

Minutes of the WSBA Elder Law Section (“Section”) Executive Committee

September 20, 2016 teleconference

Attendance.

Members Present: Carla Calogero (Chair), Kameron Kirkevold, Eden Toner, Matthew Parker, Eric Watness, Ann LoGerfo, Megan Farr, Karen Boxx, Dick Sayre, Miriam Ayoub, Meredith Childers.

Members Absent: Ronald St. Hilaire, Michael Bresson, Michael Longyear, Mark Vohr, Amy Freeman.

Liaisons Present: Joe Terrenzio (WSBA Sections).

Welcome, Announcements.

1. Ann LoGerfo was appointed by the WSBA to be the liaison to the WINGS public guardianship committee.
2. The Section’s August social and mentoring event at Skyline was well-attended. The only negative feedback was a request to hold a similar event in other regions. Thanks to Miriam Ayoub for organizing this successful event.
3. The September 16 CLE sponsored by the Section and WSBA was also well-attended. It is hoped that Mike Longyear will be able to follow up with a debriefing for the Executive Committee at the next Executive Committee meeting.
4. On October 15, the Superior Court Judges Association Guardianship and Probate Committee will meet. This year, the Section will be represented by Megan Farr, Eric Watness and Kameron Kirkevold. Carla will also ask Peggy Sanders to attend, as she will be on the Executive Committee for the next fiscal year. Eric noted that representatives from the Real Property, Probate and Trust Section will also attend. Carla and Kameron will submit a proposed agenda for part of the meeting.

Minutes. The minutes from the July 19, 2016 teleconference were approved as corrected by Carla.

Master CLE Update. Dick is meeting with program leaders tomorrow. All speakers have been confirmed. He will send another notice out, and affirmed that attendance is open to all.

Treasurer's Report. Matthew reported Section revenue through July 31, 2016 at \$35,353.84 and expenses of \$34,312.14. The Section’s fund balance is \$64,250.97. This does not include revenue and expenses from the recent mentoring event and CLE, or the \$15,000 donation to Columbia Legal Services that was approved at the Section’s annual meeting on September 16,

2016, which matches the \$15,000 still pending payment for this fiscal year. He anticipates that the fund balance after those entries will be approximately \$35,000.

Sections Policy Workgroup. Carla reported that after the Workgroup approved a change to the WSBA bylaws, it disbanded. No term limits were imposed (unless provided in the Section's bylaws), and the timing of elections will change, but terms will still begin at the start of the fiscal year (October 1). One notable change is that the "at large" members of the Executive Committee will serve 3 year terms, which could present a recruiting challenge. Carla noted that the changes won't affect the substantive work that the Section does. Joe outlined changes to the fiscal policy that will affect all sections, including a new alcohol reimbursement policy and enforcing reimbursement limits for hotels, meals and mileage. Other fiscal policy changes have been deferred for future consideration, including pooling section reserves. The WSBA will circulate a final report recapping the changes to section leaders soon.

Legislative. Megan participated in a meeting with Representative Jinkins in July, after which a subcommittee was formed to study education regarding isolation issues. Representative Jinkins issued a "bill request" for a bill that would create a parallel process to the Vulnerable Adult Protection Order. Megan will draft a letter with the Section's comments about the proposed bill, and Carla will review it before it is submitted. Megan asked that the Executive Committee review the proposed bill, which was distributed with today's meeting materials, and be prepared to submit a vote as soon as she so requests. Discussion ensued about the Uniform Guardianship Act and its potential application in Washington. Karen noted that it is a huge project that will not be completed for many years, and that even when passed, the states typically use it as a model without adopting it in full, thus it is premature to anticipate its application with respect to current legislative proposals.

LLLT Update. On September 15, 2016, Kameron met with the LLLT New Practice Area Committee. He reported that they are reviewing areas with the highest unmet need as well as economic viability for LLLT practice, and that in order to be economically viable, the population served needs to be at least average income. Karen reported that the number of LLLT students is barely adequate for the UW to expand the program, which is \$200,000 in the red. Carla reported that she received notice that the LLLT committee's October 20 meeting will address Elder Law as an area of practice for LLLT's.

WA Public Guardianship Task Force. Ann reported that this Task Force will meet in 2 days, and that progress has been slow. She and Sean Bleck are compiling a summary of all the proposals for the Task Force to consider. She also heard today about a request for legislation from the Office of the Administrator of the Courts (OAC), which she will share with the Executive Committee when received.

WINGS. Due to Katie’s absence today, her report on the steering committee meeting was deferred to the next Executive Committee meeting. Meredith reported that the new lay guardian handbook will be on a new website, and she will forward the link. She encouraged the Executive committee to review and comment on the handbook. Meredith’s term has ended and Peggi Moxley will succeed her as chair of the WINGS Information and Training Committee.

Final Comments. Eden expressed her thanks for being able to participate with this active and inspiring group. All expressed thanks to Carla for her wonderful leadership during this very challenging year!

Meeting adjourned (1:35 pm).

Calendar:

Executive Committee meetings:

Networking and CLEs:

- Friday, November 18, 2016—Elder Law Master Class, Seattle University