

Construction Law Section
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2016

Attendees:

Marisa Bavand (Chair)	John Evans
Rob Crick	Bart Reed
Ron English	Athan Tramountanas
Colm Nelson	Bob Olson
Tom Wolfendale	Jason Piskel
Brett Hill	Zak Tomlinson
Janelle Brennan	Amber Hardwick
Joe Scuderi	

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 November Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved as presented.
2. Treasurer's Report: Marisa reported that Jenniefer would not be attending, but there is nothing significant to report.
3. Scholarship: Brett reported that he and Amber attended the Seattle University pizza event and believes there will be 2-3 writers submitting papers as a result. Brett asked if we should open the competition up to first year students. The Council discussion was that perhaps first year students were not yet ready to write a quality submission, but we should revisit that question for next year. The question of whether to open the competition to regional (i.e., out of state) schools received the same reaction.
4. Newsletter: Athan reported that with the Chair's letter, it will be ready to go out.
5. Winter Forum: Bob reported that he is waiting for the WSBA to approve the contract with Cutters. The initial notice will go out in early January. Bob has talked to Larry Johnson about topics, and two seem good candidates: how to plan for e-discovery under the federal rules prior to litigation, and how to prepare a cost-effective discovery plan. He will likely talk about 60 minutes.
6. 2017 Midyear CLE: It will be held June 9. Ron reported that the speakers have confirmed for the case law update (Paul Cressman), legislative update (Jason Piskel), Ethics (Chris Soelling) and the judicial panel (Judge Andrus, Rogers and perhaps Erlick). That totals 3.25 hours and leaves about 3.5 hours to arrange, on the topics of Washington Statutes Affecting Construction. Speakers are proposed for (minutes in parentheses): public bidding (30), payments (40), liens and retainage (60), Chapter 39.04 RCW and other pertinent statutes

(30), statutes of repose, limitations (20), condominium issues (20) and bonds (20). Council members made a number of suggestions, including shortening the lien discussion, lengthening the judicial panel discussion, adding prevailing wages (Judd Lees), a discussion of bidder responsibility (Colm Nelson), and the no damages for delay statute. Ron and Jason will continue to refine the program.

7. Spring 2017 CLE: The Council discussed holding a CLE in the Tri-Cities in April. John Evans will contact Kerry Lawrence to discuss options.
8. Construction Desk Book: This item was not discussed during the meeting. However, Ron reported afterwards that we have nine of 26 chapters in, with more expected in the next 30-45 days. The Editorial Board continues to monitor the individual chapter authors.
9. CLE Fee Issue: The Council discussed the fees charged by WSBA for their participation in arranging a seminar, which include a percentage fee, service fees and profit sharing. No decision was reached.
10. New Business: None

NEXT MEETING IS ON JANUARY 11, 2016

AT SHORT CRESSMAN

END OF MINUTES