



Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Ste. 600
Seattle, WA 98101-2539

2020-2021 Executive Committee

Mel Simburg, Chair
Roger Moss, Vice Chair
Joanna Roth, Past Chair
Courtland Shafer, Treasurer
Adrienne Keith Wills, Secretary

Mary Juetten, Young Lawyer Liaison

Alan Alhadeff
Craig Beles
Carol Betts
Lisa Brown
Dee Knapp
Sasha S. Philip
Lish Whitson

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 19, 2021

12:00pm – 1:30pm PST

Held via Zoom

In attendance: Mel Simburg, Adrienne Wills, Craig Beles, Lish Whitson, Courtland Shafer, Bob Oberstein, Mary Juetten, Lisa Brown, Lish Whitson, Roger Moss, Joanna Roth, Alan Alhadeff, Sasha S. Philip

Reflective Check-In

Opening

Agenda Additions and Changes

- No changes or additions

February Meeting Minutes Approval

- Approved

Updates from the Chair

Nominating Committee (Reminder: Roger, Adrienne, Courtland as officers; Dee, Sasha, and Mary (Greg's remaining year)) (Application: Statement of Interest + link or bio due 3/15 to 4/16)

- Mel reminded current officers they will need to go online to enter their name, express interest for their position in the coming year, and add a bio/link. Other members whose terms are up will need to do the same

WSBA News (Julianne Unite)

- Julianne not present due to Board of Governor's meeting happening at this same time.

Outreach

Within Section

Action Items:

Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices of ADR

www.wsba-adr.org

Supporting Diversity (Dee, Sasha) (Coordinating with WSBA Diversity Specialist) (Diversity for ExCom: ethnic, geographic, age)

- Sasha sent an e-mail summary as she anticipated not being present for the meeting. It said: “Update on equity, diversity, and inclusion initiative: Dee and I met to discuss potential strategies, which included a possible law student mentorship program, a possible Happy Hour NW focused on diversity and inclusion (in which we simply ask the question of what those terms mean to people and what efforts would be supported by our community), and possible mini-CLE(s) on the topic (for which we would want to be very thoughtful about selecting speakers and framing the conversation). Dee is also reaching out to some folks at SU Law who are tasked with similar initiatives to schedule a conversation, in the hopes that we can learn from them and engage in some cross-pollination of ideas. Dee, please chime in if I have missed or misstated anything.”

Inviting Guest Section Members to ExCom Meetings or Committees (Sasha) (Plan is to make specific invites to persons and cooperating organizations/groups, and extend invites to members generally. How accomplish?)

- Bob Oberstein joined us today – we welcomed him and Roger expressed appreciation for Bob’s support of our other activities.
- Roger connected with the Bar to obtain a list of Section members, which he organized by county. His approach was to write to folks and introduce himself and ask if they’ll like to connect by Zoom. Other Executive Committee members are encouraged to reach out to Section members from this list. Mary requested that Roger share the text.
 - Mel provided context that we’d attempted similar contact in the past, however that was pre-COVID and the inquiry was about local events. Planning remote events due to COVID will be easier. Mel will reach out to the Yakima area again.
 - Craig will continue to reach out in Spokane county and counties north/south of that area.
 - Lisa Brown offered to reach out to folks in the Tri-cities area as well as Southwest WA.

Not Limited to Section Members:

CLE development (Alan, Paul, Carol, Lisa, and Lish) (Collaboration outside WA?) (Mediation and Domestic Violence?) (Collaborative Law Outside Family Law?) (Other?)

Cross-Section & MBA Collaboration (Alan & Sasha) (Lisa: Health Law Section, FBA) (Lish: Inn of Court)

Academic Partnerships (Craig, Dee, Sasha) (Q- plans for each law school?) (Combined law school event?) (Possible Collaborative Law April Happy Hour?)

Events: Happy Hour Northwest: NWDRC?

Lisa said the Section she reached out to expressed interest and wanted to check with their committee and membership.

Inn of Court: Lish reported there are no developments at this time and that this may be revisited post-COVID

Diversity reach-out: No activity

Law school partnerships/happy hour: Have been inviting law schools/students. Sasha noted it’s incumbent that Executive Committee members participate.

Reports (Rotating Order) (And if not covered above)

Media & Communications (Adrienne, Carol, Mary) (Website, communications with members, onboarding packet/email, making sense of two websites and various channels of communication.)

-Adrienne described that she, Mary, and Carol discussed the Section’s digital footprint. Adrienne expressed ceasing use of the Ning website in favor of something like Groups.io.

-Mary noted the Section's digital landscape was 'beyond confusing' when she joined. The Ning website now seems less informative than the Bar section website.

-Roger expressed that Mary is knowledgeable about legal tech and its intersection with marketing. He spoke in favor of simplicity. He also described frustrating communication with the Bar about the tech issues with our listserv. Roger expressed frustration that we can't fundamentally communicate to members.

-Alan echoed Roger's sentiments about the fundamental need for communication with Section members. Alan highlighted that our outreach is an avenue to find out from members what approach to communication would serve them. Alan also said he favors a simple way for us to get our messages out.

-Mel asked about focusing the conversation on the Bar's Section list serv.

-Mary summarized that the issue of the Ning website and the list serv are interconnected and that the group would need to consider moving to the new listserv and using the bar website.

-Roger requested and received an all Section-member list with e-mail addresses.

-We discussed the Ning website.

-Roger moved we create new listserv via Groups.io and communicate to section members that that's where we are moving list serv communication, and tell our members that the Ning website will be going away at a designated date. We had a second. Alan amended the motion to add that the Media & Communications Committee be empowered to act as needed to carry out the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.

-With respect to the Ning site, Adrienne indicated she would check on when the Ning site renewal fee would charge.

-Transition issue: Adrienne will check with the Bar as to whether they have a record of past list serv messages. Mel expressed that if someone saved the Section list serv messages they could also be uploaded.

NWDRC (Adrienne, Sasha, Roger, Mary)

-Roger noted that he, Sasha, and Melissa have done presentations but nothing else has developed yet. So, the plan is to wait and see what may develop in the future. For the website, Sasha owns the domain name but don't own the Weebly site. She could cut off the Weebly site and put up an "under construction" status. Roger moved that we request Sasha to re-direct the Conference website to a temporary landing page and that we put information about the NWDR Conference on our WSBA ADR Section page. Seconded; motion carried without opposition. Roger offered to help Sasha with this.

Land Use & Environment (Courtney) (Note: Courtney stepping down. Is Committee to continue?)

-Mel moved we drop this sub-committee without Courtney's leadership or interest from any Executive Committee member in acting as leader for the Committee. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Courtland)

-Courtland noted that we if want anything for the next fiscal year then it should go into the budget proposal.

Professional Development & Membership (Alan & ?)

Legislation & Public Policy (Paul & Joanna) (L/T eviction mediation; foreclosure mediation; family law mediation.)

-Joanna asked for insight as to how the Committee functions; Mel expressed that the chair of that Committee is a liaison between our Section, the Bar, and the legislature.

Anything Else?

- Mel mentioned the ABA DR Section is having its annual Spring conference April 14-17.
- Mel mentioned the ABA Business Law Section is having a presentation on April 21, and he is part of an panel on the Role of an Effective Apology. Registration information is at <https://web.cvent.com/event/81a892c0-8271-4534-83d8-333f366e2629/summary>

Media & Communications: Work to continue on updating welcome message for new members.

Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices of ADR

www.wsba-adr.org

Reflective Check-Out

Zoom chat log:

12:07:22 From Joanna Roth to Everyone : I'll turn on my camera when I'm done eating lunch
12:30:22 From Mary Juetten to Everyone : I can do Whatcom and Skagit (unless others want to)
12:38:12 From Sasha S. Philip (she/her) - (425) 298-7839 to Everyone : Sorry, didn't mean to send that in the middle of Adrienne's air time!
12:50:58 From Roger Moss to Everyone : I move we do what Mary just said
12:51:24 From Joanna Roth to Everyone : I support it as well
12:51:44 From Alan Alhadeff to Everyone : I concur and second Rogers motion. Alan
12:52:44 From Courtland to Everyone : Back in a minute.
13:01:45 From Mary Juetten to Everyone : And CAROL!
13:01:57 From Adrienne Wills to Everyone : Agreed, Mary!
13:05:18 From Roger Moss to Everyone : The bar gave Roger permission to use section member emails to communicate with members. I want to do that through Group.io.
13:06:23 From Joanna Roth to Everyone : I'm active on the FL section list serv. It's been working fine to have the groups.io list serv in parallel with the WSBA list serv.
13:21:28 From Roger Moss to Everyone : You okay with me raising the issue today? Or have we terrorized them enough today?
13:21:49 From Roger Moss to Everyone : Sorry folks I thought I was texting my son
13:31:18 From Bob Oberstein to Everyone : This was very interesting. Thanks for letting me be a fly on the wall. Look forward to seeing s all of you at future meetings. Stay safe and healthy!
13:32:06 From Roger Moss to Everyone : Joanna you are doing a great job!!!
13:32:07 From Courtland to Everyone : Paul knows all things legislative committee.