

LGBT Law Section Meeting – October 18, 2022

Meeting Called to Order: 4:05 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:31 PM.

Present: Brent Williams Ruth, Peder Punsalan-Teigan, Mike Ryan, Samantha Gouveia, Catherine Hardison, Sara Epler, Carolyn MacGregor

Absent: Dana O’Day-Senior, Dennis Cronin, Catherine Hardison, Justin Bingham, Kenneth Wells, Megan Dawson, Rachel da Silva, Kelsey Kittleson, Sierra Ogasawara, Nic Doherty, Johnathan McCoy

Quorum: No

Approval of Agenda: N/A

Approval of Minutes: N/A (no quorum, must be reviewed at next meeting)

Business From Previous Meeting:

N/A

New Business:

1. Treasurer’s Update: We submitted reimbursements (most notably for the Zoom account) at the end of last year and are within budget for this year. We’re off to a good start.
2. CLE Committee Update: The Mini-CLE on Transgender rights is set for Friday, October 21st from 1:30-2:30 PM. This will not be our biggest CLE of the year – that will be the December ‘Hot Topics in the Law’ meeting. The \$100 cost for using the On21 platform will be removed from the section’s budget automatically. Peder and Sierra will be attending the CLE in person and Sam will be helping remotely with production.

Regarding our December CLE, we’ll work out the timing at a future meeting. Last year’s late December CLE was, financially speaking, successful for our section – many people are finishing up reporting hours, and it would be smart to capitalize on reporting deadlines again.

3. Social Committee: Given that the timing of the October 21st CLE is kind of odd for lunch (as pointed out by Sara), we have decided to do a snack platter rather than lunches. That way, people who attend in person can still eat if they want to, and it’s cheaper for the section.

4. BOG Update: A new BOG year has begun. Brent will remain liaison for the section, although there is a second liaison who has been appointed, Kevin Fay, who will be joining in on section meetings as well. Brent is, as ever, committed to all of his liaisons and will attend all meetings that he can. LGBTQ+ individuals now amount to 3.1% of total bar membership.

The ETHOS process is concluded for now. The board has presented its findings to the supreme court. The majority conclusion was that nothing has to be done.

The APEX Awards event took place recently. It's an amazing, fun night where spectacular individuals and organizations who do good work for their communities get the recognition they deserve. The nomination cycle opens in April or March, so if there's someone you think deserves notice for their contributions to their community, nominate them!

There is a proposed court rule change that was sent to Nic Doherty as a possible area where the section may want to comment as it relates to signing and dating papers and including personal pronouns in the signature block. This is something in the section's wheelhouse where we might want to send in a letter of support in favor of the change. Unfortunately, on the more personal front, Brent has yet to receive an update on where the bar is in the process of including personal pronouns on lawyer profiles.

5. Appointments: Appointments of Secretary and Chair-Elect will have to wait until we have a Quorum. Hopefully at November's meeting.
6. By-Laws: Notice was given of proposed amendments to section by-laws prior to today's meeting. Final revisions and suggestions are due to Nic by email a week before the November meeting, where the vote on approving changes will take place following at least 4 day's notice.
7. On November 14th the fall Section Leaders Orientation will take place. It's a hybrid event, so both in person at the WSBA building and remotely. It will be from 1:00-4:00 PM. There will be a couple BOG members in attendance, as well as the executive director, the equity and justice team, and an interactive discussion about Open sections night. There will be snacks.
8. We said goodbye to Catherine Hardison, who has cycled out of being an at-large member. We hope to see her at future events and meetings.

Minutes Submitted by: Samantha Gouveia

Minutes Approved by: