

Elder Law Executive Committee – Monthly Teleconference

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes (as amended)

Present

Megan Farr, Chair

Karen Boxx, Chair-Elect

Peggy Sanders, Secretary

Carla Calogero, Trustee

Michael Longyear, Trustee

Mark Vohr, Trustee

Katie Hurt, Legislative Co-Chair

Karen Boxx, Legislative Co-Chair

Karen Clark, CLE Co-Chair

Lisa Kremer, Communications Co-Chair

Amy Freeman, Communications Co-Chair

Ann LoGerfo, Outreach/Mentorship Co-Chair

Ronald St. Hilaire, Grants Co-Chair

Kameron Kirkevold, Immediate Past Chair

Liaisons:

Sage Graves, Young Lawyer Committee

Excused

Matthew Parker, Treasurer

Suzanne Thompson Winger, CLE Co-Chair

Miriam Ayoub, Outreach/Mentorship Co-Chair

Meredith Childers, Grants Co-Chair

Angela Hayes, BOG

Paris Eriksen, Section

Welcome, Announcements and Minutes

Megan brought the meeting to order. Michael moved to approve the minutes from February 20. Karen Boxx seconded. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Matt was unable to attend the meeting. He provided the Committee members with his financial report by email.

Outreach/Mentorship

Ann reported that the next outreach/mentorship event is on May 15th. Ann, Miriam and Meredith will attend the Yakima Estate Planning Council meeting to talk about the elder law bar and elder law services. Miriam will talk about guardianship and legal capacity. Meredith will talk about Northwest Justice and services for low income seniors.

CLE Updated

Karen Clark reported on the May 22nd CLE. There will be ten sessions. The theme is Fraud in the Family. There will be a panel discussion on how to help avoid fraud in the family. Barbara West will do a session on choosing a DPOA. Other sessions include high risk estate planning, difficult clients and beneficiaries, legislative update, and case law update. Suzanne is looking for one more topic to fill out the CLE.

The CLE will be held in the WSBA Center. An agenda will be sent out shortly. There has been a change in policy, and speakers for the CLE can no longer bring someone with them for free.

Legislative Update

Megan sent Committee members a list of the bills that we were monitoring. Four bills that we monitored passed. The session was very frustrating due to the new rules about communicating with Legislative Members. It was suggested that we discuss this new rule and our strategy at the Committee spring retreat.

The legislation that would allow health care directives to be notarized instead of having two witnesses did not pass but will likely be back.

We need to remember that the new notary legislation comes into effect on 7/1/18 – including the journal requirements.

Katie suggested that we communicate to the Bar that we should not be limited in looking at legislation referring only to “seniors” or “elder”.

Communications

Lisa made a presentation to the Tacoma Estate Planning Council and will send information about the meeting.

Ann LoGerfo spoke about the Public Guardianship Task Force. Members didn't seem able to reach consensus on recommendations concerning the Office of Public Guardianship. They did agree that the program needs to be moved but there was no agreement on where it should go.

Stacey Johnson has filled the position formerly held by Shirley Bondon. They met with Ms. Johnson, who acknowledged problems with the OPG. She will be making a large budget request to hopefully solve some of the problems.

Changes in the OPG Statute, specifically RCW 2.72.055, require OPG and the Long Term Care Ombudsman's office to offer education on substitute decision making to the legal community and long-term care community employees.

Dementia Action Collaborative

Carla has requested a big block of time at the spring Committee retreat to discuss ways to partner with this Collaborative.

Spring Retreat

Megan asked for suggestions about locations for the retreat. WSBA was slow to pay for the last retreat, so we may want to consider other locations.

Megan asked for suggestions for topics of the retreat. She also recommended that we monitor the Section Leaders Listserve. There are interesting things happening with the BOG.

Save Friday, May 11, 2018 for the spring retreat.

Upcoming Events and Meetings:

April 17, 2018, Executive Committee Monthly Teleconference

Adjourned at 1:15 p.m.