

Solo & Small Practice Section April 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting ID: 700 520 206

Called to order at 12:05pm

Attendance: Kari Petrasek, Shashi Vijay, Bruce Gardiner, Kristina Larry, Darcel Lobo, Amber Rush (joined at 12:30pm), Ann Guinn, John Redenbaugh, Peter Roberts, Jessica Jensen; Eleen Trang.

1. Roll Call (Darcel):

2. Approval of December 2019 meeting minutes (Kari): Jordan 1st, Bruce 2nd. All in favor. Approval of retreat meeting minutes with minor correction: Bruce 1st Shashi 2nd.

3. Treasurer’s Report (Bruce): 92.17% dues revenue has been received. 921 members as of end of February. Feb meeting minutes are up in Slack. Minimal expenses except for retreat. $92k in reserves as of end of Feb. Reduced expenses if we have the annual CLE via webinar ($4k for reception- maybe use in another way?) 4092 spent out of 5000 budgeted for retreat.

4. Committee Reports:

Electronic Committee (John):

CLE (Shashi): cash flow in times of COVID Devin Anderson on May 18; Estimated webinar date of 6/9 (not confirmed) with low bono section- waiting for speakers; Possible future webinar on how to help solos (Shashi, Darcel, Kristina- target date in July)

Membership (Darcel): Drafted survey with WSBA for quarterly brown bags (currently tabled due to COVID); Darcel reached out to UW and SU law school regarding outreach to law students- law schools do not appear interested at this time; Mariner’s game scheduled for August 29 (tentative); Discussed possible speaker suggestions for COVID topics.

5. Young Lawyer Liaison: SSPS will participate on one subcommittee; checklist sent in Kari email to be completed, due by May 8.

6. WSBA Coronavirus Taskforce (Kari and Jordan): looking at issues that impact members and public to access legal service and courts; remote will witnessing taskforce (Kari is on that as well); WSBA estate planning during COVID (free on April 22)

7. Section Roundtable (Ann and Jordan): round tables are going great; speakers for apprx 15 mins with Q&A, as well as time for members to address concerns/questions. Capacity for zoom call is currently set at 40 people. Considered including other sections, but may be too many people. Oregon State Bar and solo section reached out to Ann and Shashi regarding what our section is doing in roundtables. Discussion to increase capacity of zoom call to 50 people. Ann and Jordan will speak with Paris to assist other section leaders in setting up their own roundtables.

8. Ways to support solo attorneys (Kristina): raising funds for solos who need the assistance during covid; working with sections to look into obtaining discounts from various providers (zoom, docusign, etc); Free legal resources are available to promote to members Bob Ambrogi- website link: <https://www.lawsitesblog.com/2020/03/free-products-and-resources-for-legal-professionals-during-coronavirus-crisis.html>

Pete proposed using reserves with other sections to provide relief to solos; to be determined.

9. BOG Update (Kim Hunter)- not on the call.

10. New Business (Shashi)- election renewals for Darcel, Jordan, Amber, renewal has been extended. Nicolas Pleasant has applied. Portal has closed for applications; Eleen can reopen the portal or they can email their applications. Pete Bruce and Shashi are on the nominating committee.

June 9 next meeting date