

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

July 17, 2024

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

CHAIR’S WELCOME

Carole welcomed the attendees.

Carole indicated that she had participated in a recent WSBA panel presentation on Young Lawyer Engagement—promoting the practice of reaching out to new lawyers via the use of Young Lawyer Liaisons with the various WSBA sections. A key to success of this practice, Carole learned, is the full inclusion of the Liaison with the given section to which he/she is assigned. It is understood that the WSBA wants the Young Lawyer Liaison program expanded.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Al’s June 2024 meeting minutes were approved by Motion, subject to Carolyn MacGregor’s WSBA job title being redesignated as “Sections Program Specialist.”

TREASURER’S REPORT

Joe reported that he has received the Statements of Activities for the months of March, April and May, 2024. The latest Statement for May reflects a new fund balance, as of May 31, of \$12,903.17, and a *Life Begins* newsletter expenditure of \$1,275.

SECTION ELECTIONS

Carolyn announced that the results of the recent section elections have been posted by the WSBA; all those standing for election were successful. There are currently two open positions for Executive Committee membership.

REPORT FROM OUR BOG LIAISON

Jordan reported that there is a BOG strategic planning meeting coming up.

There is a proposal in the works to establish another Member Status designation to allow for pro bono work. The BOG is also putting together another group to work on the on-going licensure question.

OCTOBER 2024 CLE

It was stated that our CLE Subcommittee met on July 12. Another meeting was scheduled on July 26.

Some of the prospective presenters were discussed; Camile McDorman and Julia Doyle of the Office of the Washington Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division,, Laurie McGee of the National Elder Fraud Hotline, Sarah Shifley and Danica Noble of the Federal Trade Commission among them.

It was mentioned that our program should go beyond the issue of consumer fraud.

Rachel requested to be included in pre-CLE phone calls to our speakers, as she wants to make sure that our speakers (and their respective employers) know that their presentations will be recorded.

There will be lunch provided, as well as snacks. The lunch will probably be served at the conclusion of the program.

NEWSLETTER

Jim said his aim is to have our next publication of *Life Begins* out by the first half of September.

Anne Seidel will continue to write her ethics column, despite her "not exactly being deluged with ethics questions from our Committee members" as Jim phrased it. Jim again asked us to submit ethics questions to be forwarded to Ms. Seidel.

Jim said he is always looking for book reports. He plans to include our election results as well as the fact that we still have two openings on our Executive Committee. Jenny and Steve have submitted or will be submitting travel columns. Dr. Charles Ericksen will write a story about the rule of law. Jordan will also write an article about BOG-oriented matters.

Al submitted a summary of our May 1 CLE. He indicated that he hoped that his article will be broken up and not printed all at once, and that pictures of the speakers will be included with their summaries. Carole said Rachel may be able to provide these pictures.

MEMBER STATUS WORKGROUP

Prior to our meeting, Steve Crossland, through Carolyn, provided all Executive Committee members a summary of the of six recommendations of the Member Status Workgroup. Steve C. himself could not be present at our meeting.

Retired attorney John Steele had reportedly expressed a concern about continuing dues obligations for 50-plus-year WSBA members. Steve (DeF.) stated he knew John Steele, and would reach out to him regarding his concern. Mr. Steele currently holds honorary membership in the WSBA.

There was another retired attorney who inquired about getting the \$25 section fee waived. Carolyn said that this waiver may not be practical. Jim opined that this particular objection to section dues sounds more philosophical than borne of economic necessity.

Carole noted that the Workgroup's recommendation number 4 did not include the word "sections." It was noted that this omission may be inadvertent. Carole also said that a more complete definition of the term "retired."

There was some discussion of possible terms for retired older lawyers, e.g. exemplary, emeritus, etc. Al liked the term "emeritus," but Steve felt that term was "a stretch."

Steve (DeF.) said he felt that the recommendations of the Member Status Workgroup were "exceedingly complex."

It was planned to continue this discussion at our next meeting.

TASK FORCE ON INCREASING MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER MATTERS

Regarding our Task Force on Increasing Membership, Brian stated that he is not sure what form our Task Force will take in the future.

Further discussion of our Task Force on Increasing Membership is deferred pending further discussion of the recommendations of the Member Status Workgroup.

ADJOURNMENT

Carole adjourned the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on August 21, 2024 at 10:30 am.