

**WSBA Civil Rights Law Section**  
**Minutes of Annual Retreat for 2016-2017 Program Year**  
**December 3, 2016, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM**  
**Location: ACLU of Washington, 901 5th Ave Ste. 630, Seattle, WA 98164-2086**

Present: Alec Stephens, Bridget, Kathleen Kline, Amy Kim, Kelli Schmidt, Sarah Derry, LaRond Baker, Julianne Unite, Kristi Cruz, Dan Gallagher  
Facilitator: Regina Glenn,

1. **Minutes from November 16 meeting reviewed:** Motion to approve minutes – Amy and Bridget abstain. **Approved.**
2. **Agenda Review** – Regina Glenn
3. **WSBA relationship to CRLS** – Kelli re: Section Leaders Toolbox – new expense report form. In the handouts. Blog post for NW lawyer. WSBA Comment Policy – Julianne – check in with the bar regarding whether appearing at community meetings in something we can get compensation for. Can't say we're speaking for the bar without prior approval but can say represent the CRLS. Kelli – re: legislative issues the BOG will tell us what we can say regarding the bar.
4. **Section history** – see the handout. The section has continued to grow. The webcast CLEs have been helpful. Is the section history on the website? Section support from bar – Julianne Unite is our support. Operational Rules – we used to meet on Fridays but moved to the Third Wednesday from 11:00-12:30. Not required to have minutes posted on website but do we want to anyway? Julianne- the need to be available upon request. Calendar widget on the bar calendar with section events. There's a stock message suggesting people call a section leader. Kelli will post to the Listserve the calendar of our meetings for members to attend. No meeting this month.
5. **Financial** – fiscal policies will be reviewed by Kelli and Bridget. WSBA dues increase and petition circulating to decrease dues from what is proposed.
6. **Will the CRL Section take position on petition to reduce dues?** Proposed action is to table this until the next meeting LaRond wants to discuss ... do we want to provide information? Kelli says let's get more information. Motion to table – second – approved,
7. **Do we want to change bar policy on reimbursement to section leaders?** Fiscal considerations pushed to January meeting including our current balance and how to recommend a change. Jan 18 11:00
8. Annual Report Issues/Update/Discussion
  - a. Next **BOG meeting** is January 26-7 in Spokane. Do we have issues to share/discuss. Alec – there was a sections policy work group that was established to address the BOG plan to attach section reserves. How can the bar do more to support the sections and bring them together? Some section leaders want to secede. **Meeting Wednesday at the 13 Coins. Alec will go to that.**

b. **Networking Opportunities?**

- **Do Open Sections Night.** What about another young lawyer meet-up? Yes. **Kathleen will put it together. For June.** Alcohol? Within WSBA guidelines
- **Next Annual meeting** will run in September. We now have 153 members, but can anticipate more with increased interest in civil rights issues.
- **Plan to reach out to other sections where overlap with civil rights issues. What organizations can we reach out to?** Minority bars, Legal Voice, Race and Equity, Disability, Gender. Washington state ethnic commissions. City of Seattle Office of Consumer Affairs. **Sarah said she would coordinate a list so that we can network and ally more effectively.**

Issues:

Race Equity – Ethnic Commissions  
Supreme Court Appointment  
LGBT  
Health  
Disability  
Gender

Strategies: (1) Clear parameters, (2) - 1 hour lunch cle on topical issues, & (3) more active on listserv

- c. **CLE – LaRond** – what about a one hour CLE on hot topics? Can we set it up in 30 days? Julianne – possibly. Typically takes about 6 weeks. \$35 charge if apply within 15 days of the event. Cosponsor with other organizations. Free. New email for committee members?
- d. **MLK statement?** Alec will do it. Alec gets draft to us by Dec 20<sup>th</sup> EC reviews it by December 30. Publish Jan 16. Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> is the deadline for bar review.
- e. **Legislative Subcommittee** – Kelli would like someone to pick up the legislative action subcommittee, because Nancy would like to step back and she/Kelli has to step up as Chair. Our issues for the 2017 Legislative Session are (1) Ban the Box (2) Voting Rights Act, and (3) Lowering the Standard for Police of Use of Deadly Force by dropping the requirement that malice be established. LaRond mentioned bill about peremptory challenges being barred where race could be seen as a cause for the peremptory. Agreed we will also consider new issues as they arise. **Kathleen volunteered to help with this and will attend the WSBA Legislative training December 12<sup>th</sup>.**
- f. **Communications / Newsletter** – Kelli – reviewing the report do we want to change direction at all? It is a lot of work and getting it out has been a challenge in the past. Shorten the newsletter or make it quarterly? Make more use of list serve? It was agreed we'd try to use the list serve more, but need Callie's input on this issue. Callie has historically done the newsletter, but she will be out for a few months on maternity leave. Sarah agreed to help out on this, but will need info on how to access computer program. Alec recommends a Newsletter committee. Traditionally annual. Kelli – maybe we should

go for quarterly? December, March, June, October. Yes! **Sarah leads and Callie maybe helps out. Will have hot topics as a standing agenda item and send out via e-blast or news flash. Julianne - Time-lines are in the section leaders toolbox,**

**g. CLE – 2 half-day - Discussion**

- **Bridget will work with Alec** towards a April or May CLE on police accountability. **Alec has a lineup of speakers** for possible cle on police accountability. Agenda for Police Accountability CLE: Speaker may be Jenny Dirken. **Bridget will work with Julianne on production issues like food, etc.**
- September CLE to correspond with annual meeting LaRond and Amy will help with production as well.

**h. Website Refresh?** New bar internal management website will roll out in March for bar. Content for website? **Dan will do it. Kelli will help.** Webinar is available.

**Other (agreed to stay over until 1:30 to finish conversation:**

- Kelli and Alec will obtain clear parameters from the BOG about GR 12 issues.
- Send out info for rights and resources. LaRond suggested we work as teams to push with information about CLEs, email blasts about issues, know your rights, etc.

**Closing: Regina:** Did today meet our expectations? Yes.