

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

June 15, 2021

This meeting was our sixteenth 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, Al Armstrong, Joe Gordon, and Morrie Shore. Not able to be present were Scott Osborne, Brian Comstock, Steve DeForest, and Carole Grayson and BOG Liaison Tom McBride.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Eleanor welcomed the attendees.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Jeanine’s Minutes of our May 18 meeting were approved by Motion.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Ron reported that, as of the end of April, our finances remain in good shape. “We had another good month.” Further, he noted, picked up four new members during that month bringing our total membership to 258—well ahead of our projected membership of 220. Our mini CLE revenue totaled \$875.00. Our net income for the month of April was \$790.28. Our fund balance stood at \$13,911.11, putting us \$4,515.66 ahead of our budgeted amount.

Ron also has been in the process of piecing together our proposed budget for fiscal year 2022, which begins on October 1. He formulated three sets of proposed budgets, each with varying membership totals, numbers of CLEs and amounts spent for our publication. Ron recommended the budget presupposing a membership of 250, CLE revenue of \$2,500 and publication expenses of \$1,250. Pursuant to this budget, our fund balance as of September 30, 2022 would be \$11,057.95. The Committee followed Ron’s recommendation and approved this proposed budget. This budget will be submitted to the WSBA in July.

UPDATE ON BYLAWS REVISIONS RELATED TO VOTING STATUS OF CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Eleanor noted that the WSBA will have to approve, through an amendment to its bylaws, our desire to change our own bylaws, which would extend Committee voting privileges to inactive, honorary (50-year), pro bono and judicial bar members. Our BOG Liaison, Tom McBride, is willing to act as sponsor of this WSBA bylaws change. Kevin Plachy (now Director of Advancement), Eleanor, Brian and Carole have been working on this project. It was mentioned that WSBA

General Counsel, Julie Shankland, had wondered whether this proposed change should be made applicable to all Bar sections, not just the Senior Lawyers. A general discussion followed concerning the merits, or lack thereof, of having our proposed change apply across the board to all WSBA sections. Eleanor liked the idea but wondered whether this strategy would lead to a more protracted process. Jim opined that it may not be a good idea, and would lead to innumerable complications. Al agreed, and mentioned the possibility of the consequences of eventual denial of a generally-applied WSBA bylaws amendment. “If that happens, then where would we be?” Morrie wondered whether a general amendment would cost the Bar more money; would current Bar members be more willing to go inactive, save money and still retain their voting privileges on their respective WSBA sections. Eleanor said that her subcommittee should have a discussion with General Counsel.

ELECTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE SECTION POSITIONS

It was noted that the voting for the Section officers is still on-going, with the voting open until June 20.

DISCUSSION OF LOCATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that, at this time, it is unclear whether or not we will be able to return to meetings at the Broadmoor Golf Club. The discussion turned to what options are available to us. Morrie stated that he really appreciated the Zoom meetings, which allows him to attend our meetings from Yakima. He recalled that attending our meetings via cell phone proved, in essence, unworkable. The possibility of conducting some meetings by Zoom and others on an in-person basis was mentioned. Eleanor said she would have access to a meeting room in Tukwila. Eleanor suggested that we come up with some other possibilities.

ANNUAL CLE

Eleanor mentioned that we do have a firm date at the SeaTac Marriott for next May. Jim suggested that we determine who, among our previously scheduled speakers, would still be available next May. Eleanor suggested an additional topic: what changes in legal procedures occasioned by the pandemic, would become permanent and which procedures would revert to the old practice. She mentioned that some attorneys have attended depositions remotely, and some have even conducted trials via Zoom or some other technology. Jim suggested a title for this topic: “Where do we go from here?”

NEWSLETTER

Eleanor suggested that the Publication Subcommittee meet soon, possibly next week. She asked for suggestions for articles.

MEETING SCHEDULE

It was decided that we not meet in in July.

ADJOURNMENT

Eleanor adjourned the meeting at 11:01 am.

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on August 17, 2021 at 10:30 am.