

difference for the next step up, and a \$40/night difference for the next step up that includes a loft with a kitchen.

- Shannon Snow is helping with social planning and the suggestion was made that a room should be provided for her. Her firm will be paying for the room, so there is no need to do so.
- There is a room reserved for the professionalism award winner.
- Next steps – Continue to send out emails/marketing; Get brochure ready to go out in next 45 days or so; Decide social events/networking – family oriented;
 - a. Some networking options:
 - i. Beer tasting sometime after the conference (Friday – possibly during the reception)
 - ii. Stars & S'mores on Thursday evening
 - b. Sponsorship of the events – Jody Stahancyk's firm is likely to sponsor beer tasting.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding food options for the annual conference. Melinda reports she is trying to start with food/beverage budget, but it is a significant challenge. There is limited information from which to work (Contract w/ Sunriver, Banquet order; Comparison spreadsheet)

Food is likely to be more expensive and may have to cut down on food events. This event offers the most food options for CLE. As currently structured, it appears the food cost represents approximately 70% of the total registration fee.

Potential Options:

Thursday night, much lighter (no host bar, popcorn, etc., as it is anticipated that people are driving in on Thursday and will be checking in late. Last year, the Thursday night reception included heavy appetizers and cost \$2,400. Sunriver is forecasting 150 people that night.

Lauren is of the opinion that there are far too many food opportunities at the conference. She noted that when she cut dessert from the luncheon, there was a great deal of backlash. She suggests we cut back on the Thursday reception, limit the snacks, and move to a smaller continental breakfast on Saturday. Many members observed that people have come to expect bigger meals. And, given the change in venue, perhaps this year is not the year to experiment.

Kimberly suggests healthier snack options.

Jennifer Currin polled attorneys in Eastern Oregon, and relates that the general consensus was to reduce Thursday food to light appetizers.

Stephanie also suggest that with planning Stars & S'mores people are still getting food/networking to supplement light reception at check in (which is not historically well attended).

General consensus: Less food Thursday, but keep the full breakfast on Saturday breakfast. This is the year we can really monitor it and determine whether changes are required.

Melinda estimates \$50,000 for food and A/V costs, but these are not hard figures. Zach reports \$90,000 for the conference budget total.

Lauren notes that Sunriver's range for food costs include the following: Breakfast \$24-31/person; Snack - \$15-18/person; Lunch - \$36/person; Buffet Dinner - \$58-99/person. \$170/person without gratuity (mid-range dinner – w/ nothing Thursday) + \$37 for gratuity.

General consensus is to keep Friday dinner as a larger dinner, but lighten Thursday food options.

Stephanie suggests seeking sponsors to offset cost of food.

Discussion was had regarding raising registration costs. The group felt that the change of venue was already a big change, and we should re-evaluate that question after we learn more about projected food expenses.

In addition to food costs, there are also: costs for Speaker rooms (2 nights); cost of actual facility (should get from Sunriver); gratuity; Oregon State Bar – about \$8,000; mileage for FLEC members

Proposal – Raise price to \$300 – section members/\$325 -non-section members? No official vote was made, but the subcommittee will consider this at the next meeting.

Debra suggests adding some additional evaluation questions about facilities and rating the importance of food on the evaluation sheet.

Melinda will work on a spreadsheet, budget, for each component of expense for the meeting.

Committee will seek input from FLEC as decisions are made.

2) Website Subcommittee Update– Andy Ivers was absent. Jennifer Brown provided report.

At the last meeting, potentially editing of content was discussed. Lauren and Andy have not touched base, but Andy already has an account with password. Lauren had made some previous changes, but no new requests have been made about changes to the webpage. If anyone wants changes to website, contact Andy. He now is in a position to help.

3) Legislative Subcommittee Update – Ryan Carty reports he has now had opportunity to draft proposed statutory language (emailed out to FLEC this afternoon). Three proposed bills:

- i. **Spousal support ORS 107.134** – This group already voted on this proposal in 2015. Ultimately the proposal stalled on the floor. It was brought into a greater conversation as to the merits of spousal support generally as opposed to what the section was going to do. The purpose of the proposed legislation is to require a limited exchange of financial information. Obligor would have to provide their financials first. Non-litigious out of court mechanism.
- ii. **Change to how PERS deals with survivor beneficiaries.** Currently, if a PERS retiree assigns his account free and clear to member, the member

cannot reallocate the survivor benefit. The retiree has the power to change the beneficiary of the survivor benefit. The proposed legislation would permit *any* award (free and clear or benefit to an alternate payee) the member can reapportion survivor benefits if allowed by court order. The underlying intent is remove the need for PERS to send small checks on a monthly basis. PERS has raised a small technical issue relating to the legislation, but it is not anticipated there will be a fight. Ultimately, the legislation will save PERS administrative costs. A PERS policy analyst says that there is a small issue, but Clark Williams is addressing it. If PERS objects to the legislation, it will not be pursued.

- iii. Judge Raines (Wash. Co.) has advocated for new legislation related to life insurance. Currently, if a support obligor dies and fails to name the beneficiary required under a Judgment, the Judgment-required beneficiary has to prove the beneficiary who was actually named (in violation of the Judgment terms) had notice of judgment and knew of the requirement prior to the obligor's death. The legislation would allow the Court to apply general equitable powers to reapportion benefits that passed outside of the obligor's estate.
- iv. Zach asks about the status of the collaborative law legislation. Ryan reports it was sent to the Oregon Law Commission. Ryan and Susan Grabe participated in meeting. The Bar (through Mark Johnson) raised significant concerns re: RPC conflict with Uniform Collaborative Act, and, specifically, the RPC that prevents a lawyer from entering into an agreement that restricts her ability to practice law. Ryan raised concerns on behalf of FLEC regarding procedural fairness, and the potential that requiring the collaborative lawyer(s) to withdraw would generate excessive fees and limit access to justice. Justice Walters asked for proponents to talk through the access to justice issues. There is no pending action on this matter. It is still in the very early phase.

ACTION REQUIRED: Ryan will circulate an email vote so everyone can look at the proposed legislation again and decide.

- 4) **Professionalism Subcommittee Update**– Debra Dority reports deadline is May 1. Everyone on FLEC (except Debra & Melinda) can nominate a lawyer for the award. Spread the word!
- 5) **Hardship Policy Subcommittee Update**—(Murray Petitt) The availability of hardship waivers is based upon the prior year's performance. Because the 2015 Annual Meeting produced a profit, waivers are available and therefore have been advertised for the 2016 meeting. Zach notes that we will want to carefully consider how many waivers are appropriate.

WILL BE ADDRESSED NEXT MEETING:

- 1) **Adoption Subcommittee update.**

2) Division of Child Support Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

The Starbucks drawing winners are Annalisa Smith and Murray Pettit.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:14 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by Jennifer J. Brown, 2016 Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.

/s/

Jennifer J. Brown

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Next meeting: May 19, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m. via telephone conference.