

LGBT Law Section Meeting – January 26, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 4:05 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Present: Kelsey Kittleson, Sierra Ogasawara, Samantha Gouveia, Brent Williams Ruth, Kenneth Wells, Justin Bingham, Dennis Cronin, Peder Punsalan-Teigan, Catherine Hardison

Absent: Dana O’Day-Senior, Rachel da Silva, Corrine Smith, Jesse Taylor, Betsy Crumb, Amy Phillips, Eleen Trang, Megan Dawson

Quorum: Yes

Approval of Agenda: N/A

Approval of Minutes: December 15, 2020 meeting minutes approved.

Business From Previous Meeting:

N/A

New Business:

1. Treasurer’s Update by Kenneth Wells. Kenneth reports nothing unusual with the sections finances.
2. Yearly Section Membership Meeting (via ZOOM) is still tentatively planned for April, 2021. It could be pushed to May, 2021 if absolutely necessary but the thought is that it’s better for the meeting to occur sooner rather than later. We will be test-running using ZOOM for meetings for the February section meeting – Kelsey and Sierra will work on getting it set up.

The CLE committee has not been able to meet yet. Kelsey Kittleson, who is on the committee, cannot be in charge of setting meetings due to time commitments. Someone else will need to step up and take charge of scheduling if we want to have a CLE during the meeting. Peder Punsalan-Teigan advises that he can step up in regarding to scheduling and organization starting the second week of February. The CLE committee will attempt to set up a meeting to discuss what is needed to put on a CLE during the second week of February. Included in the meeting will be the members of the executive committee who have previously organized CLEs.

The proposed dates for the Yearly Section Membership Meeting will be sent out via poll. The dates of choice are all Thursdays. If it’s just the meeting, the event will run for 1-1.5 hours, with a CLE it will be 3-3.5 hours long.

Kelsey Kittleson, Dennis Cronin, and Sierra Ogasawara suggested no CLE with the meeting due to time constraints. There was no objection from the rest of those in attendance, so this will just be the Yearly Section Membership Meeting.

3. The joint CLE with Health Law Section is currently scheduled for March 17, 2021 from 3:00-5:00 PM. Megan Dawson, Ryan Castle, and Melanie Curtis will be speakers. They are looking for additional speakers to discuss government updates. The next planning meeting is February 3, 2021 at 2:30 PM. The insurance loophole for trans and gender diverse people will likely be a topic at the CLE.
4. In the Newsletter Committee update, Sierra Ogasawara mentioned attending the section leaders' meetings for the past couple of months. In the last meeting, they discussed newsletters in general, including the issue of the substantial time commitment and the red tape involved with working with the Bar to get topics approved before deadline. The WSBA charges per hour for the efforts of WSBA editors and publishers which can sometimes exceed budgets (the Admin Law section says they've gone over their \$1000 budget).

There are alternatives to a newsletter for reaching out to the section members – independent websites for sections managed separately from the bar, and social media pages in particular. If we are going to proceed with a newsletter, we should consider narrowing the scope of the topics, or moving to social media to save both time and effort. The only issue with the social media option is that we need more clarification from the WSBA on what is and is not approved before we proceed with starting a social media campaign.

Treasurer Kenneth Wells notes that we need to be cost conscious with our options; accordingly, we'll go with whichever option is most cost conscious.

Minutes Submitted by: Samantha Gouveia

Minutes Approved by: