

SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 18, 2023

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Interim Co-Chair Carole Grayson, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Brian Comstock, Jenny Rydberg (who took minutes), Joe Gordon, Bill Cameron, David Sprinkle, Carolyn MacGregor WSBA Sections Program Specialist, Rachel Maetz WSBA CLE, Noah Baetge WSBA Sections Program Coordinator, Not present were Jim Riehl, Steve DeForest, Al Armstrong, Morrie Shore and BOG Liaison Jordan Couch.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Carole started the meeting at 10:35 am. Al is flying to the Trinity site/Los Alamos in NM today. Steve had login difficulties, and Jim is in Key West, FL.

CLE PLANNING FOR 2024

Should the next CLE be a full day, half day, or 2 hour webinar? Rachel Maetz points out that venue space is filling up fast if hold WSBA CLE outside of WSBA space. Jenny points out downtown has safety and commuting issues. Jeanine points out ease of having it on a Light Rail stop. Bill wonders about an East Washington location. Jim thinks one ½ day and webinars, Rachel asks for clarifications. David thinks doing more than 1 CLE/year is ambitious. Rachel confirms that off-site location can support webinar, just takes a little more WSBA planning, cites doing them in Suncadia, Leavenworth, etc. Rachel says there's a lot of positive feedback to a 2-3 hour webinar, but her superiors advocate each Section doing about 7 hours/year; if 2 half days, then we'd need to do one in the spring. Poll taken of the Executive Committee revealed support for ½ day in person-hybrid + 2 hour webinar. Discussed advantage is that speakers can be anywhere on the planet. Carole says she's gone in March but can support webinar in April. Rachel says there is nearly a CLE daily in September, so aim for before the fiscal year ends 9/30 and suggests July or August so can plan the venue, which often drives the dates. Carole Grayson will send out e-mail requesting volunteers for spring webinar.

Conclusion: The Section will put on a webinar in spring 2024 and an in-person/hybrid CLE in summer 2024, details TBA.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al Armstrong's minutes from September 20, 2023 meeting had previously been sent to all members of the Executive Committee by e-mail. Bill moved to approve; Joe seconded; Bill's motion was approved unanimously and the minutes are approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joe Gordon presented his Treasurer's report. Since last meeting, we have received the August summaries. No activity at all in August. The \$14,825.14 balance 8/31/23 = 7/31/23 balance. September report not yet released to him. Brian moves to approve Joe's treasurer's report, Jeanine seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

CHAIR POSITION INTERIM ALLOCATIONS

Chair position. First 3 quarters of 23-24 fiscal year filled. Fall/1st qtr Carole is chair, Jeanine is 2nd qtr, David is 3rd qtr. Jenny thanked Jeanine again for volunteering for Quarter 2, caused by a change in Jenny's travel plans.

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Report – Jeanine thanks Eleanor and Carolyn who helped with templates and review. No questions asked. Carole discussed the benefit of having a template. Jeanine says report talks about how much we value WSBA support of the Section.

LIFE BEGINS NEWSLETTER

Fall Newsletter *Life Begins* was sent out by e-blast yesterday. Jim is now in Key West, FL living the good life. New column "Ask Ann" – Ann Seidel is a long-time ethics lawyer, has agreed to write the column but depends on input from the section. Send questions to Ann. Jenny asked about ethics of lawyers running \$\$ for an outside organization – we discussed it and decided that would be an excellent question.

Jeanine thought variety of newsletter was wonderful, Carole's travelog was outstanding with just the right photos (almost the same trip Jeanine had taken with her family) – Carole says the CrazyHorse photo was taken by her publisher. Per Carole, the people who Jim lines up TO contribute to the newsletter is just amazing. The article about the court was very interesting.

Jim is looking for articles for next issue by early December. Al has been asked to write up about the Listening Tour and his current visit to the Trinity site that includes Los Alamos.

WSBA MyCommunity

WSBA wants to know what Sections wish to be included in the pilot program to test this software platform and provide feedback to WSBA, diversity of contributors is requested. WSBA wants a contact person from the Section.

We were to watch a 2 minute video Carolyn showed, but audio won't come through, so Carolyn will e-mail a link to the video to all of us after the meeting.

Purpose of the software platform is to help WSBA entities work more efficiently – is a platform to document share, store agenda & minutes, have a discussion there like a list serve but can reference past messages and archives, can use for scheduling, for the Section as an entity to have all of its work in one place, can sign in with myWSBA login info, individual can choose whether to leave all on platform or have e-mails sent to their addresses, etc. WSBA wants volunteer sections to try it out for a year, wanting to answer the question, “Will it actually be helpful?” If pilot goes well, then WSBA will consider for all Bar entities. Everyone will get training, as would Carolyn. If want to do it, submit form by Friday. When asked, Carolyn says that this or a similar tool will eventually be adopted by WSBA for use by all sections, the question now is, “Is this software the right tool?” Jenny moves, Carole Seconds, submit form to express interest to be considered for pilot program. Not opposed. Motion passed. As we talked, Jenny submitted the on-line form to WSBA that expresses Section interest.

Jenny sort of volunteered to be the Section liaison if the Section is selected for inclusion in the pilot program, disclosed her heavy travel schedule and asked if this would work for WSBA. Carolyn will check on that.

SECTION LEADERS FALL ORIENTATION

Nov. 13, 9 - 11 am via Zoom. Carole cannot attend as she is teaching at this time, looking for volunteers from the group, Carolyn verifies no negative repercussions if no one from the Section attends. Agenda will be sent out in a future e-mail blast. Carole suggests what we wait until a more detailed agenda is received and see if anyone then wants to go.

BOG LIAISON PROCESS AND REPORT

Jordan Couch (At Large) is our BOG liaison. BOG decided to go back to one liaison so Kevin Fay will not be our BOG liaison but will join the Senior Section.

NEW BUSINESS/ADJOURN

1. Brian confirmed that the Task Force re: increasing membership should be put off until next month, when AI can participate, as AI is involved in the task force, too.
2. Noah Baetge, WSBA Sections Programs Coordinator: Senior Section requested the web page, past program, section information, and Section list serve be combined. He showed us how he has reorganized this information as Section History/Information, Past Programs, Section ListServe, + WSBA Member Benefits. Do we like combining all of these? Suggestion: combine WSBA support and Member benefits into one tab. We discussed that it's difficult to find member support/benefits in the WSBA website. Noah explained the difficulty from an IT standpoint and was appreciative of our feedback.
3. On Motion to Adjourn, the meeting ended at 12:01 pm.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 10:30 am.