



Dispute Resolution Section

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Ste. 600
Seattle, WA 98101-2539

2021-2022 Executive Committee

Courtland Shafer, Chair
Mel Simburg, Past Chair
(open), Vice Chair
Lauren Novack, Treasurer
Dee Knapp, Secretary

Kyle Berti, Young Lawyer Liaison

Alan Alhadeff
Chris Casillas
Carol Betts
Melissa Fuller
Lish Whitson
Paula Emery
Bob Oberstein

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA MINUTES

November 18, 2022

12:00pm – 1:30pm PST

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82282323088?pwd=Nnp1Z3oraTgwS2FDVIA2Vk1yZG01UT09>

Passcode: 12345

Present: Dee Knapp, Carol Betts, Courtland Shafer, Mel Simburg, Lauren Novak, Alan Alhadeff, Bob Oberstein (Quorum present)

I. Approval of the minutes:

Motion to approve the October meeting minutes, Carol abstained. Motion passed.

II. Follow Up on Retreat

- a. NW DR Conference—Chris is having a meeting with Alan and Christine at the UW
- b. Courtland has a list of members by county and can get a list of Section officers. Carol asked about email lists for the section members.

III. Treasurer's Report: Lauren has nothing to report because the Bar is behind a couple of months on financials.

IV. CLE Update:

- a. Mel was present at the Collaborative Law CLE. Mary did a great job. Everyone enjoyed it. Mel suggested a follow up in 2023 on things like "What Does the Agreement Look Like" "Ethical Issues" etc.
- b. Carol and Joanna have been discussing a CLE to be put on in June or July on early family mediation.

V. Legislative Update: Paul sent an email update—legislative affairs—Courtland read the email to the group.

VI. Outreach Efforts:

- a. Everyone should post once a month to listserv or social media
- b. Lexology offer. Mel reported that it was sent to Members; recommend ExCom try out for a while.

VII. Committee Reports:

- a. **NWDRC** (Lish, Craig, Melissa) **No report**
- b. **Northwest Collaborative Futures Conference:** Will the section express interest in participating in the next Collaborative Futures Conference? Someone was going to contact the person in Canada—Melissa?
- c. **Legislation & Public Policy** (see above)

Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices of ADR

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- d. **Professional Development & Membership:** Alan will be here for another year. He's noticed a lack of enthusiasm in every topic to date. At the retreat he made a commitment to come up with a questionnaire with the idea that one person would talk to each member. There was enthusiasm in the early days around certain topics—now there is some around collaborative law. We need exciting topics and more structure than sending out a meeting notice. One topic there is some enthusiasm for is developing billable hours for our members. Something we can actually get some benefit from. What he got from the WMA meeting is that the volunteer model is not sustainable. We should embark on a real effort to find out what our members really want, but connecting through sections just doesn't seem to work. Instead connect through the people we already know. Collaborative Law (CL) conference had 500 people—a great deal of enthusiasm there. How do we embrace them and connect with them?? Carol said that every CL practitioner is a mediator and the CLE was successful because it was free. Whatever we do, it should be as low a cost as possible. Alan thinks we should talk to the presenters who were enthusiastic to see what they think we should do next and combine it with an invitation to join our section. We should get a list of the attendees. Courtland agreed to do that and will also ask for the feedback comments. People need professional recognition or some other reward for doing what they're doing. Find out what people want to learn and what they're open to learning. Lauren is happy to offer a CLE on using mediation to resolve housing issues. Mel offered to follow up on the people who went to the CL conference and to work with Alan to see if we can get CL people more active in our section. Courtland has already sent out a request.
- e. **CLE development** (See above.)
- f. **Academic Partnerships** Dee-- Bob was a judge for the SU in-house Mediation Competition, helped with coaching the Regional Negotiation Competition. Melissa is helping with the Client Competition. Prep for the Regional Mediation Competition will start after the first of the year.
- VIII. **Other:** Message from WSBA--we need to update our website with an explanation about new name and consider an article for the Bar News talking about our new name and why we changed it. Dee will send Courtland a copy of the memo that was sent to the Bar with the explanations. Carol McGregor sent a new logo. Courtland will take care of putting it on the website and putting something in the Bar News.

1:30: Adjourn