



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 April 6, 2021 EC Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting ID: 751 741 0489

Called to order at 12:05pm

Attendance: Kari Petrasek, Shashi Vijay, Kristina Larry, Darcel Lobo, Ann Guinn, John Redenbaugh, Jessica Jensen, Nicholas Pleasants, Julianne Unite, Joseph Riemer (left at 12:50pm), Nancy Hawkins, Bruce Gardiner

1. Roll Call (Darcel)

2. Meeting minutes (Shashi) 10:11am name spelling correction for Tara, should be Terra; 2:31pm “aren’t” should be “are”; 10:24am remove the word “adding”. Meeting minutes to be approved Shashi moved to approve with revisions, Bruce 2nd.

3. Treasurer Report (Bruce). Status as of Feb 2021 41.67% of year complete. We need 52 more members to reach our goal of 1,000. Received \$1200 in CLE revenue, goal is \$4800. Expenses have been low. Spent \$1000 on retreat, budget was \$4000. Our section has \$102,556 in bank account. Financial statements are on Slack.

4. Committee Reports:

- Electronic Committee (John): One article posted to members only area. Upcoming meetings are listed on the section website. Nick inquired to Julianne about the status of being able to archive listserv. Julianne is following up with WSBA IT department.
- Education (Shashi): Next mini CLE is April 28; about commercial leases. Will be announced on listserv shortly.
- Membership (Darcel): Survey for potential pods, to be discussed later in agenda; Looking at south end member virtual event for May 2021; Mariner’s game hopefully in August 2021.

5. Proposed Rule Changes and Vote for Statement submitted to BOG (Nick): many members requesting section to comment on the proposed rules. We have to clear any statement through BOG before submitting to Supreme Court. GR 12 analysis required of section, that the action is authorized under GR 12. 75% of voting members have to support comment. Individuals are free to make direct

comments, but these steps are required to submit comment on behalf of section. We have submitted the memo but not the comment. Julianne shared an example from the pro bono and public service committee of what a comment would look like.

During review, consideration denied last week by BOG due to lacking GR 12 analysis and other deficiencies; but not denied on the merits. Julianne suggested at least one person from section leadership should attend BOG meeting to represent the section. Our memo went to the legislative committee of BOG but Julianne is not sure of how/why that happened. EC may need to schedule special meeting to approve proposed section comment; we are already past deadline for submission to BOG.

Motion to approve Nick's comment proposed that this complies with GR 12, and is not a political comment. Bruce moved, Shashi 2nd. Bruce proposes that if we don't have BOG approval that the EC sends it directly to the Supreme Court on behalf of the EC and not the section as a whole. Jessica 2nd. Bruce withdrew motion. Julianne raised concerns regarding a concern that a comment by EC will be viewed as representing the section as a whole. Special meeting set for 4/19 at 12pm.

6. Julianne: SSPS Portal for applications is set to close on 4/16 at 5pm. This deadline could be extended. Bruce, Jessica, and Kari are up for reelection. Shashi's at large position is also available. Amber has joined nominating committee.

7. SSPS Conference Update (Ann): Shanthy is working on contacting speakers for availability and pricing.

8. Roundtables (Ann): No updates, trying to get a date, no date in March that worked and no April date as of yet; Webinar may move to April since it is available.

9. Section leader updates (Shashi): no one from EC attended. Nancy did attend, meeting focused on the WSBA on24 webinar system. More sections are doing the shorter CLEs and putting them on sooner and it is hard to get a spot as they are often booked. Looking at adding funds to add a second level of availability. This has not been an issue for SSPS because we do every other month so availability is usually fine.

10. Pod survey (Kristina): provided update on the POD idea. Not enough present for a vote and didn't seem to need an official vote. Kristina asked those in attendance, consensus is to send it as there is no conflict with the rule change and it needs to go out.

11. BOG liaison report (Sunitha): Sunitha not in attendance. Update not provided.

12. Board Recruitment (Ann): Ann mentioned in the past we tried to add geographical diversity, make a showing of trying to bring in people from around the state. Will continue to reach out to acquaintances, put it on the listserv, and garner more interest in applying.

Kari asked if the board was at its limit; if we had open seats. Ann located in bylaws that the "composition of the EC shall be no less than four and no more than seven." Nick mentioned it was sent to WSBA that there are 3 positions open.

Meeting concluded at 1:35pm.

Special meeting to be held April 19, 2021; next meeting is June 8, 2021, and will include annual meeting.