion about the 40th, that 40th
- 4 event? Because we're still in the 40th year. Because
- 5 it leads to item number 3. So I don't want to
- 6 foreclose anybody else's discussion of item 2.
- 7 MS. REISKIN: This is Julie. Just one more
- 8 thing. The feeling I had at -- I've gone now ever
- 9 since I've been on the Board. The tone and the feeling
- 10 about LSC from people in general was markedly
- 11 different, and I think that the event and how it was
- 12 handled and the way the whole 40th has been handled has
- 13 a lot to do with that.
- 14 That's just my personal opinion. But I felt
- 15 -- and I don't know, John, if you did -- but I felt a
- 16 very different tone, and much more positive towards LSC
- 17 in general.
- 18 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Yes. I have noticed that, and
- 19 people have said it.
- So this item number 3 really came out of the
- 21 conference because at the conference, for those of you
- 22 who were able to be at the two business leader panels,

- 1 the one with the CEOs and the other with the GCs, and
- 2 then again down in New York City, there was a general
- 3 theme of, don't leave us out.
- We're doing a lot. We're doing a lot of pro
- 5 bono. It's not a we/they. We want to be involved. We
- 6 have a view that this is very important to the country,
- 7 and we have things to say. We can be supportive. We
- 8 can be helpful.
- 9 So then I have had the experience, and I know
- 10 some of you have as well, and this is what makes
- 11 campaigns interesting because the fundraising is the
- 12 door opener to go see someone, and then you learn that
- 13 the heads of major law firms don't have a clue who LSC
- 14 is.
- 15 I've learned that now. I was stunned in New
- 16 York City that three major law firm heads -- and I
- 17 realized, well, maybe I shouldn't be stunned. After
- 18 all, it's been 40 years. There was a lot of energy
- 19 then, 20 years ago, but with low money and not much
- 20 public outreach because we don't have funds for it, LSC
- 21 is no longer -- they don't know who we are. They know
- 22 who their local entities are, but they don't know who

- 1 we are and how we fit into the overall scheme.
- 2 So how do we get more of that information out
- 3 if we don't include more people in the conversation who
- 4 aren't the same people talking to themselves again and
- 5 again?
- 6 So we came up with this idea of creating an
- 7 LSC Leaders Council. We enclosed a kind of a draft of
- 8 what the council would be. And it's really, in many
- 9 respects, honorific; but in other respects people of
- 10 significance in the business, legal, the academic, the
- 11 government, communities learning about us, coming once
- 12 a year to the Washington April event, I think, and
- 13 being willing to actually speak up about us.
- 14 And it allows us to open the doors and windows
- 15 a bit more widely. When you only have a Board of
- 16 eleven people and a staff of a hundred, it's very
- 17 difficult without some entity like this. So I thought
- 18 it was worth trying.
- 19 And so this is a proposal -- now, Jim's not
- on, but Jim actually came up with the concept here.
- 21 And Wendy, I don't know if you want to say more about
- it, but that's the proposal. And I'd be happy to have

- 1 people's discussion about it, input.
- 2 But if it's acceptable to folks, I would like
- 3 to get it approved, at least in general if not in
- 4 specific, so that we can begin to line up people to
- 5 take the chairmanship position or co-chairmanship
- 6 position of this and be available to be with us in
- 7 April because I, for one, think it would be very
- 8 helpful and capture some of the momentum of, well,
- 9 where do we go from September? This is one of the
- 10 places we go. And so that's what we're putting out
- 11 there for discussion today.
- 12 Wendy, anything more you want to say about
- 13 that?
- 14 MS. RHEIN: Just a couple of things. The
- 15 first item is, we really would like this group to be
- 16 active. We would like to be able to call on them to
- 17 speak at potential regional events or to audiences
- 18 that, right now, LSC may not have as ready access to,
- 19 whether that's chamber of commerce groups, business
- 20 councils, other things, other avenues that are not
- 21 necessarily first thought of for LSC to be a primary
- 22 speaker.

- 1 And also, on a procedural note, for this
- 2 particular meeting we would like you all to discuss the
- 3 concept of the leadership council, and also if you have
- 4 any comments or thoughts around the process of
- 5 nominating people, terms, those items. And then it
- 6 will be presented to the full Board for action in
- 7 January because this is a committee that the Board
- 8 would need to approve as a whole.
- 9 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Yes.
- 10 MS. RHEIN: That's all I had to say.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Comments? Questions? Views?
- 12 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: This is Gloria. I
- 13 was looking at the proposed nomination form, and I was
- 14 wondering -- we're having individuals nominated by
- 15 somebody. And I was wondering if we wanted to ask the
- 16 nominator to perhaps give us some idea of other people
- 17 who know the person being nominated. We would call
- 18 them references or I don't know what I think --
- 19 recommender, or people who may know about this person
- 20 being nominated.
- 21 MS. RHEIN: That's a great idea, Gloria.
- 22 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: So if whoever does

- 1 the nomination could provide name, basic contact
- 2 information about this stellar individual's history and
- 3 background, that would be helpful to the screening that
- 4 does result.
- 5 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, I guess we could say
- 6 that with some of these folks, so many of them are
- 7 known to us already, I guess the issue would be with
- 8 respect to those that aren't.
- 9 MR. GARTEN: Herb Garten speaking. I think an
- 10 initial appeal to those people that were present in
- 11 Washington and in New York and participated in the
- 12 conferences, the counsel to these corporations that
- 13 were involved and the speakers from the various law
- 14 schools, I would think that the initial approach to
- 15 these people could refer to their participation in the
- 16 40th anniversary, and advise them that as a result of
- 17 much discussion and request, we would like them to be
- 18 involved further in LSC activities, and ask them to be
- 19 willing to come on as a member of this group.
- 20 And I think we'd get a good percentage of
- 21 those people, if it's handled well and the personal
- 22 contacts are made, to get them to join us. And they

- 1 are all people who are very interested in legal
- 2 services.
- 3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I don't know that what Gloria
- 4 is talking about, and I agree with her, is that you
- 5 want to have some paragraph description of who each
- 6 person is. We're doing this seriously. We hope they
- 7 take it seriously. And because of our role on behalf
- 8 of Congress and our own oaths, we want to make sure
- 9 that we take seriously any position that we offer to
- 10 somebody.
- 11 So I think that's the spirit in which you're
- 12 suggesting it, Gloria.
- 13 PROFESSOR VALENCIA-WEBER: Yes.
- 14 MS. RHEIN: John, this is Wendy. Just so you
- 15 all know, for our thought, the process would be that we
- 16 would create a template form that would address these
- 17 particular questions and provide you all with basically
- 18 a vetting document, a little background piece on each
- 19 particular nominee.
- Whenever throughout the course of the next few
- 21 years you wanted to add people or names are suggested,
- 22 you'd have a document providing the same information

- 1 for each individual so that you would have something to
- 2 refer to.
- 3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: The other thing I wanted to
- 4 say, so I think that's a good point that we want to
- 5 have a staggered one, two, and three years here. The
- 6 thinking here is, okay, three years, at least it'll
- 7 exist after we leave, but that if we have, say, a
- 8 hundred, that in any one year you wouldn't have a
- 9 wholesale turnover and that we could have staggered
- 10 three-year terms, basically, rolling forward.
- 11 And people can be renewed. This is honorific,
- 12 largely. I don't think there should be term limits. I
- 13 can't remember whether this draft has them or not. I'm
- 14 not a fan of term limits for something like this.
- 15 But the thinking here is that we would be
- 16 trying to have a diverse, geographically wide,
- 17 representatives of the various constituents -- not
- 18 constituents; that's not the right word -- but of those
- 19 who are significantly interested in these issues. For
- 20 example, the Plaintiffs' Bar was not well represented
- 21 at the 40th, but it probably does need to have some
- 22 folks in this group.

- In any event, that's what we're thinking about
- 2 here, is staggering the terms. The structure we can
- 3 tweak here and there, but I thought it was a reasonable
- 4 start on the idea.
- 5 Any other comments? Questions? Observations?
- 6 MS. REISKIN: This is Julie. I think it looks
- 7 fantastic, and it'll be a really good way to help.
- 8 Hopefully we can get a lot of people, like in the
- 9 communications industry or any industry that has access
- 10 to large numbers of citizens. And I just think it's
- 11 awesome. I love it.
- 12 MR. GREY: John, this is Robert. I echo the
- 13 comments of my colleagues. I would also recommend that
- 14 where we've got the stated purpose, authority,
- 15 structure, composition, selection process, that we
- 16 start this with a preamble or some background that
- 17 gives it context and what I would consider some organic
- 18 growth.
- 19 We just didn't pluck this out of thin air.
- 20 This was the result of a lot of relationship-building
- 21 and networking that we did in support of the 40th that
- 22 caused us to believe that there was significant

- 1 interest in the community, and this was a way of
- 2 allowing people to express their support.
- 3 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I think that's a great
- 4 thought.
- Wendy, do you need any kind of action here
- 6 today?
- 7 MS. RHEIN: We do not need any action. We'll
- 8 make the tweaks to this document, and it'll be
- 9 available for the full Board for the January meeting
- 10 for them to approve.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LEVI: But the issue is that if we're
- 12 -- this is the timing issue. Then we can start to talk
- 13 informally to a couple of possible co-chairs of it, or
- 14 do we have to wait till January? Because the question
- is, these are very busy people, and will we get them
- 16 there in April?
- 17 MS. RHEIN: Yes. I agree that it's definitely
- 18 a timing issue. However, Atitaya is telling me that we
- 19 have to wait to invite people formally until the
- 20 January meeting.
- 21 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I understand what Atitaya's
- 22 saying. asked a different question.

- 1 MS. ROK: Well, the issue is, this needs to be
- 2 approved by the Board before anyone can be invited to
- 3 become a member.
- 4 CHAIRMAN LEVI: But they can be informally
- 5 felt out as to whether -- that if the sense of this
- 6 Committee is that it's going to recommend it to the
- 7 Board, as it gets finalized --
- 8 MS. REISKIN: Can't we have a Board telephone
- 9 meeting just to do this before January?
- 10 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Maybe.
- MS. REISKIN: Like a 15-minute meeting?
- 12 CHAIRMAN LEVI: The problem is noticing, and
- 13 it still will be in January. I don't want to be
- 14 embarrassed. But at the same time, I think you could
- informally talk with someone and say, look. We're
- 16 thinking of doing this. If we are able to get this
- 17 through, would you be available to be on it or help us
- 18 with --
- 19 MS. ROK: John, this is Atitaya. Another
- 20 option we have is to do a notational vote, send it up
- 21 to the Board for a notational vote, before the January
- 22 meeting.

- 1 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I understand. I don't know if
- 2 that's a good idea.
- MR. GREY: Yes. John, I was --
- 4 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I don't like that.
- 5 MR. GREY: Hey, John?
- 6 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Yes. I don't want a
- 7 notational. Yes?
- 8 MR. GREY: Let me offer this. I think if we
- 9 do this right, it will be of sufficient stature that I
- 10 don't know that you need to jump that far ahead of
- 11 everything. I like the idea that you have always
- 12 brought the Board along, even with the idea of choosing
- 13 and inviting leadership to participate, and it just
- 14 feels to me like we've got the cart in front of the
- 15 horse a little bit.
- I think January is soon enough, even with the
- 17 leadership side of it, because I can't tell you that I
- 18 am excited about two co-chairs in this situation. I
- 19 like a chair, something like that. But I'd like to
- 20 talk about it a little bit and just understand why
- 21 we're thinking the way we are.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Any other comments or

- 1 suggestions?
- 2 MR. GARTEN: This is Herb again. My point
- 3 was, I'd like to build on the relationships, some of
- 4 them very remarkable, with people that I've known
- 5 around the world who in one case expressed to me
- 6 personally the interest in what we were doing. And
- 7 that was the general counsel of Exelon, of the company
- 8 that's coming here to Baltimore -- it's here already --
- 9 who purchased Baltimore Gas & Electric and also Pepco,
- 10 the Washington, D.C. utility.
- 11 So if you have people like that, or David
- 12 Rubenstein of Carlyle Group, who participated, if they
- 13 got a call from Martha, who was the moderator of one of
- 14 the panels that Rubenstein was on, for example, about
- 15 continuing their interest and finding out whether
- 16 they'd even be interested in taking a leadership role
- 17 as chair of this new entity that's being sponsored by
- 18 Legal Services, they know who we are now. They
- 19 participated in it. They certainly expected a followup
- 20 on this. And to me, that would be the initial way of
- 21 moving forward.
- 22 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Right. Well, that's what we

- 1 envision. I'm just trying to get moving ahead here and
- 2 not let six weeks more for busy people stand in the way
- of their scheduling and say, "Oh, my goodness. I
- 4 didn't know there was going to be something in April.
- 5 I wish you'd told me six weeks ago." That's all.
- 6 MR. KORRELL: John, this is Harry. I'm not on
- 7 this Committee, but I think my interest was piqued when
- 8 I saw the agenda and the notation that we would be
- 9 talking about something called an LSC Leadership
- 10 Council. I think, and I'm sure everyone's aware, but I
- 11 think we need to proceed pretty cautiously.
- 12 I'm not saying we shouldn't do it. But we
- 13 need to proceed cautiously in being public about
- 14 identifying a group of non-appointed, non-confirmed
- 15 folks who are going to be identified as LSC leaders.
- 16 It piqued my interest enough, I suspect that if other
- 17 Board members take a look at the agenda and see this
- 18 topic, they're going to want to be interested, too.
- 19 It's not a big concern, but I just think we
- 20 need to step pretty carefully, particularly with
- 21 respect to our relationship with Congress, in
- 22 identifying a group of people that neither the

- 1 President nor the Congress has any vetting role in that
- 2 we're going to hold out as being in some sort of
- 3 official LSC leadership capacity.
- 4 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Well, I think that's a good
- 5 point, Harry. And I think if you look at the structure
- of the document and its role, it's largely honorific.
- 7 MR. KORRELL: Yes. And I don't disagree that
- 8 it's ultimately a good thing and it's ultimately
- 9 appropriate. I just think it's the kind of thing that
- 10 people are going to want to be reassured about.
- 11 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Sure. Any other comments or
- 12 suggestions on that?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay. Is there an update on
- 15 development activities?
- 16 MS. RHEIN: Just very quickly, I wanted to
- 17 just let you all know what we're up to for the year
- 18 end. We're pursuing sponsorships for the TIG
- 19 conference and exhibitors for the TIG conference.
- I've been in discussions with Jim and with
- 21 John about doing LSC's first year-end appeal to
- 22 individuals, those that attended the conference that

- 1 we've invited, not our grantees but others, those that
- 2 have joined the LSC 40. There's an email listserv that
- 3 people can join when they requested more information.
- 4 So it won't be a large appeal letter, but it
- 5 will be something that we're going to pursue in the
- 6 next couple of weeks. If you think of anyone that you
- 7 would like us to send a letter to or you would like to
- 8 sign a letter to someone asking them to make a
- 9 contribution or to consider LSC in their year-end
- 10 giving, please let me know.
- 11 And we're working on closing out the pledge
- 12 contributions for this year, making sure that everyone
- 13 has appropriate invoices and that we're tracking to
- 14 have all the funds collected by the beginning of
- 15 January for 2014. And that was it.
- 16 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I have to say, as a person who
- 17 spends a fair amount of time doing development work for
- 18 other organizations, I thought the audit letter that
- 19 went out was not exactly warm and fuzzy. And I wonder
- 20 if in the future we can't have a conversation with our
- 21 auditors, if they're going to send out, in a sense, a
- 22 pledge confirmation letter at year-end, that it could

- 1 be just a little more thankful. Gracious.
- MS. RHEIN: So that everyone else is aware, we
- 3 are working very closely with the LSC auditors this
- 4 year because this is the first time we've done
- 5 development work. I've spent a lot of time with them
- 6 clarifying what we're raising the money for, what the
- 7 process is, how we're acknowledging contributions, a
- 8 whole host of things.
- 9 And one of the things that they asked for was
- 10 for us to send a letter to mostly the institutional
- 11 pledge organizations, so the law firms and a few
- 12 individuals that had made multi-year pledges.
- 13 Basically they're asking that individual or entity to
- 14 verify their pledge to LSC.
- 15 We provided them with all of our documentation
- 16 of the pledges, but they wanted the individual entities
- 17 to confirm as well. So that's the letter that John is
- 18 referring to.
- 19 CHAIRMAN LEVI: I'm sure some of you got them.
- 20 Anyway, okay. Is the money coming in as it's
- 21 scheduled to come in?

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             MS. RHEIN: Absolutely. The money is coming
    in as it's scheduled to come in. We at this point only
2
    have about $64,000 in receivables for 2014. So we're
3
    doing fine.
4
5
             MR. GREY: Pretty good.
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             CHAIRMAN LEVI: Any other comments or
7
    questions for Wendy on that?
             MR. GREY: Job well done.
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9
             CHAIRMAN LEVI: Yes.
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             MS. RHEIN: Thank you, Robert.
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             CHAIRMAN LEVI: Public comment?
12
             (No response.)
             CHAIRMAN LEVI: Consider and act on other
13
    business?
14
15
             (No response.)
16
             CHAIRMAN LEVI: Okay.
             (Whereupon, at 5:01 p.m., the Committee was
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    adjourned to executive session.)
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