



Dispute Resolution Section

Washington State Bar Association

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

2021-2022 Executive Committee

Courtland Shafer, Chair
Mel Simburg, Past Chair
(open), Vice Chair
Lauren Novack, Treasurer
Dee Knapp, Secretary

Alan Alhadeff
Chris Casillas
Carol Betts
Melissa Fuller
Lish Whitson
Paula Emery
Bob Oberstein

Kyle Berti, Young Lawyer Liaison

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 17, 2023

12:00pm – 1:30pm PST

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82282323088?pwd=Nnp1Z3oraTgwS2FDVIA2Vk1yZG01UT09>

Passcode: 12345

Lish Whitson, Dee Knapp, Mel Simburg, Bob Oberstein, Courtland Shafer, Paula Emery, Lauren Novak, Melissa Fuller, Carol Betts, Alan Alhadeff

I. Meeting Matters:

Meeting Minutes Approval—the February minutes were amended to reflect the fact that minutes of November and December were approved. With that change, the February minutes were approved.

II. Follow Up on Retreat (where are we?)

DR Conference—See Chris Casillas email; Melissa reported that they are trying to get all the classrooms on the first floor. Melissa would like to wait to see what the UW says before pursuing other avenues. She does have contacts at Seattle University. A few people are enthusiastic about joining a planning committee but so far only a few. Once a committee is formed, others may come back. Lish suggested a onetime meeting with all the old members with no future obligations just so they can call on the people with experience. Paula said that she and Lauren are going to the ABA conference in May and would like to have a one pager to give everyone with a QR code link.

III. Nominating Committee Report

Mel reported that Dee will continue to serve as secretary. Melissa confirmed that she will continue to serve as an at-large member. We still need a vice-chair. WSBA has an info meeting April 7 noon to 1pm re: serving on executive committees. Mel sent out an email blast to the list. Dee said she'd reach out to recent Seattle U grads. Melissa suggested reaching out to recent UW grads. Paula wanted to revisit the conversation at the retreat—re: DEI. Problem is we're spread pretty thin. What do we want to prioritize to excite people and what are we doing to develop professionals. A discussion ensued. Mel said that he's working on an annual report as to what we've been working on and what we've done which could be given to prospective new members

Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices of ADR

www.wsba-adr.org

IV. Treasurer's Report:

Lauren reported that \$43,696 is our balance. 109% is section dues revenue. Per member charge is 111% of what we budgeted may have to do with giving discounted memberships. 38% of the budget used, 36% of the year. Let her know about budget items needed before the May meeting of the Bar setting next year's budget. Budget is due between the June and July meetings, so talking about it at the April and May meetings

Mel pointed out that a large part of our budget is our retreat and that we need to start lining that up in order to have a place to hold it.

V. Outreach Efforts:

- a. Once a month post to listserv or social media (Everyone)
- b. Happy Hour. (Kyle, Courtland); Courtland worked out the bad addresses on zoom and is working with Bob on the next HH. Bob is hoping to get Melissa Kinzler, Harvard trained mediator and neuro-science techniques to move people from emotions to problem solving. Also looking at topics on how do you bill.
- c. Section Book & Media Club (Carol)
 - a. Put out suggestions of several books, only got 2 responses, will reformat requests for feedback. Is thinking of choosing a rather dense book but asking people to read only a couple of chapters and to report out. Paula loved Lessons in Chemistry and highly recommends it. Another one is The Neuroscience of You. Chantel Pratt

VI. Committee Reports:

- a. **Events:** Reach out to past committee members and past chairs for a reunion and opportunity to meet together and review paths forward? (Alan?) No report
- b. **Media & Communications (Adrienne, Carol,)** (Ending Ning Website; obtaining record of List Serve entries; onboarding packet/email; use of groups.io; marketing the Section (changes to WSBA website, including WSBA request). Section Spotlight for Bar News?--Carol made the observation that the section changed to DR but the list-serve is still ADR. Courtland will talk to the Bar about changing the name. Carol said she could email Carol McGregor.
- c. **Legislation & Public Policy**--Carol said that the legislature is considering a new rule to loosen the rules about what it means to practice law without a license including corporations. Paula said if Carol will send it to her, she'd put it out on the list serve. Another concern is ChatGPT and other AI bots which when asked about community property they got it wrong. Substitute bill (in the agenda) approved by e-vote
- d. **Professional Development & Membership (Alan & [Kyle?])** Paula agreed to be on the committee as co-chair
- e. **CLE development (Alan, Paul, Carol, Mary, and Lish)** (See above.) Carol said we have a slot for July 25 Legal Lunchbox of free CLE's. She and Joanna are working on a CLE on mediation topics, perhaps involving family law or lawyers working with clients who have gone to mediation supporting them in interest based mediation or maybe what is mediation and what is the difference between the different styles.

VII. Academic Partnerships (Craig, Dee)--Dee reported on the Seattle U Law School Client Counseling Competition and the Mediation competition, and encouraged attendance at the Networking event.

VIII. Other—Dee related that Andrea Brenneke recently passed away and that she is trying to put together some kind of scholarship opportunity in her name. Alan said he would be happy to join a committee. Dee reported that Andrea's memorial will be held April 16th at 1:30pm at Daybreak Star in Discovery Park.

1:20: Adjourn