

Construction Law Section  
Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2016

Attendees:

Marisa Bavand (Chair)	John Evans
Rob Crick	Rick Wetmore
Bart Reed	Jennifer Beyerlein
Ron English	Athan Traumountanas
Colm Nelson	Bob Olson
Tom Wolfendale	Jason Piskel
Joe Terrenzio, WSBA	Sean Skillingstad, YLD Liaison
Daniel Burner	Diane Utz

The meeting commenced at 12:00 pm at the law offices of Short Cressman, and adjourned at about 1:00 p.m. Marisa Bavand chaired.

Discussion

1. Approval of September Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved as presented, except to note that Ron did not attend the October meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report: Jennifer reported that we are probably going to be above budget for this past year (i.e., made more than planned, and spent more than planned with a net increase in the balance). We agreed to split with the Oregon Bar the costs of the Vancouver CLE last week. We have no information yet on finances for that event.
3. Scholarship: Tom Wolfendale reported that all three law schools have the information about our official announcement. We are planning two activities to promote the competition for February. He asked for confirmation about the two events per law school, and asked for volunteers to help with contacts at local schools: Athan, Colm and Marissa volunteered. Rob Crick volunteered for Gonzaga. Marissa asked whether we should seek sponsors from contractors for funding the scholarship. The Council discussed whether to provide a prize for second and/or third place essays. The section has funds which could be used, if properly processed. The Council voted to award a second place prize of \$1,000, in addition to the first place prize of \$2,500.
4. Fall Forum: Marisa reported that the speaker from Sound Transit was fantastic. The food, venue, etc. was excellent, but only 8 people showed up. The Council discussed how to improve attendance: choice of speakers, topic, location, CLE credit, date. The new chair will have to address these issues next year.
5. Newsletter: Athan reported that we need someone to write a report on the Fall Forum. With a Chair's letter, it will be ready to go out.

6. Washington/Oregon CLE: Tom W. reported that we had 45 attendees, including several walkups with a total of nearly 70 people attending. Program went well, at a good venue and was well organized.
7. Winter Forum: Sean reported that he has a contact who might be a speaker from Vulcan to present on the Amazon campus at the Denny Regrade. This would be a panel who could talk about the Biosphere project. Bob asked about what the draw might be of such a topic.

Bob Olson talked about other topics, including e-discovery (Larry Johnson), such as the discovery in the Oso slide litigation, rule revisions regarding 'balance of interests'. It will probably be on Thursday, March 2, at Cutters, with the same arrangements as last year. The council decided to go with the e-discovery topic. Athan will include a notice of the date in the newsletter.

8. 2017 Midyear CLE: Jason reported that we have commitments from Paul Cressman and Chris Soelling. Jason will present the Legislative Update, with research support from Steve Goldblatt. The main theme will be statutory issues in construction. We have not narrowed down the scope to select particular topics yet. He asked for input; comments made include public contracting, state construction delivery methods (Janelle), liens (Karl Oles), delivery methods (Janelle), giving the seminar a private contracting focus, payment issues, and contractor registration. John Evans mentioned Vulcan's inside counsel as a potential speaker.

Ron asked for additional comments and topic suggestions, with the next 10 days.

9. Open Sections event: Jason reported on the event at Gonzaga. Jason and Janelle attended.
10. Construction Desk Book: Ron reported that we have about one-quarter of the chapters in. The editorial committee (Brett, Jennifer, Bob, John, Tom and Ron) will contact the authors for each chapter again to get commitments for submissions. We are still trying to meet a June publication date, but until we have the chapters in, it is difficult to estimate whether that can be achieved.

NEXT MEETING IS ON DECEMBER 7, 2016

AT SHORT CRESSMAN

**END OF MINUTES**