



WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Taxation Section

WSBA Tax Section Executive Committee – Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 19, 2024; 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. (Meeting via Zoom)

In Attendance

Megan Tahl

Jason Harn

Brett Durbin

Carolyn MacGregor

Cat Connell

Sandra Veliz

Jay Jetter

Daniel Ng

Darek Jarski

Darin Jensen

Kimberly Anderson

Najja Bullock

Tina Poley

Jessica Bejerea

Rich Johnson

Dan Sito

Daniel French

1. Called to order 8:05 am.
2. Call to Order, Attendance, Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - December Minutes – Approved.
3. Treasurer’s Report (Al Sierra (not in attendance))
 - Per Megan: Still in the same position as last month
4. New/Ongoing Items
 - Section Executive Committee Elections:
 - i. Elections coming up in the coming months.
 - ii. Informational drop-in links available.
 - iii. Should begin discussing who will be the incoming treasurer.
 - Legislative Co-chair:
 - i. Brett would like to keep the co-chair position open and would like to see if anyone knows someone who would be interested.
 - ii. Per Carolyn: If we find someone, we can appoint immediately to finish out term.

- iii. Cat is intending to stay in the co-chair until the end of term but thinks co-chair position should remain.
 - 1. Not sure if Reed is interested in continuing in position.
 - Al has reached out to Chief Justice Gonzalez
 - i. Najja is willing to help facilitate the conversation with Chief Justice Gonzalez.
 - ii. Scope is dependent on speaker's comfort level; idea was DEI in tax but is up to the speaker.
 - Columbia Tower Club
 - i. Per Carolyn: They did come back and say we can agree to most of WSBA's concerns, and the one issue can be overlooked; however, agreement is not on-going but rather year-by-year.
 - 1. Just need to be prepared with a contingent plan in case an agreement is not reached this year.
 - ii. Darek is more than willing to speak with WSBA attorneys about the difficulties of planning events because timing is typically contingent on keynote speaker's schedule.
 - 1. Possible contingent speakers: Drew Shirk, new DOR Director.

5. Committee / Liaison Reports, Ideas, Goals

- Estate & Gift Tax (Cat Connell & Reed Jones)
 - i. Had a short meeting last Friday at noon; had pretty steady attendance.
 - ii. Would like to do one CLE for the remainder of the year.
 - iii. In general, it works well to keep the meetings remote for this period because a lot of people are joining from outside the Seattle metro area.
- International Tax (Al Sierra)
 - i. Not present/No report
- Transactional Tax (Dan Sito)
 - i. Dan and Daniel were able to connect this week.
- IRS Liaison (Rich Johnson)
 - i. No report
- DOR Liaison (Kimberly Anderson & Tina Poley)
 - i. SCOTUS denied cert in *Quinn*.
 - ii. Legislature in session so DOR is working with legislature on feasibility of changes to Washington Taxation (a lot of focus on housing)
 - iii. Update on apportionment rulemaking:
 - 1. Based on last month's feedback, a summary of changes has been published.
 - 2. It's not a set policy but was a success this time and may be used in the future for rulemaking that garners comments.
 - 3. Comment period was extended until yesterday.
 - iv. Feedback on how website may not reflect on-going litigation, particularly *Antio* (header on pubs now note on-going litigation).
- Legislative (Brett Durbin & Callie Castillo)
 - i. Capital gains tax bill is currently working its way through legislature right now.
 - ii. Let the committee know if anyone has comments.
- Communications & Website (Jay Jetter)
 - i. Continuing to work with Noah to improve website; worked with Jennifer on scholarship and Jessica on DEI.
 - ii. Discussed whether a survey type mentorship application is feasible.
 - 1. Google Form was suggested; DEI is going to look into options.

- iii. Discussed whether it's appropriate to include volunteers' names in recognition email; consensus was that it's okay.
- Young Lawyers (Daniel French)
 - i. No report
- Outreach/Scholarship (Jennifer Gellner)
 - i. Not present/No report
- Pro Bono Committee (Darin Jensen)
 - i. December Tax Court – had six volunteer attorneys show up.
 - ii. April calendar coming up; will be working on sending an e-blast.
 - iii. Have been communication with John Clynch about other volunteer opportunities.
- State & Local Tax (Aaron Johnson)
 - i. Not present/No report
- CLE (Jason Harn)
 - i. Invitation to sections to contact us with any ideas for events; committee will begin reaching out to people about ideas the committee has for mini-CLEs.
- DEI (Jessica Bejerea)
 - i. Invitation emails have gone out for mentorship program sign-up.
 - 1. The plan is to continue recruiting mentors and mentees over the next month then offer an information session.
 - ii. Thought there was supposed to be a LinkedIn post but haven't seen anything yet; going to follow up with WSBA about this.
 - iii. Met with SU Law regarding its mentorship program.
 - 1. Idea is to work with their mentorship programs to connect the section's mentorship program with the law schools.
- BOG
 - i. Not present/No report

6. Adjourned at 8:53 am