



S O L O &
S M A L L
P R A C T I C E
S E C T I O N

Solo & Small Practice Section June 14, 2022 EC Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting ID: 751 741 0489

Called to order at 1:03pm

Attendance: Kari Petrasek, Shashi Vijay, Kristina Larry, Darcel Lobo, Ann Guinn, John Redenbaugh, Carolyn MacGregor (WSBA), Nicholas Pleasants, and Bruce Gardiner

1. Roll Call (Darcel).

2. Approval of Minutes (Shashi): Approval of March 30, 2022, meeting minutes. Bruce 1st; Shashi 2nd. Board approved March 30, 2022, meeting minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report (Bruce): Current report is in Slack. 1,017 members currently; we've hit our membership goal. Mini-CLE income is at 40% of budget (\$2k out of \$5k goal). We're currently in the time period for budget planning for upcoming year. Prior discussion at annual retreat to hire assistance for creating newsletter for members.

4. WSBA indoor event policy (Carolyn): Discussed vaccination requirement for indoor events and also discussed who was going to check vaccination cards and/or negative PCR tests. Still to be determined. Discussion about outdoor space for members' meetings; no decisions made at this time.

5. Subcommittee reports

- Electronic Communications Committee (John):
 - Website updates- resources for solo/small firms; articles from prior conferences; podcast recordings; webinar recordings
 - Home page has annual meeting information and 2022 meeting dates are posted
 - SSPS Conference dates to be posted to website
 - Carolyn will ask WSBA CLE to add conference dates to the WSBA calendar
- CLE (Shashi):
 - March webinar- Margeaux on law practice essentials
 - Working on collaboration with low bono section for summer CLE
 - Upcoming webinars on work/life balance for fall

- Focus for webinars and section is on the practice as a solo/small firm; not substantive legal practice areas
- Ann has mini-CLE lined up for December
- Discussion regarding advertising/sponsors/exhibitors at live events
- Membership (Nicholas):
 - Upcoming Mariners' game- tickets sold out quickly
 - Working to plan future in-person events; outreach to areas throughout the whole state
 - Current WSBA guidelines require indoor events to have proof of vaccination or negative PCR test

6. Elections update (Shashi): Elections close this Sunday. Only three people reran for our four open positions. EC will need to appoint for the fourth position officially on October 1, 2022. Applications will require resume and not LinkedIn profile; WSBA website cannot accept LinkedIn links. Applications on MyWSBA are open. Amber did agree to serve on Elections Committee. YLD liaison- will need to confirm when Joseph's term will end; confirmed it will end September. Margeaux Green did agree to serve as EC advisor to replace Pete Roberts' position.

7. Solo and Small Firm Conference Updates (Ann): Conference dates set 9/15/22-9/17/22 as half days from apprx 8:30am-12:30pm each day. Will be virtual. Committee is working on topics for conference and will be recruiting for speakers. Evaluations from last year indicated that attendees wanted more local speakers.

8. Section leader/ETHOS and other taskforce meeting updates (Shashi): Ethos meeting this Saturday. Discussion of EC taking a written position regarding ETHOS. Need to detail our position and document our EC position. EC can take a position without a vote from members; don't need to ask the members before taking a position. GR 12.2 does not apply to the section making a written comment. Carolyn says the BOG is seeking comment from sections and is encouraging sections to submit written comment.

9. New Business:

- Charitable organizations (Ann): Seattle U Law Incubator students have been offered free members, just waiting for students to sign up.

Meeting concluded at 1:54pm.

August 10, 2022, is the next meeting date.



SOLO &
SMALL
PRACTICE
SECTION

Solo & Small Practice Section

July, 29, 2022

EC Special Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting ID: 751 741 0489

Called to order at 1 pm

Attendance: Shashi Vijay, Kristina Larry (voting member), Darcel Lobo (absent – but sent in vote by proxy), Nicholas Pleasants (voting member), John Redenbaugh, Ann Guinn, Bruce Gardiner (voting member), Kari Petrsek (voting member)

1. Roll Call (Shashi).

2. Here today to ratify Electronic Committee's recommendation of purchasing two-year license for posting Catherine Sanders educational videos on our members only area

3. Bruce proposed the Motion; Kari seconded.

I move to authorize the use of \$1500 from the current budget category of "website expenses" (or in the alternative the "special projects" category) to cover the cost of licensing 5 videos from the North Carolina Bar Association/North Carolina Bar Association Center for Practice Management at the rate of \$300 each for what is expected to be a two year usage period for each, with the videos to be made available in the Section's members-only area of its website, and with the understanding that the 5 videos will be selected by or on behalf of the Electronic Communications Committee via email and/or Zoom communications from a list provided by Catherine Sanders Reach. Payment of this expenditure is contingent upon the parent WSBA approving a licensing agreement.

4. Ann, Kristina, Bruce, Shashi, Kari were all in favor. Nicholas was opposed and voiced his concern regarding the expense for these CLEs when the same content was available for free. Discussions followed.

5. Motion passed with a majority approval.

Meeting concluded at 1:20pm

Electronic Communications Committee Report For August 2022 EC Meeting

Since the time of the June 14 EC Meeting:

1.

Information about the 2022 Solo and Small Firm Conference was submitted to the WSBA and the Bar News Editor noted:

“It will be in July/Aug and September Need to Know! Online for both, and we can put it in print in September. July/August should be live in a few days.”

In addition, thanks to an inquiry from Carolyn MacGregor, my understanding is that the WSBA has promoted/will promote the Conference on social media.

2.

Information about the August 25 webinar was added to the Section website home page.

3.

A Save the Date Announcement about the September 15-17 Solo and Small Firm Conference was added to the Section website home page.

4.

Steps were taken leading to approval to use funds to license 5 videos. Efforts are underway to add 5 videos developed by the North Carolina Bar Association/North Carolina Bar Association’s Center for Practice Management in the Members-Only Area this year for a 2 year duration for each video, subject to approval by the parent WSBA of the licensing agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Redenbaugh

From: [Doug Becker](#)
To: [Shashi Vijay](#)
Subject: Practice of Law Board proposal
Date: Monday, August 8, 2022 2:34:23 PM
Attachments: [PLOB Blueprint v2 02 11 2022.docx](#)
[Message to DRAW re PLOB Legal Lab.docx](#)
[20220622 EM exchange re PLOB proposal.docx](#)
[POLB Presentaion Outline.pdf](#)

Shashi,

I am the president of DRAW (Domestic Relations Attorneys of WA), a specialty bar association with about 600 members.

I would like to discuss with you a pending proposal from the Supreme Court's Practice of Law Board to grant a WSBA license to non-attorneys (both individuals and entities) to provide legal services in WA.

Our group is trying to determine if the Solo and Small Practice Section will have a position on this proposal, since your section members would certainly find new and potentially unqualified competition in their field if it is adopted. DRAW would like to cooperate with like-minded bodies in trying to get this POLB proposal thoroughly vetted by people who actually deliver legal services (i.e. attorneys in active private practice) to see if it can be improved upon or, if necessary, denied approval. As with the previous LLLT program, there has not been outreach to the sections. In our view that's a poor process for coming up with an effective solution to a thorny problem.

As background information, I am attaching a) the latest POLB "blueprint" for this proposal b) my initial message to our listserv members about it, c) my response to one of our members who asked "what could go wrong," which gives more details of my thoughts on the merits of the proposal and d) a presentation outline used by the chair of the POLB in his presentations on this topic.

This proposal is being promoted to the Supreme Court for approval and we don't know how soon they will be acting on it. We believe every person or entity who has a position on this topic should be aiming to get a letter delivered to the S.C. as soon as possible. Even if your section will not be taking a position, please give me a call to discuss at any time, including evenings and weekends, on my cell: 206-963-3651. Many thanks.

Doug Becker