

ALS Annual Meeting Notes 1.20.17

The meeting started at 2 pm and was held on the third floor of the Safeco building in Seattle, WA.

Present in person:

Taylor Rork

Brandyn Miller

Adam Karp

Wynn Kerr

Gemma Zanowski

Kim Thornton

Jessica ?

Joe Terrenzio (WSBA)

Several members on the phone who unfortunately were disconnected partway through the meeting.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and introductions were done.
- 2) ALS Input on Legislative Bills
 - a. Kim informed the Section that when a bill is presented to the committee, they need 75% of the executive committee's vote within 24 hours.
 - b. Last year, we did not participate in the process. However, now we have Kim on the excomm and she lives in Olympia. She nominated herself to be in charge of researching a bill's history and making a recommendation to the excomm. Once the excomm decides, Kim will respond to the bar. Kim is willing to attend hearings in Olympia. The committee did not put to vote whether Kim should take this role, but we all agreed unanimously to take her up on her nice offer.
- 3) Budget
 - a. We spoke regarding the budget with Joe from WSBA. We discussed whether executive committee members could be flown (i.e. Sara and Danny) to annual meetings, the Summit, etc. After much discussion, Joe said that he would look into the WSBA policy and get back to the committee.
 - b. Joe informed the Section that we can go \$1000 or 25% over our budget (adding up to \$1800) without needing additional permission from the bar. This pertains to the Summit, etc.
- 4) Licensure Changes
 - a. Kim went over the history of the WSBA licensure fee and other changes to the section bylaws.
 - i. We now have an increased number of members required per section.
 - ii. There is a new section on dues (according to Joe, this simply formalizes the fees that were already enumerated).
 - iii. There is no limit on terms (unless stated in the Section's bylaws).
 - iv. ALL SECTIONS NEED NEW BYLAWS – but not necessarily until 2018. Brandyn volunteered to work on this project.
 - v. New term will be from March-May. We don't need a new election until next year.
 - vi. We need 75 members or we are not considered viable. All agreed that we should remain viable as we have more than 100 members currently.
 - b. Joe went over a few things that will not change:

- i. Our reserves do not go to the WSBA general account.
 - ii. Section dues will not be set by the BOG.
 - iii. Meetings will not be open to the public.
 - c. License fees went up to \$\$385 (from \$325). That number will increase.
 - i. A referendum petition was circulated.
 - ii. The Supreme Court made a confusing sua sponte decision and the BOG is now arguing that this decision means their proposed licensure fees are reasonable. Chaos ensues.
- 5) We need a technologically savvy person to be a point person for the website.
 - a. Gemma volunteered as tribute. She will work with Joe on keeping the website updated.
- 6) Mini-CLES
 - a. They are 1-1 ½ hours long, free to members. The section went over possible topics including:
 - i. Pet trusts. Sandra Lee Perkins from the Seattle Humane Society could speak.
 - 1. We could co-sponsor with Elder Law Section.
 - ii. Insurance CLE. Could have someone from Jarvis Insurance speak or Julie Fiestman.
 - iii. Animal Custody/Custody Replevins. Gemma could present.
 - 1. Can possibly co-chair with a WSAJ roundtable.
 - iv. Uberization of Animal Care. i.e. Rover.com
 - v. Establishing a 501(c)(3).
 - b. Ultimately, we decided that we like the idea of doing a ½ day CLE on Insurance law topics. We also decided to do a mini-CLE on pet trusts and one on Animal Custody.
- 7) Member Appreciation Party
 - a. Wynn is our party planner. We discussed doing another movie/appreciation night at the Fremont Theatre.
 - i. Under the new rules, we cannot have alcohol paid for by section funds, but WSBA will pay for a bartender.
 - b. We would like to do a 1 hour CLE on the use of shelter pets as policy dogs/companion dogs/courtroom dogs. Then we could show the documentary. We could have vegan food catered.
- 8) Summit – Adam
 - a. Adam went over the history of the past few years of the Summit.
 - b. This year, the Summit will be held in Chicago, likely on August 17-18.
 - c. We'd like to send Adam either as ID delegate or WA. Then, maybe we can send another speaker as well. Several excomm members noted that they will attend the Summit in any case.
 - d. Joe from WSBA informed us that we need treasurer approval to send additional people. WSBA will reimburse for reasonable flight, incidental travel expenses, and up to the conference rate for hotel.
 - e. All agreed that if we can only send one delegate, it should be Adam. This was not put to formal vote.
- 9) Lorrie Elliott Scholarship
 - a. All agreed that we should use the \$250 for a law student to attend a CLE.
- 10) Other
 - a. Discussed the possibility of Adam and Sara doing an ID/WA CLE.
 - b. Our next meeting will be Feb 21 at 3-4 pm.