

**WSBA Litigation Section
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Date: January 19, 2017
4:00 p.m.**

Attendance

	In Person	Telephone	Absent
Stephanie Bloomfield, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vinnie Nappo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carrie Coppinger-Carter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Pfau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joel Comfort	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michelle Pham, YLD Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dan Bridges, BOG Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: Shanthi Raghu (Continuing Education Lead)			

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the Meeting held on November 18, 2016.

Motion	Mike Pfau
Second	Phil Havers
Discussion	
In Favor	All
Opposed	None
Result	Motion Carried

A motion to approve the minutes of the Meeting held on December 16, 2016

Motion	Mike Pfau
Second	Phil Havers
Discussion	
In Favor	All
Opposed	None
Result	Motion Carried

Agenda Item 2: CLE (Vinnie, Joel, Susan, and Daniel – Plan for Topics, Approach)

- Nothing to report at this time. This will be tabled until our next meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Newsletter (Michelle Carrie and Stephanie – January issue attached, additional topics)

- Stephanie sent around a copy of what went out. It went out in January. Have not received a lot of feedback, but it was nice to finally get a newsletter out. Think that a monthly letter might be aggressive, but will look for another one drafted in March to get out in April.
- Possible future topic: using Facebook and social media in the course of Voire Dire.
- If people have other topics please let Stephanie know.
- May have to address how authorship is accredited. Currently, when it goes out it looks like Stephanie authored it just because of way the listserv works.
- Goal is to do a quarterly newsletter, or even a little more often. It is difficult to do one every month, but it is an opportunity to Section members to submit something, so if you know someone who would be interested in writing for us, please let us know.
- Mike commented that anything more than quarterly is probably greatly optimistic. However, quarterly is better than ad hoc because it may be easier for people to work around a known quarterly schedule.

Agenda Item 4: Outreach (Will and Greg – Law School Visits/Update)

- Mike had been in contact with SU last year. They are very willing to do something but we need to pin it down and call them to decide.
- There was discussion about timing of SU event. Mike indicated that SU would prefer to do it in the Fall or the Winter rather than the Spring.
- Carrie mentioned that she would be happy to help with anything at SU as well. The timing problem is that May is their graduation, so by Spring everyone is on their downhill slide.
- Mike will call his contact at SU and determine if there is a window to do it this year and, if not, work on a date for the Fall.

Agenda Item 5: Supreme Court Dinner (Phil and Mike – Report re New Location/Budget)

- Budget is normally between \$110 and \$140 per person. However, WSBA policy changed in October, so that currently the policy for evening meetings is \$36 per person. There is a procedure for going outside the policy, but we need to prepare a written request outlining the purpose and amount. We give that to Julianne and then she takes that to the Chief Operations Officer.
- Julianne spoke to the venue, and it looks like we are looking at around \$3,900 total. That is around \$100 per person.
- Should not take this as a stake through the heart of the dinner, but there are some hoops to jump through.
- Phil: The venue we have talked to and agreed on is the Butcher's Table in Westlake. It is a great venue.
- Phil had dinner there the other day. They have good vegetarian options as well. Looked at \$85.00 per person menu. That does not include wine, but we could bring our own bottle (\$25.00 corking fee per bottle).
- Space maxes out at about 30 people, which should be fine. Also have a space where we could do appetizers. The idea would do a meet and greet at the space upstairs, then head downstairs to the dinner space.
- Just as a reminder, the date is May 5.

- Could also do valet parking at \$10.00 per person as well. Mike indicated that Valet parking is essential there.
- One option may be to have a few firms of the Section Leaders sponsor the bar. There is general consensus that we don't want the Justices paying at a cash bar.
- Phil will be the point of contact on this, so if there is interest in helping to sponsor the alcohol for the event, please contact Phil.
- **Carrie and Mike both indicated that they would sponsor. Susan Nelson indicated that Dunn & Black will sponsor. Stephanie will check with her Firm, but they will likely sponsor as well.**

Agenda Item 6: Legislative (Stephanie and Phil – Report re Legislative Session and Procedure for Input)

- Phil and Stephanie have been tag-teaming on try to get these legislative notices out the door.
- They can be complicated, but if you think you have a position one way or another, or if you think that we need to weigh in on something, please let us know.
- Cannot take a position without a 2/3 majority.

Agenda Item 7: BOG Report (Dan)

- The Supreme Court preemptively invalidated the fee referendum. It was not unanimous, but we don't know why people voted against it—just know it was not unanimous.
- At next BOG meeting there will be a vote about whether to let the referendum go forward or whether it is moot at this point.
- The policy on religion at Bar functions will be discussed at meeting in Spokane.

Agenda Item 8: Other Business

- Shanthi Raghu was introduced as our Continuing Education Lead. She will be working with us on the CLE. They are looking at ways to improve attendance for live programs, because they are seeing attendance dropping.
- Julianne noted that the WSBA is moving onto a different kind of management for their website—should have received an e-mail for Paris Erickson on the topic. This is happening in the Spring. Will need the Section to designate a person to work with Julianne and the Section to determine what to keep, what to clean up, and help facilitate the migration to the new web platform. Will also need to decide what kind of authority that person has to make decisions. Need that by the end of this month or the middle of February. That should also be a standing item on our agenda to provide updates to the Sections.
- Carrie will look at timing but may be able to assist.
- Stephanie felt we could delegate the authority if we are staying to similar content.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Approval Notes

Date Approved: _____

Secretary Initials: _____