

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION

September 17, 2015 Meeting

Present: Debra Dority – Chair
Lauren Saucy – Past Chair
Kimberly Quach – Chair Elect

Members at large: Kimberly Quach, Laura Rufolo, Lauren Saucy, Annelisa Smith, Stephanie Wilson

Absent: Jennifer Brown, Andrew Ivers, Melinda Thomas, Murray Petitt, Zachary Fruchtengarten, Jennifer Currin

Also Participating: Sylvia Stevens, Executive Director of the Oregon State Bar

The meeting took place telephonically.

Call to Order. The chair began the meeting at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was not present.

Approval of June Minutes. Due to the lack of quorum, the meetings were not approved.

Treasurer's Report. As the treasurer was not present, no Treasurer's Report was provided.

New Business:

The Board of Governors is making a number of policy decisions affecting CLE seminars in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. The objective is to make the Bar, and each Section, self-supporting. This goal is challenging.

The changes the BOG has implemented will not take effect until the middle of 2016 or 2017. It is working with a vendor that will operate the Bar's CLE activities. This will require all Sections to use the Bar's registration services online. It costs between \$10-25 to process one check used to pay registration fees. Payments will be taken online and can also be taken at the door. Up to date registration lists and transfers to MCLE departments will be possible. Moreover, each Section's meetings will be placed on the Bar's master calendar, which will help to manage conflicts and market meetings to non-Section members.

For programs longer than three hours, the Bar will have the first right of refusal to co-sponsor the event. The Bar will offer a variety of co-sponsorship models or

menus. The Bar will handle the CLE, caterers, market and provide workers for tables.

All Section websites will be hosted on Bar's platform, resulting in more uniformity. The Washington and California Bars handle Section websites similarly.

The Bar will discourage large Section fund balances. At the end of 2014, the total Section fund balance was \$720,000. Sections should not retain one to two years of operating expenses.

The Bar questions whether it should subsidize Sections that are not self-supporting. Oregon has 42 Sections. Most state bars of similar size have fewer. For example, Utah has 32 Sections and Alabama has 42. Washington and Arizona have twice Oregon's membership, but they have 27 and 28 Sections, respectively. California has only 16 Sections. This adds to administrative time and expense. Some Sections clearly are very active, good, healthy programs.

The BOG will discuss these issues next year. A meeting for all of the Sections will take place at the end of 2015 or beginning of 2016. It wants Section feedback.

Laura Rufolo was concerned that the efforts made by our Section to create a website would be wasted. Sylvia assured the group that this would not be the case. There is a master template into which all of the materials on our website will be transitioned to. The result will be a more cohesive, branded look. Maintenance can be handled by the Bar periodically at \$40/hour. With the new software, all websites will be current all of the time. The new website format will allow us up-to-the-minute directory access. The site will have greater functionality and flexibility.

Kimberly indicated that our Section has great price sensitivity. Sylvia acknowledged this was an issue for many Sections. The biggest cost is related to personnel.

Co-sponsorship for CLEs will not be instituted until 2017 because all of the Sections are in the middle of budgeting for 2016.

Sylvia observed our Section has a healthy fund balance, but the group indicated this will be largely used for the Salishan conference. The Section lost approximately \$6,000 last year, and made a \$1,000 and \$6,000 profit for the prior two years, respectively.

Kimberly advised that the Section was invited to the Lewis & Clark "Bar Prowl" event on September 30, 2015. Annalisa indicated that she would go if her trial settled. Lauren indicated Melinda might have flyers that could be used.

Continuing Business:

1. Annual Conference 2015 Update—Stephanie Wilson, Laura Rufolo, Lauren Saucy, Jennifer Brown

Stephanie indicated that the conference is ready to go. Materials are being sent to the printer today. She has already sent over the list of speakers and committee members. Some have inquired about the renovations. Salishan hoped to complete them prior to the conference. There are only eight more rooms under renovation. The lobby and waiting area, as well as dining room and sunroom, will be renovated following the conference. The bathrooms are completed.

Volunteers are needed for registration on Friday and Saturday mornings. A volunteer is needed for timing the speakers. Annelisa offered to do the latter.

2. ABA Family Law Section.

The question arose as to whether or not the Section could pay for the registration for a member of FLEC. The expectation was that we would provide a gift to the Chair of the ABA Family Law Section. The group decided that if a member of the Committee was already going to the meeting, we would attempt to find time on the agenda to welcome the ABA Family Law Section to Portland.

3. Website Subcommittee Update – Laura Rufolo, Andy Ivers

The website has been updated a couple of times. The Committee was unclear about Andy's interest in the subcommittee. This subcommittee likely has become moot.

4. Legislative Subcommittee Update —Ryan Carty

Ryan not present, so there was no update.

5. Professionalism Subcommittee Update – Melinda Thomas, Debra Dority

Paul DeBast will get the award. Justice Baldwin will give it to him.

6. New Member Subcommittee Update—Laura Rufolo, Lauren Saucy

Gwen will be present at Salishan and will be the newest member.

7. Hardship Policy Subcommittee Update – Zach Fruchtengarten, Murray Pettitt, Kimberly Quach

Nothing to report at this time.

8. 2017 Annual Conference in Sun River Update—Jennifer Currin, Lauren Saucy

No update from Lauren. Sunriver will be providing a video for us to review at Salishan.

9. Adoption Subcommittee update— John Hudson

John's not here so there was no update.

Discussion ensued about how to ensure that the Committee members come to meetings. It was suggested that members be reminded about the meetings the week of each meeting. Some members have attended less than one-half of the meetings.

*****Next meeting: October 10, 2015, 7 a.m., in person at the Annual Conference in Salishan.**