

WSBA CONSTRUCTION LAW SECTION MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: WED JANUARY 8, 2025 @ TIME: 11:55 AM*¹

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81091175775?pwd=FiazvieTX2Yohl3NCGfEd2sePwzOKa.1>

Meeting ID: 810 9117 5775

Passcode: 295521

AGENDA

No.	What	Who	Additional
1	Welcome	Seth	> Via Zoom only > Approve December Minutes (<i>attached</i>)
<i>Minutes? Motion to approve by M. Yamada – E. Varriano seconds. Approved.</i>			
2	Course Book & midyear	Ron English	Discuss status of midyear (hosting, topics, etc.). See attached. Co-Chair Status – Millstein / Brown / In-house at host
<i>No report on course book.</i>			
<i>CLE – there are five presentations that need presenters. Change Order Revolution (B. Reed reports he was going to join B. Sinner for this re: disparate interests; thinks M. Yamada to take on GCs, and B. Sinner to take on the role of subcontractors. It’s possible that this one could be expanded in time); Emerging Risks in Construction (Jury Expert and Trial Logistics Expert? S. Millstein asks M. Yamada to reach out to past consultants – maybe call Jury Pool Psychology and Technology? Presenters may have variation on topic); the Future of Construction Contracts (R. Gilchrist says Seyfarth would be happy to take this one on. B. Reed suggests this could be a one-hour presentation from 2-3pm. S. Millstein suggests possible AI involvement in drafting contracts. R. English: drop lien law to zero and find some way to work around the timing with the judges); Technology in Construction (S. Noel reports he’s heard back from presenter on AI topic; potential presenter is interested and is checking availability. Presenter is Tim Shay at Woods Smith); Ethics (Andrus has a conflict. S. Millstein will reach out to C. Soelling and R. Skalbana. S. Noel recommends David Bierman; B. Reed recommends Stew Cogan. R. English suggests giving C. Soelling the break he asked for until we don’t have other options.)</i>			
<i>R. Gilchrist says Seyfarth is willing to present on any topic and be the sponsoring firm.</i>			
<i>S. Millstein will co-host with R. English. P. Cressman will be there to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. R. English asks to keep this quiet and not let P. Cressman know; would like this to be a surprise.</i>			

3	Financial Report	Erin	>Erin to discuss if new info available.
<i>E. Varriano has no report – the financials from WSBA were not ready. C. MacGregor says we will have something for next meeting, and there will be an adjustment, which will be separated out this year.</i>			
4	Winter Event	Travis & Erin	>Summit – <i>no</i> for December 17. Possibly February. Thoughts on Aquarium / Overlook to waterfront? If so, logistics.
<i>B. Reed reached out to LMN Architects; initial inquiry was positive. Looking at March or April. Could revert back to Summit, if Aquarium does not work out. Social Committee to look into place afterwards once venue is set.</i>			
5	Subcommittees	Various	<u>Current Subcommittees</u> >Social: Erin & Travis
<i>No report. S. Millstein suggests a Thursday afternoon in August for a Happy Hour?</i>			
			>Law School: Travis & Rita - Leary, Noel & Park outreach - Rita to reach out to Etter
<i>M. Kutsin – no report. Meeting with M. Etter in the next couple of weeks? T. Colburn asks to be looped in on the Etter meeting.</i>			
			>Community Outreach and Charitable Activities: Seth & Bart -- All in for January at SF? -- Money for tiny home?

S. Millstein suggests considering school breaks, i.e., Mid-Winter and Spring. B. Reed thinks early March for the event. S. Millstein asks C. MacGregor about the process to purchase a tiny home. The home is approximately \$4.5k. C. MacGregor says there's a \$5k donation allotment in the budget, and the process is to vote, then work with C. MacGregor to get payment to charity. S. Millstein says a vote will be taken next meeting.

			> Newsletter: Evan
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E. Brown says he's almost ready for the next issue and wants to coordinate regarding promoting/publication. Will check in with M. Kutsin and C. Park when its ready. S. Millstein asks E. Brown to let him know when the newsletter is ready.

R. English suggest a save the date for the CLE.

5	Subcommittees	Various	<u>New Subcommittees</u> >Social Media? -- Park and Kutsin to follow up.
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M. Kutsin reports she met with C. Park about setting up a LinkedIn page for the section.

			>Others – Technology for EC – Travis.
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S. Millstein and T. Colburn will meet and discuss for next meeting.

6	Conclusion Good of the order	Seth	>New cases, clauses, comments?
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S. Millstein asks council members to reach out to folks that may have an interest in construction and the construction law section.

7	Special Guest	(12:50-1:00)	Interview with mystery past chair. Questions will be probing, targeted, and may include musical references
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Mystery guest is Colm Nelson.

Former chair of the counsel “a couple of turns ago.”

Remembers you get out what you put in. Getting to know people on the council personally was great to help ease litigation tensions with opposing counsels.

Thinks construction law market has cooled down; used to do a lot of transactional work in the multi-family space – but there were not a lot of starts.

Why construction law? Thought it was “the easiest path to world domination.” “Swung a

hammer” in law school. Was an intern at Barokus Martin; that led to Oles Morrison, then Foster, then Stoel. Always has been interested in construction.

Top two Tom Petty songs? S. Millstein says there are too many to pick. Says American Girl and Last Dance with Mary Jane. Says more of a Guns & Roses and Pearl Jam type of guy.

Fiction/Nonfiction? Doesn't read anymore. Reads the newspaper... On the soccer field or basketball court lately. S. Millstein says Colm needs to read more about soccer and recommends listening to Tom Petty's Wildflower tonight.

C. Nelsons says let him know if there is anything he can do to help out with the section.

ATTENDANCE

Members	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan ('25)	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Millstein	√	√	√*	√*					CLE		NA	
Sinner	√	√	√	Exc.					NA		NA	
Yamada	√	√	√*	√					NA		NA	
Colburn	√	√*	√*	√*					NA		NA	
Varriano	√	Exc.	√*	√*					NA		NA	
Brown	√	Exc.	√*	√					NA		NA	
Leary	√	√	√						NA		NA	
Young	√	√*	√*	√					NA		NA	
Noel	√	√*	√	√*					NA		NA	
Erler	√	√	Exc.	√					NA		NA	
Benson	√	√*	√*	Exc.					NA		NA	
Gilchrist	√	√*	Exc.	√					NA		NA	
Park	√	√	√						NA		NA	
Smith	√	Exc.	√	√					NA		NA	
Kutsin	√	√	√	√*					NA		NA	
Reed	√	√	√*	√*					NA		NA	
Others	C. MacGregor and R. English											

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