

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION

April 18, 2013

Present: Kristen Sager-Kottre -- Chair
 Marcia Buckley -- Treasurer
 Debra Dority -- Secretary

Members at large: Christopher Eggert, Lauren Saucy, Anthony Wilson, Murray Petitt,
 Kimberly Quach.

Also participating: Ryan Carty, Susan Moffet.

The meeting took place by teleconference.

Call to Order. The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:13 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, it was RESOLVED: the minutes of the Family Law Section Executive Committee meeting held March 21, 2013 are approved as written.

Report from Adoption Sub-Committee. Susan Moffet from the Adoption Sub-Committee gave the following report. The Adoption Sub-Committee is a standing sub-committee of the Family Law Section of the Bar. There are ten slots on the committee, and one is presently open. The committee by-laws state: "The purpose of this Standing Committee on Adoption is to aid the family law section in developing and improving the skills of the section members in relation to adoption and to provide a forum for communication and action in matters related to adoption." Recently, this sub-committee enlisted the help of Ryan and the FLEC in responding to HB 3249. HB 3249 was a bill that would require notice to grandparents in all adoptions (even non-DHS adoptions). The sub-committee reviewed the bill, looked at due process issues and *Troxel* and recognized that notice is already given to grandparents in certain types of cases, but it is not appropriate to give them notice in all cases. The question became whether Robin Pope could testify on behalf of the Family Law Section, and through the FLEC's vote, she was able to do so. The future work of this subsection includes filling the empty slot, other adoption-related legislation, and updating/amending our bylaws.

Treasurer's Report. Marcia Buckley provided the following report: The Family Law Section has 1,023 members as of the end of March. We received \$525 of revenue in February and \$182 in revenue in March. We have recently spent \$3,800 for the monthly newsletter. As of the end of March, we have \$77,743. Marcia received a letter from Maureen O'Connor, the liaison with the Oregon State Bar and the Board of Governors. Maureen wanted to know if the full amount will be going to the Annual Salishan Conference. If we have an excess, this may be a reason to consider the hardship policy we have been discussing and/or giving those people that have been

members of the bar for over 50 a break for the Salishan Conference (as Marcia has suggested). In 2012 at this time, we were at \$72,911 (so we are up approximately \$5,000). Lauren pointed out that the Salishan Budget last year was \$80,000. We usually pay these bills in October & November. Given this, it is still not clear whether we will have an excess. We are going to look at the numbers more closely, but continue on with the examination of the hardship policy / scholarship to the Salishan Conference.

Old Business. The following items of old business came before the committee: (some were taken out of order)

1. **Salishan Annual Conference Update.** Christopher Eggert, chair of the Salishan subcommittee, sent out a tentative agenda before the meeting. Speakers are scheduled for each section except for the child support guidelines, but Chris is working on it. Speakers Dr. Dudley and Wendy Borg-Ransford are not fully confirmed yet, but all other speakers on the tentative schedule are confirmed.
2. **Legislative Update.** Ryan Carty gave the following update: the biggest news is that HB 2559 (drastic changes to spousal support) officially died in committee. However, the House Judiciary Committee would like the Family Law Section to engage with the proponents of this bill and discuss some potential changes to spousal support- AFTER this legislative session is over. Ryan will be contacting us about this matter in the future. The two bills sponsored by our section (HB 2571 and 2572) passed the House and Ryan will be testifying before the Senate regarding these bills on May 1, 2013. These bills will go directly to the floor when the legislature reconvenes. There are also two adoption bills (more like co-bills) still moving through the process. Nothing else is at issue at this time.
3. **Webpage Update.** Anthony Wilson gave the update on this matter. We can now update and add to the website as people need us to. Anthony and Chris will talk about what information needs to be uploaded regarding the Annual Conference once information is available.
4. **Hardship Policy for Conference Fees.** No report at this time. Debra will forward the example of a CLE Scholarship from the Juvenile Law Section to Murray Pettit.
5. **Expert Database.** Anthony Wilson gave the update on this matter. This is still a work in progress, and Greg Oliveros would know more about this. They are still working to get in touch with Jack Lundeen.
6. **Professionalism Award.** Anthony Wilson gave the update on this matter. Anthony is finishing the last edits on the language between him and Greg Oliveros. He will send a final draft to Kristen for input, then to the group as a whole.
7. **Revision of Board Policy re: reimbursement for mileage, rooms, etc.** Kristen reported to the group that paying the mileage for FLEC member for the two in-person meetings does not require a formal amendment to the bylaws, just a change to the internal

policies of the FLEC. Thus there will not be a call to the Family Law Section as a whole for a formal amendment to the bylaws.

New Business. There was no new business before the Committee at this time.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by Debra Dority, 2013 Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.

Debra Dority

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The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 16, 2013, 3:00 p.m.**