

**WSBA Litigation Section
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Date: November 18, 2016
4:00 p.m.**

Attendance

	In Person	Telephone	Absent
Stephanie Bloomfield, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Philip Havers, Chair Elect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greg Hesler, Secretary/Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will Dixon, Past Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinnie Nappo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carrie Coppinger-Carter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mike Pfau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joel Comfort	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michelle Pham, YLD Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daniel Berner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Julianne Unite, Staff Lead (at BOG mtg.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sean Davis, BOG Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other:			

Introductions

- A brief go around to introduce Susan Nelson and Daniel Berner to the WSBA Group.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the Minutes

- The October 21, 2016 and October 27, 2016 Minutes were both approved, with one correction. Michelle Pham noted one correction (she was indicated as both present by telephone and absent in the draft minutes). That will be corrected.

Agenda Item 2: 2016 CLE Review

- Typically made about \$5,000 - \$6,000. This year lost a little over \$6,000, which is split with the Bar, meaning that our portion is a little over \$3,000.
- Previously had good suggest when we scheduled it in early to mid-August and scheduled it on a Friday to attract attorneys from out of Seattle.
- Bottom line is that this will put us quite a bit behind on our budget for this year.
- Stephanie commented that the program was good, we had good speakers, and we had good reviews. So it is probably not a content issue, but may need to think about our format to make it more appealing. Other than timing, it was not a whole lot different than what was done in past years. We on the Committee also need to do more outreach to try and drum up attendance.
- Phil Havers noted that we might also look at mini-CLEs as an option as well.
- For next year, we have reserved Friday, August 11. We had attempted to do August 18, which is the same date as our meeting for August, but we were told by the Bar that date is not available.

- Vinnie and Joel are going to work together to set up the CLE. They welcome any insights or suggestions that the Committee might have.
- Need to figure out what our revenue goal is in the budget and how many people we need to attend in order to get there.
- We have had between 80 and 100 people in attendance in years past. This year was greatly reduced, but getting back to 80-100 might be a goal for attendance this year.
- Costs for the CLE were sent around with the past minutes in advance of this meeting. There is also a comparison compared to 2015.

Agenda Item 3: Supreme Court Dinner May 5, 2017 - Update

- Got our budget for what we had done from last year. That will likely have to change based on the outcome of the CLE.
- Given what we were looking to do, the cost of Canlis was probably within our budget, but when you factor in the tip and related factors, the total cost was going to be quite a bit outside our budget. As a result, we are nixing Canlis as an option, and we will need to begin looking for an alternative venue.
- Anyone with suggestions should e-mail Stephanie, Vinnie or Mike.
- We should not have a problem reserving a room as long as we do it by February.

Agenda Item 4: Executive Committee Nominations (2016-2019 Terms – Daniel Berner of Olympia, Washington and Susan Nelson of Spokane, Washington)

- Welcome to Daniel and Susan.

Agenda Item 5: Newsletter

- Michelle and Stephanie have not talked—had proposed doing an e-newsletter. Perhaps doing an interesting story or issue, followed by a war story by a senior attorney.
- Stephanie would like to target the first one for mid-January.
- Might look at going through the various stages of the litigation as the year progresses.
- Another topic that we might look at is the recent Supreme Court decision dealing with attorney-client privilege after the end of employment.
 - Greg Hesler will draft a short summary of the decision and circulate it for review and comment. We will then look to pair that with some practice tips and possibly a war story dealing with witness preparation, or something along those lines.

Agenda Item 6: ADR Survey

- Stephanie reported that she was approached by a party who wanted to survey the membership about ADR. Stephanie wasn't sure whether it was something that needed to be brought to the full Committee.
- The individual was Sam Imperati from Portland with an arbitration and mediation service. He is hoping to get data on what practitioners would like to see from ADR, particularly mediation, so he could then share it with membership of other groups.
- The goal was to gain a better understanding and improvement of mediator practices—it does not appear to be have a marketing bent.

- Stephanie will circulate the request. If everyone would look at the information and respond with their thoughts, that would be appreciated.
- Phil noted that he didn't have a problem, so long as the purpose is to develop policies, or something that is beyond their personal practice.

Agenda Item 7: Other Business

- Stephanie will talk to Daniel and Susan about possible service on other Committees.
- Stephanie would like to have an in-person meeting for our December 16 meeting. Those out-of-town members on the phone (Greg, Susan and Daniel) all indicated that they could be available for an in-person meeting.

Future Agenda Items

- None at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Approval Notes

Date Approved: _____

Secretary Initials: _____