

MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2018

The Practice of Law Board (PLB) met on February 15, 2018 at the Office of the Washington State Bar Association. PLB members attending were: Hon. Paul Bastine, ret., Chair, Trena Berton, Michele Carney, Brooks Goode, Andre Lang, Amber Rush, Gary Swearingen, Jennifer Unger, and Doug Walsh. Michelle Lucas, ATJ Board Liaison; Eli Marchbanks, Sherry Lindner, OGC Paralegal; and Julie Shankland, Assistant General Counsel, also attended. Julie Shankland acted as secretary for the Board.

Public Session

Minutes

The minutes were approved by consensus.

Legal Health Check Up

The Board reviewed the comments received on the draft “two pager” and made changes to the language. The Board also commented that the resources included in the draft probably do send people to the right places. The Board also discussed how to focus the document and questions to avoid overwhelming users.

WSBA Executive Director, Paula Littlewood suggested that the Board use a consumer lens and keep the process moving, so a document can be distributed as soon as possible. She also updated the Board on WSBA’s continuing efforts to find a developer to create the Legal Health Check Up app. She also explained that WSBA is working on an “opt-in” directory for members that will tie in with the Legal Health Check Up ideas and resources.

The Board decided on these next steps for the Legal Health Check Up project:

1. Reform the questions so that a “yes” answer always means the user may have a legal issue.
2. Decide on the right amount of questions and topics (avoid overwhelming a user, avoid mission creep and maximize usefulness)
3. Continue to work on separate resources document.

Updates

MentorLink Mixer: Paul Bastine and Julie Shankland attended the MentorLink Mixer event at the WSBA Offices. This was an event held over the lunch hour intended to introduce lawyers involved in the mentorship program to the volunteer opportunities available through WSBA programs and WSBA administered court programs.

The online application process is now open. Board members whose terms end in 2018 and are interested in reappointment, should apply. Board members should encourage others to apply.



The Board's annual meeting with the Supreme Court is scheduled for **April 5, 2018 from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm**. The Board will meet at the Temple of Justice in Olympia at noon and lunch will be on your own.

Consideration of GR 24 Amendments to authorize web-based document preparation services while protecting the public.

The Board discussed the concept paper drafted by Doug Walsh

Practice of Law Board Regulations

The Board discussed whether to ask the Court to rescind the current Regulations because they are inconsistent with the recommended GR 25 and the Court's July 2015 Order. Most of the concepts currently in the Regulations were included in the recommended changes to GR 25. The Recommended changes to GR 25 permits the Board to draft new Regulations for court approval, if the Board determines this is necessary. A motion was made to ask the Court to rescind the current Practice of Law Board Regulations when it considers the suggested changes to GR 25. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered executive session to deliberate on unauthorized practice of law complaints.

Executive Session Ended.

The meeting was adjourned.

