

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2023, 10:30 - noon
SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
VIA ZOOM

Welcome and Interim Chair's Report: Brian Comstock

Secretary's Report: Al Armstrong

- Review and approval of minutes from EC meeting on June 21, 2023 (see attached)

July 14 CLE Debrief: Carole Grayson

Treasurer's Report: Joe Gordon

Newsletter: Jim Riehl

BOG Liaison Reports: Jordan Couch (At Large), Kevin Fay (District 9)

Young Lawyer Committee Liaison Report: Jeanine Lutzenhiser

- Jeanine's attendance at June 24 YLD committee meeting (see attached memo)
- YLL FY24: no candidate currently

Elections Update: Carolyn MacGregor, Jeanine Lutzenhiser

New business/Adjourn

Next EC meeting: September 20, 2023, 10:30-12:00 via Zoom.

**SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

June 21, 2023

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Interim Chair Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Carole Grayson, Al Armstrong, Jenny Rydberg, David Sprinkle, Steve DeForest, Brian Comstock, Joe Gordon, WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor, and Rachel Matz, WSBA Education Programs Lead. Not able to be present were Young Lawyer Liaison Sabiha Ahmad, Morrie Shore, Eleanor Doermann, BOG Liaisons Jordan Couch and Kevin Fay, Jim Riehl and Bill Cameron.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Jeanine welcomed the attendees and convened the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's May Meeting Minutes were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND OTHER BUDGET MATTERS

Joe indicated that our fund balance as of May 31 was \$14,259. We have gained one new Section member. Joe thanked Carolyn for forwarding to him this information.

The Committee agreed with Joe that our Section dues should remain at \$25 per year.

Discussion turned to Joe's first draft of our proposed fiscal year 2024 budget. It was decided that our mini-CLE cost projection would be \$2,800, the \$6,000 figure suggested by the WSBA being too high. Relative to Section membership, the WSBA estimated membership to total 250; Joe suggested that this figure was somewhat too "ambitious." A figure of 225 was deemed by Joe to be more realistic, and the Committee agreed.

The Bar recommended that our Executive Committee fund of \$500 be reduced to \$230, and Joe said he had no problem with that.

It was decided to leave the \$610 projected expenditure for membership/recruiting as is. The Committee was unsure of how this money would be spent, but Joe said "it's better to have the funds we don't need than to need the funds we don't have," and the Committee agreed. Carolyn noted that having these funds available would give us a chance to ponder new recruiting strategies. Brian spoke about the need to more actively recruit new Section members. Jeanine thought we should strive to be creative in our recruiting

efforts. Al suggested getting the Bar to automatically include all eligible WSBA members in our Section, and then allow those willing to access more privileges with the Section to pay regular dues. Just what those “privileges” would be, Al wasn’t sure, the idea having just come to him. It was recalled that Kevin Plachy had found that several senior lawyer-equivalent sections across the country had opened up their respective sections to all their seniors, and that we should look to see how these sections are doing now. It was mentioned that we can deal with this at our August meeting.

It was decided to budget \$4,000 for *Life Begins*, based upon 2 editions per year.

Joe said he would make revisions to the proposed budget and submit it on or before July 3.

NO MEETING IN JULY

It was agreed that there would be no Executive Committee meeting for the month of July. Therefore, our next meeting will take place on August 16.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Jim could not be here, as he is attending the college graduations of his twin grandchildren in California. He did communicate with Carole that the submission deadline for our next edition of *Life Begins* is September 1.

YOUNG LAWYER COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT

Jeanine reported that she and Sabiha will be attending the Young Lawyer Committee meeting on June 24. They will be inquiring about any mentoring program that may interest the younger set. Jeanine noted that Carole is interested in acting in some sort of mentoring capacity.

Jeanine noted that, sadly, Sabiha has decided to withdraw her application to be our Young Lawyer Liaison for the next year. She noted that we have all enjoyed her participation in our Committee. She will continue to be with us for the balance of the present fiscal year. We will miss her.

ELECTION UPDATE AND BOG INFORMATION

Carolyn noted that there were no surprises with respect to our section elections, the voting in which closed June 19.

Carolyn stated that there will be a BOG meeting this Friday. Materials and further information can be found on the WSBA website.

OUR JULY 14 CLE

Carole reported that she placed notices of our upcoming CLE on the Section Listserv on June 12 as well as on the section leaders' Listserv on June 14. On June 15 Rachel facilitated an e-blast to all WSBA members. These notices contained a registration button, said Rachel. Another e-blast is scheduled for July 10, but Rachel urged that we send another such notice before that. Carole asked that Carolyn find out how many members of our Section hold honorary, emeritus or inactive WSBA memberships, and, if there aren't too many, try to reach out and make sure these members receive registration materials. Carolyn said she would also send notices to all E.C. members.

It was mentioned that 7 people had registered to attend in person, and 11 had signed up to attend remotely.

It was noted that the tuition of \$112 includes lunch. Carole urged everyone to come.

ADJOURNMENT

Jeanine adjourned the meeting. Jeanine stated that she is looking forward to Brian's leadership as the incoming Interim Chair. David thanked Jeanine for her service, and all present voiced their agreement.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on August 16, 2023 at 10:30 am.

June 24, 2023

To: Senior Lawyers Section Executive Committee

From: Jeanine Lutzenhiser

Re: Attendance at Washington Young Lawyers Committee Meeting: June 24, 2023

Jeanine joined the hybrid meeting (in-person attendees were in Vancouver, WA with the BOG) by Zoom. (Young Lawyer Liaison Sabiha Ahmad was not able to attend, but Jeanine and Sabiha conferred beforehand about remarks and questions to bring to the YLC.) In attendance were WYLC chair Zachary Davison; WYLC members Emily Albrecht, Marye Scott, Cody Branstetter, Mason Ji, Stephan Yhann, and a young lawyer named Sydney whose last name I didn't catch; BOG liaison Kari Petrasek; and WSBA member engagement specialists Julianne Unite and Curtiss Melvin.

Introductions: Jeanine brought greetings from the SLS Executive Committee, and told the YLC that she was there on behalf of the SLS to learn more about the priorities and activities of the YLC and whether there might be potential for collaboration and friendship between YLs and SLs. Jeanine mentioned that mentorship was one idea that had been proposed, and that at least one exceptional SL stood ready to serve as a mentor to an interested YL. YLC members present expressed their appreciation and welcome.

Please see attached agenda and materials for meeting details; what follows are a few items of more particular interest to our section.

Mentorship Updates and MentorLink Mixer: Julianne noted that the WSBA Mentorship Program is being revised, and also that WSBA is planning a virtual mixer for August 24. These mixers focus on a particular topic of interest to attorneys at different points in their career, and in the past have involved topics such as how to start your own practice. August 24's topic will be a financial focus, aimed particularly at newer lawyers handling law school debt. There will also be cross-marketing for the Financial Focus CLE planned for a later date. The YLC agreed to partner with and assist WSBA with the updates and mixer.

Bylaw changes: The YLC is currently in the process of changing their bylaws, which will result in a broader membership and more inclusive terminology. A YL currently is a lawyer who is either (1) under 36 years old, or (2) licensed to practice for less than five years in any jurisdiction. As I understood it, under the new bylaws, "young" would be changed to "new"; the age restriction would be removed; and a lawyer who has been licensed for under 10 years in Washington (irrespective of licensure in other jurisdictions) would qualify. This change will roughly double the number of constituents from 6,000 to 12,000. Along with these bylaw changes, the YLC is also considering returning to their former status of "division" rather than "committee"; it sounds like this is still under discussion.

ABA YLD: Extensive discussion about delegates to upcoming national YLD meetings and conventions showed that the WYLC maintains involvement with young lawyers at the national level. They have a \$5,000 budget for this. Certain of our members (Jim R. comes to mind) stay involved with the ABA in various capacities. Has there been analogous involvement by the SLS as a section with the ABA Senior Lawyers Division? Is there interest in this?

SLS CLE: Before YLC members adjourned for lunch, Jeanine invited them to our 7/14 CLE, highlighting the discounted price, topics of potential interest to young as well as senior lawyers, and lunch for in-person attendees.