

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian Comstock. Present were Executive Committee members Al Armstrong, Carole Grayson, Jim Riehl, Scott Osborne, Dudley Panchot, Steve DeForest, Jeanine Lutzenhiser (by phone), Joe Gordon (by phone), Morrie Shore (by phone), and Kevin Plachy of the WSBA (by phone). Not able to be present were Ron Thompson, Pat Mead of the WSBA, and Eleanor Doermann.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Brian inquired as to the state of the WSBA restructuring plans in light of recent court decisions relative to free speech and monopoly issues. Kevin replied that when the Structural Work Group completes its work and makes a recommendation to the State Supreme Court, the Supreme Court will vote on a path of action. Brian had said we should make our feelings known, and Steve and Kevin thought it would be best if we waited until the recommendation was before the Supreme Court to offer our input.

Jim noted that the ABA (American Bar Association) was in some turmoil itself, so a lot is in flux. Jim brings to us personal knowledge of the affairs of the ABA, having been actively involved in that organization for a number of years, most recently on the ABA Commission of Domestic and Sexual Violence. He also noted that our Bar seems dysfunctional. Carole recalled speaking with one older lawyer who was reluctant to attend a CLE (i.e. our CLE) when there is so much that is now uncertain about the WSBA and where things will land after the current matters are resolved.

Jim said he would try to keep us informed of the current Bar situation.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ron, our Treasurer, could not attend our April meeting due to illness, but was able to submit his Treasurer's Report to our Committee. The Report reflects a current Section membership of 224, 76 members short of our goal for this fiscal year. Ron notes that our income (from renewed Section memberships) was \$5,600, with total expenses of \$4,539.23 (mostly consisting of WSBA per-member charges.) This left us with an income for February of \$1,060.77; our total fund balance as of February 28 was therefore \$7,023.09.

Ron's Treasurer's Report was approved by Motion.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The March 2019 Executive Committee meeting Minutes were approved by Motion.

MINI-CLE

Our Mini-CLE Subcommittee members, consisting of Eleanor, Jim and Jeanine, (named earlier) were officially approved by Motion, and by further Motion the Subcommittee was invested with the authority to make firm decisions relative to the Mini-CLE itself. Two potential speakers were suggested: Jean Marie Clavere of the WSBA and Seattle attorney Stacey Romberg. Jean Marie would most likely speak on Social Media Ethics. It was noted that Jean Marie's Fall calendar is filling up fast. Keven explained that our Mini-CLE would not be a "webinar," as there will be no video made for purchase at the later date. This event will be viewed in real time only. The Bar would not charge an administration fee but \$100 will be charged for the use of WSBA facilities. It was suggested that the fee to attendees would be \$20 for our Section members and \$25 for non-members. Carole suggested that, as we won't be meeting during the summer, the Mini-CLE Subcommittee could communicate with the Executive Committee via email as to what they have planned for the Mini-CLE.

PUBLICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Scott said that he and Carole will be discussing this at a later time. Scott suggested we have shorter and more frequent issues of whatever publication we come up with. Perhaps some republished articles, with attribution, can be used. Carole indicated that her brother is a member of the New York State Bar and is a member of their senior lawyer group; they put out a 50-page newsletter; Carole said she would try to get us a copy.

OUR 2019 CLE

Kevin gave us some sobering news about to-date sign-ups for our CLE--31 in-person attendees and 8 remote viewers. Steve admonished us to get out there and push our CLE to our colleagues, noting that he has contacted 19 of his acquaintances about April 26. "Some arm-twisting is in order." Brian suggested that we ask our speakers to spread the word about our event.

ADJOURNMENT

Brian adjourned the meeting.

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place at the Broadmoor Golf Club at 10:30 am on June 18, 2019.

