

Construction Law Section
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016

Attendees:

Marisa Bavand	Joe Scuderi
Colm Nelson	Rick Wetmore
Rob Crick	Zak Tomlinson
Ron English	Athan Tramountanas
Colm Nelson	Bob Olson
Jason Piskel	Brett Hill
Jennifer Beyerlein	Rick Wetmore
Amber Hardwick	Tom Wolfendale
Jannelle Brennan	Sean Skillingstad
Joe Torrenzio	

The meeting commenced at 12:00 pm at the law offices of Short Cressman, and adjourned at about 1:10 p.m. Marisa Bavand chaired.

Discussion

1. Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved as presented, except to add that Amber was attending the meeting on the phone.
2. Financial Report: Jennifer reported that section membership is down 50. The budget shows about \$11,000 in revenues and about \$13,000 in expenses. The year end balance is projected at about \$34,000.
3. Scholarship Update: Tom reported that the review committee had reviewed the papers, and unanimously recommended to award the first prize to Jacob Lervold, a UW student. There was only one other article submitted, Archie Roundtree, from Seattle University. The Council discussed the fact there were only two entries and whether changes might be made for next year. The Council approved awarding both submittals the previously set amounts. The winning article will be published in the upcoming newsletter.
4. Newsletter Update: Athan asked for articles to be published in the spring newsletter, with a target to publish this spring. Amber volunteered to write on MMJ bill currently before the legislature, and the Council suggested we assemble point-counterpoint articles to present pro and con positions.
5. Winter Forum: Bob reported that 41 signed up and 32 of those attended. Sponsorship of open Bar by Inventus was appreciated. The speakers were “awesome” and well received. Jennifer reported that the net loss for the event is likely to be about \$100, much less than the budgeted amount of \$1,000. Bob suggested we should publish the speakers’ “ten tips” on the listserv and/or in the newsletter.

6. 2017 Midyear CLE: Ron reported that all speakers are set and the first notice should go out to the section in April. Brett reported that WSBA will permit the section to use up to \$1,500 for a social hour after the seminar, which cannot be used on alcohol. Brett will look for a sponsor for the alcohol.
7. Spring 2017 CLE: John Evans was absent. Marisa will contact John. The Council discussed shifting the seminar to the fall.
8. Bylaws Committee: Joe reported that draft revisions will be sent out this week, with required and suggested changes, and guidelines for minimal and optional changes. Revised bylaws must be completed not later than September. Athan, Amber and Marisa agreed to serve on bylaw revision committee.

The Council also discussed the election process. The current bylaws provide that the nominating committee should have been formed 120 days before election; a standing committee was appointed last year. The committee should issue a notice to the section inviting candidates to submit their names, and the committee's recommendations should be provided to the Secretary by early April, for delivery to the Council not later than 60 days before the election on June 9.

9. Website transition changes: Joe reported that his contact for changes to the section web page is Jason, and they will work on the timing and content of any changes.
10. Proposal to allow searching Section Membership in WSBA directory: Joe requested the Council respond to the proposal to permit such searches. At this time, the website does not allow such searches, but it does permit searches for "area of practice". The Council recommended leaving the search approach as it is, but does not object to allowing searches for those individual lawyers who opt in.
11. New Business: The Fall Forum was discussed. The last forum had very poor attendance, which needs to be improved. It will on the agenda for next month.

NEXT MEETING IS ON APRIL 12, 2016

AT SHORT CRESSMAN

END OF MINUTES