

LGBT Law Section Meeting – February 16, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 4:05 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:47 PM

Present: Kelsey Kittleson, Sierra Ogasawara, Samantha Gouveia, Brent Williams Ruth, Kenneth Wells, Megan Dawson, Dennis Cronin, Catherine Hardison

Absent: Dana O’Day-Senior, Rachel da Silva, Corrine Smith, Jesse Taylor, Betsy Crumb, Amy Phillips, Eleen Trang, Justin Bingham, Peder Punsalan-Teigan

Quorum: Yes

Approval of Agenda: N/A

Approval of Minutes: January 26, 2021 meeting minutes approved.

Business From Previous Meeting:

N/A

New Business:

1. Kenneth Wells provided a treasurer’s update. The only costs incurred are the membership fees and the webinar fee from September’s CLE (roughly \$20.)
2. Kelsey Kittleson reviewed the draft of the form WSBA requires be submitted. LGBT bylaws say election should be held by the end of May, but WSBA bylaws supersede ours, so elections will occur from June 7<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. We will request that candidate applications stay open one week longer: our proposed date is April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM to give sufficient time for us to get applicants and allow for a two-week turn around to get the list sent out to our members.

Section three, as in past years, requests a statement of interest from applicants telling us why they would like to fill the position in question.

The past chair, Dennis Cronin, is the head of the nominating committee. We are required to have at least one non-executive committee member, which will be Dana O’Day-Senior. Sierra Ogasawara is also on the committee.

The point of the nominating committee is to weed out if there are any extremes that would make it difficult for elections to move forward – basically anything that would disqualify applicants – and to reach out to sections members to see if they are willing to run for positions.

We will use the volunteer position description provided by the WSBA if we can't find the one used by the section in previous years. The only possible difficulty with transitioning may be with the Treasurer position if Kenneth Wells doesn't run for re-election: working with Kenneth to create the budget for the coming year would be best done over the summer.

Kenneth and Sam are to give Kelsey a heads up via email regarding whether they intend to run again so that she can give a heads up to the nomination committee to allow them to know which positions need to be filled.

The section has no specific alternative nomination process. The WSBA's alternative nomination methods two and three are approved as our alternates. Dennis Cronin will be the nomination committee member to whom nominations may be emailed.

3. The poll for the April annual membership meeting dates was not sent out due to technical issues. The members present in the meeting have selected April 29, 2021. Kelsey Kittleson will send out an email with that date asking anyone with a problem with the date to let her know.
4. The Newsletter and CLE committees have come up with ideas to engage members: offering 1.0 credit mini-CLEs alternating with social events (trivia night, bingo, etc.)

The CLE Committee is hoping to have someone from the WSBA to speak at their next meeting to teach the committee on how to host and plan CLEs. Sam is following up on this. We are looking for persons willing to host brown-bag CLEs throughout the year. CLE Topics would be relevant to LGBT law. This year the focus may be on planning, hosting a few CLEs, and figuring out how to budget for what is needed to host more going forward.

Brent Williams-Ruth noted that the World Peace Section does 12 mini-CLEs a year, which they advertise to non-member attorneys with the pitch of the membership. The CLE has to be through the on-24 platform or ZOOM so that it complies with APR 11. Contacting the World Peace Section for tips on how they've made their program successful is a possible avenue to pursue. Brent Williams-Ruth also volunteered to be a resource for figuring out how to host mini-CLEs in his capacity as BOG Liaison.

The Newsletter Committee is focusing on improving the section's social media presence. Executive committee members would submit articles to the Newsletter Committee, who would then post it. One issue is access to the section's Facebook page: someone from the past year has the log-in information but it's currently unclear who. Kelsey will follow up with Rachael Da Silva to see if she knows how to log into it.

Setting up a Facebook group including current and former section members (with the primary requirement for being in the group is verifying that the member is an attorney)

is one of the Newsletter Committee's goals for encouraging member engagement. Additionally, a Linked-In page for the section is also a possibility for hosting articles approved by the Newsletter Committee. The goal is at least one submission a week, made through the Newsletter Committee after approval. The Newsletter Committee will come up with a process and guidelines for submission and moderation of articles.

Catherine Hardison moves to approve the creation of a Facebook page and Linked-In page. Kelsey Kittleson seconds. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

5. The Health Law section joint CLE on Gender Affirming Care (federal and state updates and insurance coverage) is still scheduled for March 17, 2021. Sign-ups are not yet active but should be soon. Speakers include Megan Dawson, Melanie Curtis, and Ryan Castle. It is 1.5 CLE credits and will go for 1-4:30 PM. \$10 for section members and law students, \$25 for non-members. Kelsey Kittleson is following up with Laurie to see about the possibility of allowing law students to attend for free.

Costs are minimal (< \$150) with the main cost being the webinar tool, which is about \$100 to use, and the registration fee (\$50 base, and \$1/person for attendees) and would be split with the Health Law Section, along with profits. Scholarships are not going to be offered due to the relatively low cost of the CLE to the section, they will be saved for more expensive CLEs.

Kelsey Kittleson moves to split the costs with the Health Law Section as long as they remain where we expect them to be, Catherine Hardison seconds. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Minutes Submitted by: Samantha Gouveia

Minutes Approved by: