Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the
Members of the American Bar Endowment
August 3, 2020

I. Call to Order

Pursuant to notice published in the ABA Journal, American Bar Endowment President, Stephen N. Zack called the 2020 Annual Meeting of Members of the American Bar Endowment to order at 1:00 p.m. Central on August 3, 2020 by video conference as the ABA’s Annual Meeting was held virtually due to concerns regarding COVID-19.

Mr. Zack acknowledged that the required quorum of 50 members was present and proceeded with the first order of business which was the approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting of Members which took place on August 12, 2019 in San Francisco, CA. He noted that at the 2019 Annual Meeting, a report on the affairs of the Endowment had been delivered and the Members had elected Howard H. Vogel, of Knoxville, Tennessee and Tommy D. Preston, Jr. of North Charleston, South Carolina to five-year terms on the Board of Directors of the American Bar Endowment.

Mr. Zack indicated that it would be in order to entertain a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the 2019 Meeting and to approve them. Upon motion made and seconded, the Members voted to waive the reading of the minutes and approved the minutes of the 2019 Meeting of Members of the American Bar Endowment without amendment.

II. Election of Directors

The next item of business before the Members was the election of two Directors. The members of the Nominating Committee were: William R. Bay, Chair of the ABA House of Delegates; Robert A. Carlson, ABA Immediate Past President; Carolyn B. Lamm, Vice President of the ABE; and himself as President of the ABE.

The Nominating Committee unanimously recommended that Hilarie Bass, of Miami, Florida, and Michelle A. Behnke, of Madison Wisconsin be elected to five-year terms on the Board of Directors of the American Bar Endowment. The slate of nominees had been approved by the Board of Directors of the ABE and by the Board of Governors of the ABA as required by the ABE bylaws. Upon motion made and seconded, the slate recommended by the Nominating Committee was unanimously elected as submitted. Ms. Behnke abstained from the vote.

III. Other Matters

Mr. Zack then commented on the ABE grants, noting that over its history the ABE has made grants of over $300 million to date, primarily in support of the research program at the American Bar Foundation and the projects and programs funded through the ABA’s Fund for Justice and Education. He also described the ABE’s new Opportunity Grants program which was now in its fifth grant cycle. This program makes small grants to support new, innovative boots-on-the-ground efforts to effect more efficient delivery of legal services to underserved
communities. An example of the projects supported through this program is the development of a pilot service model in Broward County, Florida by Coast to Coast Legal Aid which includes mobile service deliver to elderly individuals who are isolated or homebound due to reasons of geography, disability, income, language, culture, or residential setting. Another example is the purchase and equipping of a van used to provide legal services to rural counties in Kentucky.

IV. Adjournment

Mr. Zack asked if there were any other matters to come before the Members or if any of the Members had any questions. Hearing none, he declared the 2020 Annual Meeting of Members adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Howard H. Vogel, Secretary