



## ANNUAL REPORT

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By: Thomas Waffenschmidt

The LLA Foundation provides the following report for 2017 which describes the activities and accomplishments of the Foundation during the year:

The Annual Meeting was held on January 9, 2017. The Foundation also held additional meetings on January 27, April 27, July 28 and October 27, 2017.

As you all know the proper procedure for the Foundation to review and approve any grants is by making an initial application and grant request to the Community Outreach and Activities Committee. This committee then reviews the grant request and where appropriate meets with the applicant and obtains any and all information necessary for them to make a recommendation. The committee makes a recommendation for or against approval of a grant request. After that the request is forwarded to the Foundation Board for its review at the next scheduled quarterly meeting. Although this procedure was not followed by the Wills for Heroes coordinators, the Foundation did approve their informal \$600.00 grant request. The \$600.00 was to be used primarily for the cost of the CLE credits for the lawyers who volunteered and a "thank you ad" for the sponsors and attorney volunteers that published in the Sun Gazette after the event.

The Foundation also received a grant request from Lycoming College and Lycoming County Court with regard to the Elder Abuse Task Force. However, the Outreach Committee and the Foundation Board had numerous questions and concerns which were not immediately quelled. As such the applicants were invited to re-submit their grant application with additional information. To date, said applicants have not re-submitted their grant request.

It was also noted that the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lycoming Law Association will take place in 2019. Plans are underway to commemorate the occasion and it is anticipated that there will be numerous grant requests related to this anniversary.

In 2017 arbitration fees resulted in a contribution of \$10,600 to the Foundation. The Foundation in turn provided \$8,240 to North Penn Legal Services.

Financially the assets of the Foundation continue to grow as market conditions were favorable and grants requests minimal. As a result the board has started to discuss ways to identify and encourage organizations to make grant requests so as to increase the amount of contributions that the Foundation can make to the community. In the past the Foundation has been relatively passive in awaiting the request for grants and it is believed that a more active approach in identifying and encouraging worthy causes, organization and projects will result in more grants being approved in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Waffenschmidt