

**SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION  
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 16, 2021**

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members were present at this meeting: Chair Eleanor Doermann, David Sprinkle, Ron Thompson, Jim Riehl, Al Armstrong, Joe Gordon, Carole Grayson, Steve DeForest, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Brian Comstock, Morrie Shore and Carolyn MacGregor, WSBA Sections Program Specialist. Not able to be present was our new BOG Liaison Jordan Couch.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Eleanor welcomed the attendees.

Eleanor indicated that our WSBA bylaws proposal was approved at the last BOG meeting. Brian and Carole were present at that meeting.

Jim congratulated Eleanor's efforts, via Listserv, at informing the Section membership of our endeavors and success at winning BOG approval for the WSBA bylaws amendment. Carole gave credit to Bar Counsel Julie Shankland, who had suggested that our proposal to the BOG include the option of all Bar sections to amend their respective bylaws in the manner which our Section wishes to do, not just our Section alone.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Al's minutes of our October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved by Motion.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ron stated that he has not received the latest financial report from the WSBA; as a result Ron had no formal report this month. But he was able to state that we had a good year—we had anticipated our fund to total about \$9,000 by this time, and we now have almost \$14,000 to our name. Ron credited this to our two mini-CLEs. He also noted that our Section membership has increased, also due to our mini-CLE efforts.

**ANNUAL REPORT DUE**

It was mentioned that our Section Annual Report is due December 7. Brian volunteered to prepare and submit this Report, as he had done so in the past.

## **MORE ON OUR WSBA/SECTION BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

It was mentioned that we are now waiting for the Washington State Supreme Court to officially put its stamp of approval on the BOG's approval of our measure.

Eleanor mentioned that our Section received favorable exposure as a result of our success with the BOG.

It was mentioned that we keep abreast on the Supreme Court's schedule and anticipated approval date, so we can set a date to institute our amendment of our own bylaws.

## **MINI-CLE MATTERS**

Eleanor stated that we need someone from the Section to learn about webcast technology. David said he would join Eleanor in this endeavor.

Several topics were proposed for mini-CLEs. Among them were retirement and estate planning. Attorney Aaron Paker was mentioned as a possible speaker. The general subject of CCRCs--- continuing retirement and care communities-- was discussed. Jeanine said this would have wide appeal. Eleanor had some materials on this subject and indicated she would send around this material. Steve said we may want to consult the Elder Law Section about this topic as they often address similar subjects. Carole suggested a panel discussion/mini-CLE (one and-one-half hours) which could include Aaron Paker. Eleanor asked for suggestions as to who the other panelists might be. Eleanor suggested an early winter presentation. Carole suggested a speaker from the WSBA's current version of the old LOMAP program. She indicate she would email Margeaux Green, of the WSBA's Legal Practice Management Department, as well as Pete Roberts of the old LOMAP to inquire whether they or either of them would be interested in presenting. Jim said this is also a possible topic for our newsletter. Another topic mentioned was the sale of a small firm or issues raised upon the death of a practitioner. Carole mentioned that an attorney in Cashmere had passed away and that attorney Steve Crossland may be familiar with that situation and how it was addressed.

## **OUR ANNUAL CLE: HOW DO WE PLAN FOR IT AT THIS STAGE**

It was unclear to the Committee whether we should assume our main CLE will take place as currently scheduled and on an in-person basis. Jim thought we should check to see which of our p l a n n e d s p e a k e r s w o u l d s t i l l b e available, and, for now, we should assume it will take place as currently scheduled with an in-person format. Brian thought we might want to transition to current conditions, perhaps we should present a CLE in a different mode. "I don't think we're going to go back to what we had." Steve disagreed, saying that he thought we should just continue to confirm or line up presentations as if it was going to be an in-person affair. "There is an interest in people coming together. Carole asked what the Bar is planning to do, or to allow, with respect to in-person CLEs. Carolyn replied that she wasn't sure just what the Bar will do. She said she would check and see if the WSBA is anticipating any change in its current policy mandating remote-access meetings. Brian mentioned that he had noticed that organizations that rely on totally on-line meetings during this pandemic

seem to fade away over time. Carole said houses of worship seem to make it work. Jim recalled recently seeing a live Broadway play, with the audience masked and fully vaccinated and that approach apparently worked just fine. Jeanine suggested that Jim entertain us with a Broadway tune; there was no response from Jim. Morrie mentioned that the Yakima Symphony requires vaccinations and encourages wearing of masks, and that policy is effective.

As to which of our planned presenters would still be available this May, Ron said that Tacoma attorney John Ladenburg is still available to address issues relating to the establishment of the Chambers Bay Golf Course. Carole said that attorney Miriam Korngold would not be available this May.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Eleanor said that she, Morrie and Jim recently had a meeting, and they had discussed various topics for our next newsletter; among these topics were the timing of an attorney's retirement, printing an article by Aaron Paker, something on Public Benefit Corporations, a book section and a message by Eleanor to our readership. Brian said we should be careful to stay true to our mission, and indicated we had dropped the term "newsletter" to describe our publication. He opined that a lengthy publication, sent by email, may not be well-read by our recipients. He wanted to make sure that we addressed the interests of our Section membership. Brian cited the ABA's concomitant senior lawyer publication as an example. Jim recalled that the ABA has a substantial senior lawyer membership and has the resources to put out two publications. Carole said that no one joins our Section to advance their careers, so the interests of our members would be rather broad. Brian said that he will send around prior emails to show what we had originally planned, and we should put this matter on the next meeting agenda.

## **A DECEMBER MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

It was decided to have a December meeting this year.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Eleanor adjourned the meeting.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on December 21, 2021 at 10:30 am.