

LGBT Law Section Meeting – December 15, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 4:05 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:38 PM.

Present: Sierra Ogasawara, Brent Williams Ruth, Nic Doherty, Peder Punsalan-Teigan, Johnathan McCoy, Samantha Gouveia, Megan Dawson, Mike Ryan, Catherine Hardison

Absent: Dana O'Day-Senior, Corrine Smith, Jesse Taylor, Betsy Crumb, Amy Phillips, Eleen Trang, Dennis Cronin, Justin Bingham, Mike Ryan, Kenneth Wells, Kelsey Kittleson, Rachel da Silva, Carolyn MacGregor

Quorum: Yes

Approval of Agenda: N/A

Approval of Minutes: N/A, postponed to March 2022 meeting

Business From Previous Meeting:

N/A

New Business:

1. Treasurer's Update: A receipt still needs to be sent to the WSBA for our Zoom Pro subscription.
2. CLE Committee Update: The end of the year CLE and meeting was moved to December 30th with a short social planned for the end. The date and time requested were approved by the WSBA.
3. BOG Update: The BOG meeting on integration of the Bar occurred this month, focusing on first amendment assembly questions and the Keller deduction. This reopens a 2018/2019 discussion with Justice Fairhurst. Chief Justice Gonzalez opened the meeting with three questions: Is the Bar association going to continue to operate as it has for the past year? What is the best way to serve the members and the public? How do we get there?

There will be eight meetings over the course of the next year, with no less than two of them that will be listening sessions, to address questions, concerns and comments from the Bar about integration. By August 30th, the answers to Chief Justice Gonzalez's questions will be drafted. They'll be voted on by the September BOG meeting. If anyone wants to meet with the BOG to let them hear your thoughts, feel free to reach out to Brent.

The benefits of staying integrated include cost sharing for sections, and institutional size and support. The benefits of bifurcating include that political advocacy will no longer be subject to GR 12.2 as long as advocacy gets enough votes. The con to bifurcating is that smaller sections, like ours, won't have as large a voice in Bar matters opposed to larger groups.

An updated section email list is needed so we can send information about the BOG meetings, including a summary of what happened at the meetings and notice of future meetings, to section members.

4. A Board Legislative Liaison needs to be appointed. Sanjay, our staff contact, will provide this person with updates on laws. If this is a law we want to advocate on as a section, we will need 75% approval from the executive committee, then it will go to the BOG for GR 12.2 analysis questions. Peder Punsalan-Tiegan and Sierra Ogasawara volunteered to be the liaisons.
5. Sierra Ogasawara reminded everyone that Section Leader meetings take place every 3rd Thursday of the month. There should be an email sent around to everyone from Randall Winn. Section Leader meetings are a good chance to get together with other section leaders, and helpful for staying in the loop with other sections, especially in preparation for BOG meetings and the integrated bar issue. If you're not getting the emails, notify Sierra.
6. Peder Punsalan-Teigan will have the Section Spotlight ready for review by the January meeting.

Minutes Submitted by: Samantha Gouveia

Minutes Approved by: