



# MINUTES

## Executive Committee Call

February 17, 2021 | 4:30 PM

**Participants:** Vanessa Hunsberger, Camille McDorman, Hildja Saas, Dwight VanWinkle, Anne Watanabe, and Brent Williams-Ruth.

### Approval of January Minutes

The Executive Committee approved the minutes for the section meetings that took place in January 2020.

### Upcoming CLEs

Feb 24 - 12 pm: Law in the Time of Climate Change

March 23 - 12 pm: Nonhuman rights and human rights – co-webinar with Animal Law Section

April 26 – 12 pm: The Right to Health and UN Review

May 17 - 12 pm: Restoration of voting rights

May: Drug decriminalization - ending mass incarceration here and abroad. Half day co-webinar with Civil Rights Law Section

June 14: Minority bar associations – a closer look, with Loren Miller and South Asian Bar Associations (Anne will follow up about who will produce)

### March 25 Listen-In at 4 PM

Brent will be facilitating.

### Executive Committee Elections

Portal opens March 15 and closes April 16. Voting takes place from June 7 to June 20. It will be difficult to find folks to join our nominating committee but Anne is trying! She will ask us all to think of who to recruit to the committee as well as to run as Chair-Elect.

In the longer term, would like to amend section by-laws to be more in line with the WSBA's but there isn't time to take care of this before March.

### Externship for Prison books ban project

Anne would like to find an extern to do some research. The committee overseeing the project has developed a questionnaire for the extern to use in doing outreach to the Department of Corrections. Anne proposes allocating \$1,000 to fund the extern's work. We have been carrying \$3,000 over from year to year for scholarships/internships so there shouldn't be any budgetary problems associated with this project. To find the extern, Anne will contact the local law schools for assistance.

The Executive Committee approved funding this externship.

Idea for other project: a writing competition with a financial prize.

### **JustLead Leadership Academy**

For follow-up: does the Academy have a funding gap? Camille knows academy graduates and will look into how WPTL support could work. We will discuss again next month.

### **Other discussion items?**

Remote bar exam issues: lack of facial recognition of people of color, monitoring screen usage is a challenge for people with disabilities. Brent has taken this issue up with the WSBA Regulatory Services Department but no change likely for upcoming February bar exam. However, Brent is looking into options following the February bar exam and possible recourse for bar exam takers who encounter issues; WSBA should not be paying a company to administer a discriminatory testing process. Brent is involved in a Supreme Court Licensure Commission that will be reviewing how to approach licensure for the future. He has read all letters that have been submitted on the topic! He will share ways for people to get engaged -committee meetings, testimony, and other ways for the public to weigh in- once those options have been determined.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.**