**PRO BONO AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE**
**August 9th, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Bonnie Rosinbum, Michael Addams, Erin Fortney, Deborah Perluss, Jacqui Merrill Martin, Yuan Ting, Tacy Gillespie

WSBA Staff: Nicholas Mejía, Saleena Salango

BOG Liaison: Matthew Dresden

ATJ Liaison: Esperanza Borboa

Absent: Thuy Nguyen, Ritu Jain, Natalie Reber, David Weafer, Sandy Garcia

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m.

**July Meeting Minutes**

On motion to approve minutes from Jacqui Martin, seconded by Bonnie Rosinbum, July meeting minutes were approved.

**Subcommittee Updates**

*Communications Subcommittee:* David Weafer is writing an article for the Bar News. Members are welcome to provide additional ideas for upcoming publications by contacting the Communications Subcommittee.  The subcommittee spoke to Sam Harden from Pro Bono Net about activating the cases and opportunities features on Pro Bono WA. Michael and Saleena are Mike/Saleena are speaking to community organizations that use Legal Server to test a beta feature that posts anonymized case information automatically. Jacqui and Ritu are working on welcome guide for new members; please email a photo and short bio.

*Rules and Policy Subcommittee:* The committee has no updates as they suspended meetings during the summer months. They intend to continue meetings this September.

*CLE Subcommittee*: Erin Fortney reported that the CLE subcommittee is on track with the October Legal LunchBox that centers on domestic violence protection orders.

**Proposed Rule Change to APR 1(e)(8) – QLSP Eligibility**

Michael Addams met with Beatrice Lucas from the Office of Military and Veteran Legal Aid housed in the Attorney General’s Office, discussed the challenges that not having the QLSP status. They are not so interested in having the status, but more so of having the benefits that come along with it. They are looking to having the same function and same status.

The pro bono status attorney cannot practice law outside of volunteering with a QLSP. Clients that go through a QLSP can qualify for a GR 34 fee waiver.

Members shared concerns with the proposed language in the is the term “government entity” is very broad and can lead to unforeseen consequences.

Matthew Dresden suggested that the rule change is not quite ready to bring to the BOG, especially given that this expansion is meant only to benefit OMVLA.  Deborah Perluss stated that the committee may be interested but need to further investigate how to address this rule change, and suggested the committee approve the rule change to help promote pro bono, which is part of our committee’s mission.

**ATJ Liaison Updates**
Esperanza Borboa shared that the ATJ Board is planning for the 2023 Access to Justice Conference. The conference committee is planning for it to be in person in Tacoma but may incorporate some virtual elements for a hybrid conference. The ATJ Conference planning committee will potentially be reaching out to the tribes to have a reception at a tribal center or a casino to incorporate them in a conversation.

The ATJ Board is also bringing on four new board members. 75% of people that applied to be on the ATJ Board were people of color, a first for the board.

**BOG Liaison Update**
Matthew Dresden shared that the bar structure study, ETHOS, is coming to the end. The BOG’s recommendation will be to keep the bar structure the same, or nearly the same. There may be dissenting opinions that will be written up. The next ETHOS meeting will occur Saturday August 13th.

District 8’s BOG position will be opening up soon and will be appointed by the BOG. The Diversity Committee is now the DEI Council. The definition of diversity is being updated by the DEI Council.

Regular meeting adjourned 2:00 p.m. Strategic planning session occurred directly after the meeting.

**Strategic Planning Session**

Bonnie Rosinbum and Michael Addams encouraged any member of PBPSC to be a part of the large strategic planning meeting, although it is not a committee meeting and therefore quorum is not required. The chair of the subcommittee or someone they delegate should attend that meeting. The meetings will occur once in March/April and once at the end of each fiscal year in August/September directly after the regular committee meetings.

Community engagement plan: The co-chairs will review the various projects outlined in the community engagement plan to guide the Committee’s work over the next year. The projects outlined are not binding but intended to be suggestions for projects to consider over the years.