

**SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 20, 2021

This meeting was our fourteenth consecutive meeting conducted entirely through Zoom, again due to the coronavirus crisis. The following Executive Committee members were present at this meeting: Chair Eleanor Doermann, Ron Thompson, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Jim Riehl, Brian Comstock, Steve DeForest, Al Armstrong, Joe Gordon, Morrie Shore, and Carole Grayson. Not able to be present were Scott Osborne and BOG Liaison Tom McBride.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Eleanor welcomed the attendees.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's Minutes of our March 16 meeting, as amended, were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ron was pleased to report that our Section continues to do well financially. We had a net gain of \$163.68 during February, bringing our fund balance to \$13,059.45 as of February 28. Ron noted that this figure doesn't take into account any amount realized from our April 9 successful CLE.

Relative to membership, we have 245 Section members as of the end of February. At this time last year, our roster sported only 226 names. Ron opined that this increase is due to our periodic mini-CLEs, which are offered with a pricing scheme that encourages mini-CLE's to sign up.

Ron's Treasurer's Report was approved by Motion.

BYLAWS AND SECTION/ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP CONUNDRUM

Jim had noted in earlier correspondence that when he attempted to place his name in nomination for his renewed Executive Committee membership, the automated pre-nomination system would not process his application due to his not being in "active status." Jim had gone to inactive status, and was surprised to learn that this status was apparently a bar to his seeking renewal of his office. Our Section bylaws do bar those in inactive status from being involved in the governance of the Section, but may serve as non-voting Executive Committee members. Likewise, WSBA's bylaws also provide that only active Bar members may run for or serve on any committees of WSBA. To address this situation, and in an effort to assure that those of us that are not active members could still retain a presence, albeit a non-voting presence, on the Executive Committee or in our Section itself, Carole drafted some proposed changes to our Section bylaws.

Brian said he thought that our bylaws may not have to be amended because there are provisions in these bylaws that allow us to designate former Executive Committee members as non-voting members.

Eleanor contacted Julianne Unite about questions raised by inactive Bar status with respect to Executive Committee membership. Julianne indicated that she would consult the WSBA General Counsel about all this. Eleanor thanked Carole and Brian for their research regarding this matter, and said we will put off consideration of these questions until such time as we have had a response from General Counsel. It was remarked that other WSBA sections are also grappling with these questions.

OTHER SECTION ELECTION MATTERS

It was noted that at least five current Executive Committee member have applied to be nominated for an additional term, and several others committee members also said they have applied, but there is apparently a lag time in reflecting their respective efforts.

Eleanor said she would rather we find a means of allowing all current E.C. members to apply in the prescribed fashion, if possible, rather than just waiting until after the electronic process is finished and then using our alternative method.

It was mentioned that there was one applicant who had not served on our Committee before.

Morrie said we should lobby strongly for allowing inactive Bar members to serve on Section Executive Committees.

OUR APRIL 9 MINI-CLE

By all measures our April 9 mini-CLE was a success, attracting 50 viewers. The attendees rated our effort highly. It was suggested that, to save presentation time, the speaker's bio should be place on the first screen of the presentation. Both Steve and Al indicated that they had trouble logging into the presentation. The instructions, they averred, were confusing and contradictory. Eleanor indicated that there has been some talk about employing Zoom for these mini-CLE's.

ANNUAL CLE

Carole indicated that she had been in contact with WSBA's Shanthi Ragu, WSBA Education Programs Manager, about our 2022 annual CLE. The Sea-Tac Marriott has May 13, 2022 open. By Motion it was decided that this would be the date and location of our annual main event.

NEWSLETTER

Jim, Morrie and Eleanor are aiming to produce an issue of our newsletter in May.

Some topics for articles were suggested, among them being public benefit corporations, best time to retire, Jeanine's "Zoom" trial and "Zoom" trials in general, reviews of our recent mini-CLEs, book reviews, the Washington attorney who practices from her recreational vehicle while travelling the country, how to practice law from your home, diversity and inclusion, and an article by attorney Lem Howell.

OTHER MATTERS

There was some talk about where (or how) we should meet after the pandemic ends. There were several views expressed, and several members indicated they would be fine with just continuing our Zoom meetings. Morrie stated that he would especially welcome the continuation of virtual meetings, being from the Yakima area.

ADJOURNMENT

Eleanor adjourned the meeting.

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on May 18, 2021 at 10:30 am.