

Washington State Bar Association • Elder Law Section

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2023

Present:

Sage Graves Slugic, Chair Ron St. Hilaire, Chair-Elect Elizabeth Jennings, Secretary Matthew Parker, Treasurer Nicholas Pleasants, CLE Chair Mark Vohr, Communications Chair Meredith Grigg, Immediate Past Chair (arrived late) Miriam Ayoub, Outreach/Mentorship Chair Nancy Lee, Outreach/Mentorship Chair Carla Calogero, At-Large Member Karen Boxx, Legislative Chair Michael Longyear, At-Large Member Suzanne Thompson Winiger, Communications Chair Carla Higginson, Legislative Chair, Board of Governors Liaison Megan Farr, At-Large Member Brent Williams-Ruth, BOG Liaison Patrick Erker, Grants Chair Kate Shreiner, Young Lawyer Liaison Nancy Lee, Outreach/Mentorship Chair Patrick Erker, Grants Chair

Absent:

Emily Tyson-Shu, CLE Chair Angela Macey-Cushman, Grants chair Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist Kari Petrasek, BOG Liaison

12:32 pm **Opening** Sage Graves Slugic

Sage Graves Slugic opened the meeting.

12:32 pm Approval of Meeting Minutes Elizabeth Jennings

Sage noted the need to add missing attendees from the January Retreat Minutes (Kari Petrasek and Brent Williams-Ruth). With these additions, Mark Vohr motioned to approve the minutes. Michael Longyear seconded. All approved; no abstentions.

12:33 pm **New Lawyer Liaison** Kate Shreiner

Kate was introduced as the New Lawyer liaison as voted at the January retreat and provided her background.

12:35 pm Grants Committee Patrick Erker

Patrick reported that there were not a lot of updates. Eighteen students applied for the Greenfield Elder Law Scholarship, but one from Oregon was disqualified. The applicants were pretty evenly spread among the state's law schools. As of January, there were about \$16,000 in funds available.

12:37 am Treasurer Report Matt Parker

Matt reported that no new statement from the Bar had been received, so there were no updates since last meeting.

12:38 am CLE Committee Report Nicholas Pleasants

Nicholas reported that the April CLE was in the process of being finalized with many speakers confirmed. Karen and Carla will provide the legislative update with Kate providing the case law updates. The CLE will build around the theme of avoiding guardianship and avoiding probate to keep the estate out of court as much as possible. It will also include Medicaid applications.

12:39 **Legislative Report** Karen Boxx & Carla Higginson

Carla Higginson reported that she presented testimony on the bill that would have required 70+ year olds to complete a special driving course. As of the meeting, it had not passed out of the Transportation committee and was not on the agenda.

Karen Boxx mentioned that Angela testified on the estate recovery bill, and it was still alive and progressing. The changes to the Death with Dignity Act, Uniform Heirs Property Act, Telehealth bill, and other bills mentioned to the committee were all still alive. Sage commented that a senate bill on Uniform Guardianship Act amendments had now been introduced, relating to allowing for someone to be authorized to discharge someone and apply for Medicaid on their behalf, prior to a guardian being appointed. This bill is now dead this session.

12:53 pm Communications Report Mark Vohr

Mark Vohr mentioned adopting guidelines for listserv communications but needing to receive sample language and whether someone could be removed from the listserv as the RPPT listserv had experienced some prior issues.

12:56 pm Outreach/Mentorship Report Miriam Ayoub & Nancy Lee

Miriam Ayoub mentioned the Court Visitor training took place and one law student joined the training. Sage added that the Health Law Section was having an event to speak on different practice areas.

12:58 pm Board of Governors Liaisons Brent Williams-Ruth

Brent shared that the next BOG meeting is March 3-4 and is the annual meeting with the Supreme Court, particularly with the aim to address two long range issues - the future location of the bar association office(s) and the bar license task force's recommendations on outreach to members of the public.

1:06 pm WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor

Carolyn indicated she would circulate another section's listserv guidelines. She also discussed the elections process and reaching out to prospectuses about joining the executive committee.

1:08 pm **By-Laws and Elections**

Ron St. Hilaire, Meredith Grigg, Sage Graves Slugic

The members discussed elections and recruiting, including having committee members consider whether they will serve next year. They also discuss a subcommittee on addressing the bylaw changes and recommendations, with the goal to have a redlined version for review in the next couple of weeks.

1:09 pm

Sage Graves Slugic

Sage closed the meeting.

Closing