



## Washington State Bar Association • Elder Law Section

### Executive Committee Minutes - March 21, 2023

#### Present:

Sage Graves Slugic, Chair  
Ron St. Hilaire, Chair-Elect  
Elizabeth Jennings, Secretary  
Matthew Parker, Treasurer  
Nicholas Pleasants, CLE Chair  
Emily Tyson-Shu, CLE Chair  
Mark Vohr, Communications Chair  
Suzanne Thompson Wininger, Communications Chair  
Angela Macey-Cushman, Grants Chair  
Nancy Lee, Outreach/Mentorship Chair  
Carla Calogero, At-Large Member  
Michael Longyear, At-Large Member  
Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist  
Carla Higginson, Legislative Chair, Board of Governors Liaison  
Brent Williams-Ruth, BOG Liaison  
Kate Schreiner, Young Lawyer Liaison  
Megan Farr, At-Large Member

#### Absent:

Miriam Ayoub, Outreach/Mentorship Chair  
Kari Petrsek, BOG Liaison  
Meredith Grigg, Immediate Past Chair  
Patrick Erker, Grants Chair  
Karen Boxx, Legislative Chair

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

Sage Graves Slugic opened the meeting and discussed elections for the coming year, including the need to apply through the WSBA to complete the application.

12:37 pm      **Approval of Meeting Minutes**      Elizabeth Jennings

Michael Longyear moved to approve the February 21, 2023 minutes. Mark Vohr seconded. Angela Macey-Cushman abstained from voting. All remaining members voted in favor to approve the minutes.

12:38 pm      **New Lawyer Liaison**      Kate Schreiner

Kate invited members to suggest ideas for projects, including a networking happy hour for law students. Matt Parker confirmed there were funds budgeted that could be used for the happy hour (except the funds could not be used for alcohol). Kate also discussed the need for Court Visitor recruitment and an idea for a Court Visitor-only CLE or happy hour or a referral system for Court Visitors to help offset costs. Kate planned to get in touch with Miriam and Nancy on ideas.

12:53 pm            **Treasurer Report**            Matt Parker

Matt Parker noted he was waiting on a new report but that the section received \$18,882.66 in section dues revenue. There was no other revenue or expenses. The section has a new fund balance of over \$121,425.

12:54 pm            **CLE Committee Report**            Nicholas Pleasants & Emily Tyson-Shu

Nicholas commented that the planning for the April CLE was largely complete and would include ethics credit related to RPC 1.14 issues, legislative and case law updates, Angela presenting on Medicaid planning, and a presentation on Powers of Attorney. Emily discussed the status of written materials.

12:56 pm            **Grants**            Angela Macey-Cushman

Angela reported that everything was going fine with the Greenfield Scholarship, but she suggested adding thank yous and acknowledgements of contributors during the breaks in the April CLE and to remind others to donate. Angela suggested including a link for people to donate. Nancy Lee suggested adding something to the donation page where people could indicate whether they wanted to remain anonymous.

1:03 pm            **Legislative Report**            Carla Higginson

Carla gave updates on the modification to the Death with Dignity Act that passed the Senate, but that it was a close vote; that the bill to limit estate recovery by preventing DSHS from filing a lien prior to an individual's death had passed the Senate, but that it was a close vote; and that the driver's license bill that would have added requirements for those 70+ did not pass.

1:10 pm            **Communications Report**            Mark Vohr & Suzanne Thompson Wininger

Mark commented that he had received a lot regarding listserv etiquette and protocols and was reviewing resources, including the WSBA social media guidelines and sample section guidelines. Mark and Suzanne planned to put together a proposal for our section to adopt. Suzanne remarked on a recent topic on the listserv regarding lay guardian pay and encouraged members to weigh in.

1:15 pm            **Outreach/Mentorship Report**            Nancy Lee

Nancy reflected on the ideas Kate offered and supported the idea of an event at the law schools. Nancy mentioned that Seattle University may be willing to contribute to some of the costs and that Nancy and Miriam were co-teaching an Elder Law course there.

1:16 pm            **Board of Governors Liaisons**            Brent Williams-Ruth

Brent summarized the BOG meeting with the Court and the budget retreat to focus on priorities and goals. The Practice of Law Board asked for guidance on dealing with non-licensed legal professionals offering advice in Washington and whether there might be an expansion of the unauthorized practice of law statute to create a private right of action under the Consumer Protection Act. Nancy and Angela commented that their offices are receiving lots of calls about protection trusts that seem to be the result of non-attorney marketing.

1:24 pm            **WSBA Sections Program Specialist**            Carolyn MacGregor

Carolyn mentioned that the Annual Sections Leaders meeting would be totally virtual, scheduled for April 24th. She encouraged members to appear and share their executive committee experience.

1:26 pm            **Closing**            Sage Graves Slugic

Sage closed the meeting.