

2016 Annual Conference Update (Jennifer Currin). Good progress is being made on the planning for the meeting. There was a meeting on the Tuesday immediately preceding this meeting. One of the attendees had a conflicting court conflict, so the meeting was disjoint. Justice Landau agreed to serve as moderator, but this will be his last year. Likely found the keynote speaker, Jacalyn Birnbaum, who is a Chicago attorney that spearheaded rewriting Illinois custody laws. Jennifer reports that she is a fascinating and enthusiastic person. She should be an entertaining personality and speaker. She is experienced in speaking around the nation (California, Illinois, Iowa). Other potential speakers include: (1) Steve McClure – Prenuptial agreements, family business upon divorce; and (2) Judge Sullivan – Mediation and settlement conferences. We are trying to confirm speakers by next month.

Debra proposed topic of defending childhood & domestic violence. She will send the information for consideration

ACTION REQUIRED: If you have an idea for topic or speaker, send it to the subcommittee ASAP. Jennifer will send an email out tomorrow to the planning committee to get the next meeting set up within the next few weeks.

Stephanie inquired about family activities, which was a large motivating factor for the move to Sunriver, which is more family oriented. Jennifer has information that she will distribute about family activities. The golf courses may or may not be available. Tennis will be a potential option. Other group activities include horseback riding and bicycle riding. There are day camps available to children ages six and above. Gwen noted that there are day camps for all ages, with scheduled evening events. She will circulate information concerning those options.

Website Subcommittee Update (Andy Ivers) – Andy Ivers was absent. The website needs updating, as it still lists Stephanie Wilson as the planning chair for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Jennifer Currin will send email with photograph to Andy requesting changes to website.

Legislative Subcommittee Update —Ryan Carty was absent. Susan Grabe provided input.

SB 1561 was introduced by Sen. Steiner Hayward. It would allow entry of an award of child support in same-sex relationships using the Oregon State Child Support Guidelines using ORS 109.119 as the basis for the support. Susan is working with Kate Richardson with the DOJ to see if there is a way to work on adjusting the Guidelines to reflect gay marriage recognition and domestic partnership law. Looking to move forward without legislative fix.

ACTION REQUIRED: Proposed legislation for 2017 deadline is April 1. Ryan should send out a couple of items prior to the March meeting. Kimberly received some potential legislation topics that she will circulate. Review and be prepared to discuss at March meeting.

Professionalism Subcommittee Update (Melinda Thomas, Debra Dority) – This subcommittee is meeting tomorrow. The most pressing issue is how to fit the presentation of the award into the Sunriver conference.

In years past, it was well attended during the evening event. It was a draw for people to go to the banquet. The presentation took place at the beginning of the banquet and people stayed for food/socializing. There will be an evening banquet event at Sunriver. Since there will be a national speaker at the luncheon, it is recommended that the professionalism award be presented at the dinner.

Last year, there was only one viable nomination. Current policy states that FLEC members cannot nominate someone. A proposal was made to eliminate that constraint to eliminate that rule temporarily for the first year or two to get the professionalism award more momentum. Submit nominations, but recuse from voting.

Other changes to the rules were proposed. Currently the rule requires a formal nomination process including completion of a form. There is a proposal to make it easier/less formal, just email provided certain information so that the Committee is on notice of the nomination with the ability to seek additional data. The Committee expressed concern that delaying the submission of nominations would prevent the nominee from receiving recognition in the Conference brochure.

No. 1 priority – publicize it!

- The nomination process should appear on the OSB family law listserv.
- Newsletter

ACTION REQUIRED: Debra/Melinda will revise the rule and the form, then circulate proposals for review.

ACTION REQUIRED: Encourage colleagues to submit nominations. Take it to your local FLACs, bench & bar committees, etc.

Hardship Policy Subcommittee Update (Zachary Fruchtengarten and Kimberly Quach) -- Waiting to find out if there are funds available to offer the waiver this year. Nothing to report at this time.

Adoption Subcommittee update— John Wittwer (no report). Kimberly will follow up to find out if they want to participate in meetings.

No other new business to report.

Starbucks' Card Winners. Zach Fruchtengarten and Jennifer Currin were the winners of the Starbucks' Card Drawing for the meeting. Both waived payment in favor of a fund for libations at the June dinner in-person meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 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

March 17, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m. via telephone conference.