SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 13, 2026

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Chair David Sprinkle, Carole Grayson, Joe Gordon, Jenny Rydberg, Al Armstrong, Laurin Schweet, WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor, BOG Liaison Lester Parvin Price, Jr. and New Member Liaison Ruth Apahidean. Not able to attend was Bill Cameron.

CHAIR'S WELCOME AND ELECTION INFORMATION

David welcomed the attendees, and took the opportunity to introduce Michael Frost, an old friend to this Committee, as one of two new aspirants to full Committee membership. Mike told us that he joined the WSBA in 1973, and has also been a member of the Hawaii Bar Association since 1999. He indicated that a health issue prompted a phase-out of his practice about 20 years ago. His practice consisted, in the main, of criminal defense. He mentioned that he had gotten current Committee member Jenny involved in this Section some years ago, had kept in touch with her. Mike said he would be glad to "try this out for a year." He is interested in topics dealing with "life after law." "I look forward to working with all of you."

David stated that the Mission Statement Subcommittee has largely completed its work.

Our other new Candidate is Ray Foianini, from Wenatchee. David said he should be present for next month's meeting.

David also pointed out that the slate of candidates (including Mr. Frost and Mr. Foianini) up for election was set forth in the meeting Agenda. All of the slots are unopposed. Carolyn mentioned that the election takes place in early June, with those selected taking office on October 1.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's Minutes of our April 8, 2026 meeting were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joe indicated that at the end of March, 2026, our general fund totaled $18,926.19. Our net income for March was $43.75, our share of several new or renewing Section members' dues.

Joe presented two questions for the Committee: Should we raise our annual Section dues (currently at $25) and, should we include, in our proposed budget for the next fiscal year (2027), an anticipated provision for newsletter expenses? Joe said we should decide these questions at this meeting, as the deadline for the proposed budget for the next fiscal year (2027) is due June 8.

Carolyn noted that about one-third of the sections have dues of $20 or $25, with the balance of the sections being presumably higher. Carolyn noted that we are down seven members from December, 2025, (223 from 230) so this might not be a good time to raise the dues. Relative to the amount anticipated for publication expenses, Joe mentioned that he had entered that amount in last year's proposed budget. David noted that the general consensus of the Committee is to resurrect our newsletter at such date as an editor can be secured, so we should leave that amount in the budget for this coming fiscal year also. Carole moved to keep our dues as is, and to leave the anticipated newsletter expense in the proposed budget. The Motion passed.

MISSION STATEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

The Mission Statement Subcommittee has completed its work. The results of its effort were circulated to the Committee members along with the meeting Agenda. Jenny remarked that their product was the result of several meetings. The Subcommittee members indicated that there were still various viewpoints regarding what particular use can be made of the Mission Statement, the accompanying Vision Statement, the listed Core Objectives and the several Guiding Principles.

Laurin opined that, in her view, our target WSBA members can be grouped as follows:

1. Those attorneys who are still practicing.
2. Those who are anticipating a transition to less-than-full-time work.
3. Those who are not practicing, but who, for whatever reason, are keeping their WSBA licenses active.

One of the challenges before us, Laurin said, it to determinate how to appeal to individuals in all three groups.

David Motioned that we adopt the Mission Statement and its corollaries. David's Motion passed.

There was some discussion concerning what activities we could sponsor that would reflect our Mission Statement, such as book club, travel club, a group such as the Co-Lap group in Rhode Island that Carole had mentioned previously, etc.

MIKE'S CLE DISCUSSION

Mike had prepared a five-page written synopsis of his thoughts concerning aging attorneys, their world and the problems they can face. (This was circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting.) Such problems can include difficulty keeping up with rapid changes in the law, procedure and technology (as he put it, an analog lawyer living in a digital world); shrinking profession networks, physical challenges, technology gaps and related matters. Mike related how he can relate to these issues. He recalled, from personal experience, how exhausting a complex case can be for an older practitioner. Ike also recommended news commentator Michael Kingsley's book *Old Age, a Beginner's Guide.*

Mike fondly recalled our CLEs held at the Marriott at SeaTac, with lunch served in the atrium. He wanted to know if there was some way we could resurrect that scenario. He felt that people would come if that was what we offered. Carole and Al also reminisced about our Marriott CLEs. Mike suggested that we could publicize a Marriott CLE with the catchphrase "The Return of ...." to announce the resumption of the Marriott tradition. Mike suggested what we conduct a survey of our membership as to what type of CLE they would prefer. David mentioned that we had taken just such a survey and emailed the meeting attendees the results. Carole suggested that we could conduct annual member-surveys to discern the desires of the potential CLE attendee. Laurin said that surveys can involve a lot of time, and that in the old days, people had to attend in person, as remote viewing was not then available.

Mike said that if we wanted a survey, he would be glad to put together some survey questions and present them to us for approval.

Carole asked David to put this matter on the Agenda for June.

BOG LIAISON REPORT

Parvin recounted some key topics addressed at the latest BOG meeting that took place on May 1-2 in Wenatchee. These included proposed changes to the Admission to Practice Rules and WSBA bylaws making a former WSBA member's reentry into full WSBA membership less burdensome, and a review of WSBA financial records (all was found to be fine); Further, the BOG conducted interviews for open BOG seats. Further, Parvin mentioned that the July Legal Lunchbox will deal with the ins-and-outs of Presidential Executive Orders. Also discussed was the BOG's filing of objections to the proposed Department of Justice rule that would require complaints against U.S. Attorneys be reviewed first by the D.O.J. prior to any state action being taken.

NEW MEMBER LIAISON REPORT

Ruth said that she will be attending the New Member Section meeting the following Monday. Additionally, she encouraged experienced attorneys to participate in the WSBA Mentoring Program (which affords the mentor CLE credits). Ruth said she will be on maternity leave in August and September.

NEW BUSINESS

David mentioned that our webpage features generic photos of mostly youthful individuals not really being representative of our Senior Lawyer demographic. Several attendees agreed. He asked if we could supply our own picture in this regard, and Jenny said we would be glad to do it ourselves as long as we had notice of what official constraints we would be working under. Carolyn said she would contact our webmaster and contact David with what she learned.

It was decided that our next meeting will take place on June 10, not June 3. The default date of our meetings will remain the first Wednesday of every month, but several Committee members were unable to attend on June 3, so June 10 will be our next meeting. Al said he would try to connect with the group from Palm Springs on June 10, but if he couldn't, asked for a volunteer note-taker for the meeting. Jenny said she would so act.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote attendance basis on June 10, 2026 at 10:30 am.