

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION

April 17, 2014

Present:	Absent	--	Chair
	Debra Dority	--	Chair-Elect
	Marsha Buckley	--	Treasurer
	Kimberly Quach	--	Secretary
Members at large:	Christopher Eggert, Zachary Frutengarten, Murray Pettit, Laura Rufolo		
Missing:	Ryan Carty, Jennifer Currin, Susan Grabe, Caitlin Mitchell-Markley, Murray Pettit, Kristin Sager-Kottre, Lauren Saucy, Anthony Wilson		

The meeting took place by teleconference.

Call to Order. The Chair-Elect called the meeting to order at 3:07 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 (FLEC) meeting held March 20, 2014 are approved as written.

Annual Conference 2014. Kimberly reported that most of the letters have been sent to the prospective speakers. There is one panel that is not filled, but this should be accomplished shortly. The meeting is on target in terms of timing.

Treasurer's Report. Laura indicates that there is not an update regarding any Section since November on the Bar website.

ACTION REQUIRED: Marsha will contact the Bar to find out why the Section financials have not been posted.

Hardship Policy. Zach and Murray reviewed several hardship policies. The common application elements included the following:

1. Many policies required that the applications be provided substantially in advance of the meeting (anywhere from 3 weeks to 6 months) to allow sufficient consideration, and to ensure there is sufficient room for the applicant at the event;
2. Most of the policies were purely discretionary;
3. Most required an explanation of the financial hardship encountered by the applicant. Some required that financial information be provided the committee considering the application; and
4. All required that the application be in writing and be signed by the applicant; and

5. Some policies indicated that the applications would be considered on a space-available basis.

In many respects, our hardship policy is a bit different because it is a once a year event and not a global application for CLE attendance within a given section. As such, the timeline for the due date for the application might be adjusted. The Salishan flyers normally are distributed in August.

Zach suggests that there is general agreement that a hardship policy should be implemented, but no clear understanding of the budget for the cause.

Laura suggested that we need an internal policy to allow appropriate consideration of multiple applicants, both because FLEC needs to be able to implement the policy seamlessly as its membership changes and to show that the process is unbiased. Zach and Murray stressed that the applications are granted on a discretionary basis only, and that it would not be possible to accurately predict the necessary considerations.

Laura suggested that the applicant provide data about the number of times Salishan has been attended (and what years), and the number of times that a hardship scholarship has been requested and permitted (including years). There may be preference given to applicants who have never attended Salishan before. As between similarly-qualified candidates, perhaps the selection process should be random if the scholarship process is oversubscribed.

The Committee furthermore considered whether or not the names of the recipients would need to be disclosed. There was universal concern that disclosure would be embarrassing and perhaps curb worthy applicants' desire to seek the scholarship. Laura suggested this data may need to be provided if requested as the fund represents Section membership money.

ACTION REQUIRED: Zach and Murry to determine whether or not the identity of the recipients must be disclosed if requested by any Section member, speaking first with Section liaison Susan Grabe.

ACTION REQUIRED: Zach and Murray will circulate a draft application to the Committee before the next meeting.

ACTION REQUIRED: The Committee membership will forward ideas for an internal policy governing the award of the applications to Zach and Murray prior to the next meeting.

Professionalism Award. As Tony was not present during the meeting, the action required has been carried over to the May 2014 meeting.

ACTION REQUIRED (All Members): The members shall approve the policy at the May 2014 meeting.

Web Page. The Committee is interested in implementing, for example, a searchable directory, .pdf versions of the FLEC meeting minutes, and an ability to send in a form to Ryan for legislative action. Laura has tried to get in discuss this issue with the Bar, but the Bar has not yet

responded to her query. Debra reports that this would be useful especially for the legislative action element.

ACTION REQUIRED: Lauren Saucy and Laura Rufolo will explore the costs associated with adding the new features to the web page and report back to the committee.

Membership – Resignation & Subcommittee to Replace. Marsha was on this Subcommittee, and then had to step off the Subcommittee. Laura then returned to the Subcommittee, and she and Zach remain involved. Laura suggested that she contact Jacy Arnold to see whether she would be willing to serve as the required non-FLEC member. She is based in Eugene and would provide some geographic diversity to the issue. The Subcommittee's recommendations about new membership will be confirmed in October. The Committee is required to provide notice of the new proposed members one month prior to Salishan. While it is known that Greg Oliveros will need to be replaced, it is unclear whether other Committee members will continue to serve.

ACTION REQUIRED: Laura will contact Jacy Arnold to determine whether she would serve on the Membership Subcommittee.

ACTION REQUIRED: The Committee members should advise Laura whether they will continue to serve on FLEC.

ACTION REQUIRED: The Committee members should advise Laura whether they have any recommendations for membership on FLEC.

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. with the thanks of the Chair-Elect.

These minutes were prepared by Kimberly Quach, 2014 Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.

Kimberly A. Quach

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The next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. by teleconference.