



Civil Rights Law Section

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Executive Committee Meeting

January 18, 2017

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM -

WSBA Office or Conference Call

1. **Welcome and attendance – Kelli – Participants include Kelli Schmidt, Dan Gallagher, Jodi Campbell (guest from A.G.’s Office), LaRond Baker, Bridget Shaw, Alec Stephens, Kathleen Kline, Julianne Unite, Amy Kim**
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2016, retreat – Dan – next time**
3. **Finance and Membership Update – Bridget and Kelli**
4. **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statement – see attached – Alec – revamped due to political concerns. Alec appreciates the feedback. Kelli – we received feedback internally suggesting to tone it down and also from the sections program manager, Paris, regarding comments about the upcoming inauguration and specific politicians raises GR-12.1 concerns.¹ Kelli agrees with Alec that we can’t wait until things happen to respond to them. Further conversations with WSBA regarding GR-12.1 concerns will happen. We did have positive responses about the statement and we will likely have input into a WSBA position statement about Japanese American internment. Julianne – regarding the meeting with WSBA she is trying to schedule for mid to end of Feb. Re: MLK Statement - Should we have it e-blasted to current members? Section or all of WSBA? Alec – is there any way to simply look at who would not have gotten it on the listserve? We should avoid resending. Julianne – can likely do but she will need time to compare the list serve with membership and that but wouldn’t be an e-blast. Julianne – She will put forward the MLK Statement for posting on the WSBA website.**

¹ GR 12.1(c) states that “The Washington State Bar Association will not: (1) Take positions on issues concerning the politics or social positions of foreign nations; (2) take positions on political or social issues which do not relate to or affect the practice of law or the administration of justice; or (3) support or oppose, in an election, candidates for public office.”

5. Open Sections Night, Thursday, January 19, 2017 – Kelli & Kathleen will go. It's in Seattle. Need resources at our table? No current Newsletter at this time. There is a door prize of a free membership in the section. Julianne – WSBA is working on one page breakdown for each section with highlights for the year which should go out today so we'll have that for tomorrow. Alec – sent a document as well to Kelli. Can we use the MLK statement? Julianne will get back to Kelli on that.
6. Newsletter Update – Kelli – we have gotten it to WSBA but they've given us feedback with suggested changes requiring us to use mail chimp. Kelli has asked Callie if she can help, but, if not, she may need help with reformatting. Amy said she can help. Alec will review the feedback to his article from WSBA.
7. CLE Planning – LaRond, Alec and Others – Kelli -
 - a. Spring CLE – Kelli contacted CLE person regarding possible dates and forwarded those.
 - b. Fall CLE – date set for CLE during annual meeting: Sept 20, 2017 as a half-day, afternoon seminar.
 - c. Other CLEs and Brown Bags

Alec – originally we were to have an all-day CLE on police and communities of color and Alec sent an outline with potential speakers. Outline was to cover the question on the historical overview nationally and locally and viewing the Seattle Consent Decree with people in the Justice Dept. Alec names players as possible speakers from the NAACP and ACLU and Seattle Community Police Commission. Maybe late spring? Kelli – we need to reserve time and space. WSBA is already pretty booked up. Sandra Livingston Carr is the contact for dates. We did lock down a date for the fall seminar. Bridget is working with Alec on it and can contact Sandra. September 20 is reserved at WSBA for a half-day afternoon seminar. There was a recent community forum on police accountability as well. Concern regarding what the new administration's attitude will be might be an issue to address, as well as statewide issues.

Jodi – There was an all day seminar January 6 on allyship in San Francisco and she obtained the agenda for it. AG's office is planning a smaller CLE and will ask the WSBA if it will put it on. Issues included hate crimes, anti-Semitism, deportation, LGBTQ backlash, disabilities protection issues, reproductive rights, protecting workers, securing the planet, voter rights, and ended with a call to action from the NAACP speaker. If we can replicate it for lawyers in Washington we could really benefit from that in regards to protecting minority communities.

Julianne – believes WSBA is looking at doing something on this as well possibly broader than on just a section level or could be a collaboration with section. Julianne will connect Jodi with someone on that.

Kelli – we discussed possibility of brown bag lunches breaking down the topics because of the number of topics and interest in specifics. Doing them through WSBA can be difficult due to scheduling. Online harassment and tech and civil rights in cyber space.

Jodi – likes the idea of an all day CLE because of the impact and number of credits. Brown bag lunches are inaccessible to Jodi. She was impressed by the California agenda and the swift planning of it. It was planned 2 days post-election and held Jan 6th. If she can help to educate folks or provide opportunities to learn about ally-ship she is onboard.

Kelli – the KCBA is working on Seattle Civil Rights issues. Maybe we can work with the state on those issues.

Bridget – is all for helping to pull together more of the topics if we can. Jodi emailed the agenda to both Kelli and LaRond.

Kelli – should we connect with the WSBA folks regarding the logistics? Jodi – the number of sponsors of the program was impressive including private firms and other organizations and included the Marriott.

Julianne – WSBA is looking at this and should check with the CLE dept. first to see what the best avenue is.

Kelli will send Jodi an email to exchange numbers and check with WSBA and move forward. Each topic is only a half hour at the California CLE. Jodi joining us reflects the success of the listserve.

8. Legislative Subsection – Priority Bills and GR12 votes – Kelli & Kathleen – Kelli – we have a number of bills this year we are interested in and tracking. Which do we want to take GR-12 votes on? We don't want to put our time in if we're not interested or don't think they'll pass GR-12. Can we come up with a different way to vote on these? Usually a memo and survey monkey. Kathleen – yes, there are a lot – 23 to track. Kelli – what we might do is send a spreadsheet and ask folks to approve thumb up or down. Alec – in terms of the email it should be labeled 'high importance' and 'vote needed now' so we see an action is required. Kelli – we have reviewed 23 with several high priority – Wash Voting Rights Act; Equal Opp in

Subdivisions (support); Use of Deadly Force in Comm Policing from the Joint Legislative Task Force would change it to a reasonable officer rather than malice standard; Clarifying Financial Obligations regarding court fees, restitution, etc., creates an exception for homeless or mental illness no willful violation (several); Ban the Box (shot down on GR-12 in the past bec doesn't relate to admin of justice or practice of law – it's about employment) we will continue to track and get a GR12.1 but not the highest priority; Extend Time Period Voter Registration and Returning Ballots (not as interested); Death Penalty high priority – no bill number yet – rejected in the past due to political concerns – bipartisan introduced by AG and new political interest so we'll try again; Allowing use of Gender Segregated Facilities – anti transgender bill – does it pass GR-12? We will vote to get your GR12.1 opinion and, if so, take a position to oppose that; Crime Victim Participation – protects immigrants from being flagged for deportation when they participate in criminal justice system as victims and witnesses; LaRond will pull the ACLU bill review and will circulate their perspective on it. Kelli will connect offline with LaRond on it. Technology Enhanced Govt Surveillance – tracking it; Public Disclosure of GPS Data regarding govt employees; Expanding Collection of Offender DNA samples; Discrim Based on Religious Convictions; Academic Bill of Rights – free speech on campuses and universities and penalties for inhibiting free speech (tracking); Real ID (senate and house bills) would modify DL and Identity cards requiring compliance with federal ID requirements for enhancement (tracking);

9. Civil Rights Law Section Listserv Use – Discussion – Kelli encourages folks to use it. Cases of interest – use it. Julianne? Free for all? Any concerns? Julianne – could touch on GR-12 If it's an official section message versus an individual speaking.
10. Good of the Order - Finance and membership update? Bridget – biggest piece is as of Dec 22nd we had an update through end of September. We do have lots of new section members. Balance of \$5,201. YTD \$630 for revenues for section dues. Have used 20% of revenue. Alec – Bridget can you send out summary reports? Bridget- yes, will send them out. Kelli – we can include those with the next minutes. We don't have a welcome letter for new members. Dan will write welcome letter for new members. May send it out to all. Julianne – BOG will be meeting Jan 26-27 at Gonzaga in Spokane. Remote connection is available.
End at 12:42