

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

April 17, 2024

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Interim Chair David Sprinkle, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Carole Grayson, Al Armstrong, Joe Gordon, Brian Comstock, Jenny Rydberg, Bill Cameron, Jim Riehl, WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor and WSBA Education Programs Lead Rachel Matz. Not able to be present were Steve DeForest and BOG Liaison Jordan Couch.

CHAIR’S WELCOME

David welcomed the meeting attendees.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Al’s March 2024 meeting minutes were approved by Motion.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Joe indicated that he had not received the latest financial data from the WSBA so had nothing further to report. He noted that the proposed section Budget for the next fiscal year are due by Friday, June 7. Later in the meeting, it was decided to place the topic of next year’s Budget on the Agenda for May.

WSBACOMMUNITY

David reported that he knew of no further developments with respect to our participation in the *WSBACommunity* pilot project. He said he had thought that our participation would be more difficult than he had supposed. It was mentioned that the duration of this project is being extended one year, to June, 2025. Jenny again voiced support for this project. It was suggested that we make the subject of *WSBACommunity* a permanent topic (while the project lasts) at our meetings, and Carole thought this should be placed at the bottom of each meeting Agenda.

CLE PLANNING FOR 2024

David observed that “the May 1 webcast is upon us.” Rachel reported that the pre-webcast testing is concluded. She said that registration has been somewhat “light,” but

she realized that most attendees sign up within about two weeks of a given event. Carole said she had sent out an e-blast re our May 1 webcast to the Section Leaders Listserv.

Regarding our anticipated October CLE, David noted that the Hybrid CLE Subcommittee had recently met. The next such meeting was scheduled for May 14 at 9:30 am. Jeanine said that she and Carole were going to make some preliminary inquiries relative to securing presenters.

LIFE BEGINS NEWSLETTER

Jim said that the spring 2024 edition has been submitted to the WSBA for review, and following this Brett will receive the final draft. Jim commented favorably on Jenny's travelogue. Jim said Anne Seidel had again selected her own ethics question to answer in her regular column. Former Justice Madsen also wrote a "great article." Former Chief Justice Alexander penned an interesting piece entitled "From the Bar to the Bench and Back," and has indicated he would like to continue to write for our publication. Jim complimented Brian's article on Joseph McCarthy.

Jim said he is anxious that the spring edition is out in time to advertise our May 1 CLE.

Jim said he wants to send out our newsletter to all Senior Lawyer-eligible WSBA members via e-blast. Jim submitted this suggestion as a Motion. The Motion passed.

There was discussion about whether we should skip the newsletter's summer edition. Jim noted that it is sometimes harder to secure articles for a summer edition as the would-be authors are all busy with vacations and other summer concerns. Carole suggested that a summer edition could consist of a recap of our May 1 affair by Al. David suggested a shorter summer edition, issued late in the summer which would feature advance publicity about our October hybrid CLE. This would supplant our standard fall edition. This suggestion was adopted by Motion.

WSBA YOUNG LAWYER LIAISONS TO SECTIONS PROGRAM

Carolyn noted that the WSBA has instituted a Young Lawyer Liaisons to Sections Program, and that the Senior Lawyers Section can participate by submitting, by May 8, the Young Lawyer Section Checklist, a copy of which was included in the pre-meeting documents distributed by David. David said he would complete the Checklist and submit it. Jeanine said that she was aware that Ruth Apahidean Harper, an Edmonds attorney, has indicated interest in serving as our Young Lawyer Liaison. Carolyn said that the service term of this Liaison would be from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

ELECTIONS

It was noted that the application portal for section committee membership is now closed. For any current members who have missed the deadline, Carolyn said they could contact her to secure a place on the ballot.

Carolyn noted that our Section still does not have a candidate for Chair—no such application was received. Carolyn opined that we should have a full-year Chair, rather than the temporary three-month Chair terms we have been using. Carole said she likes our current system of rotating Chair duties such as we are using now. Carole noted that she has served as Acting Chair under our current system as well as full-year Chair from 2014 through 2016.

It was noted that, in addition to having no Chair candidate for the next fiscal year, we do not yet have a volunteer to act for the next quarter under our current system.

Jeanine indicated that she will not be a candidate in this election.

SECTION MEMBERSHIP TASK FORCE

It had been decided previously that further action by this Task Force should await the receipt of the WSBA's Membership Status Work Group recommendations. Carole suggested that we omit this subject from future meeting Agendas until such report is issued. Brian asked that this topic be retained on our Agenda pending issuance of the report. Brian said that the Task Force should be reconstituted. We need "new ideas and inspiration." David said we will keep this topic on our future Agendas pending the Membership Status Work Group's report.

ADJOURNMENT

David adjourned the meeting at 11:43 am.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on May 15, 2024 at 10:30 am.