

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION

Date: February 16, 2017

Present:	Chair:	Jennifer Currin
	Chair Elect:	Jennifer Brown
	Treasurer:	Zachary Fruchtengarten
	Secretary:	Stephanie Wilson
	Past Chair:	Absent
	Members at large:	Amanda Thorpe, Annelisa D. Smith

Absent: Kimberly Quasch, Ryan Carty, Murray Petitt, Chris Costantino, Andrew Ivers, Shannon Snow, Keri Smith, Debra Dority, Susan Grabe

Also Participating: William Boaz

The meeting took place telephonically.

Call to Order. The Chair began the meeting at 3:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes (February 2017). The Committee unanimously approved the February 2017 meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report. Zachary Fruchtengarten reports they finalized December financials and came out with the January financials this weekend.

For December, we ran a slight deficit for the month. Many of the expenses were coded under the conference by the bar when they do the reimbursement. Overall, we came close to covering everything.

January was uneventful, nothing surprising. Support assessment from last year was \$8,384. Zach also saw some fees last year that was allocated to our section by the bar, so this is the delta seen in the difference between the \$1,200 to \$1,300. The usual expenses are coming through. There may have been something straggling that was admitted late, and those will not show up until the February financials, which were done last month.

Increased the budget for the conference, paid the last deposit for the conference, which will show up in the next financial statement. Unfortunately, unlikely we will be in a position to offer a hardship policy. We may need to raise the cost of the conference to address the deficit. Even if we raised fee by \$15, it could make up that difference.

Continuing Business

1) 2017 Annual Conference– Jennifer Brown reports that we have all but three speakers confirmed, looking for one more on the collaborative law and for a dementia panel that would consist of a physician and a lawyer. Any ideas for collaborative law for speakers are appreciated. Currently, Nancy Retinas is scheduled to speak, but the committee would like someone to balance her. All other topics and speakers locked in covering a variety of areas.

The AAML and OAFLP have requested their six waivers for students to attend the conference. We need to approve this via the FLEC.

During either the lunch or the CLE, would like to carve out time to honor Larry Gorin.

The committee is working on reducing the food budget. After taking into consideration the surveys, to have the amount of food requested would cost \$62,000. This is far too much, so the committee has to reduce some of the options, otherwise we would have to increase the fee to attend.

2) Website Subcommittee Update –Andy Ivers is absent.

3) Legislative Subcommittee Update — William Boaz reports that there was a committee meeting yesterday to discuss all bills currently in play.

The two bills we sponsored:

SB 492, exchange of tax returns if a spousal support obligation every two years.

SB 522, life insurance beneficiary giving the court a cause of action if the obligor doesn't correctly identify the beneficiary as the obligee, giving them a cause of action if the life insurance goes to a third party.

They are currently through the Senate and in the House.

A litany of other family law bills, three in particular that haven't had public sessions.

The first, SB 550, presumption of equal parenting time, which the family law section has much to say about.

SB 682, child support, giving the court the ability to retroactively apply a modification for the time the obligor is incarcerated.

HB2934, repealing authority to pay child support to child attending school.

With these three bills, the committee is putting together bullet points, raising some of the issues and problems to take into consideration or addressed. Ryan Carty is currently writing the SB 550 bullet point memo, pointing out when SLFAC came out with the report a few years ago

some of their findings and problems they identified with mandating a presumption of equal parenting time.

4) Professionalism Subcommittee Update – Stephanie Wilson reports that the committee met to update the nomination form. The committee would like to change the guidelines requiring an OSB member on the committee given how busy OSB members typically are. If a third member of the screening committee is required, then the committee recommends that it be a non-member of FLEC. However, would like to get rid of this requirement altogether. An email will be sent around for votes regarding this modification.

5) Hardship Policy Subcommittee Update – Nothing to report because until it is determined if there is money to provide for this. If not, then there cannot be a hardship this year.

6) Listserve Etiquette – A message will be sent by Jennifer Currin to Listserve as a reminder of Listserve etiquette.

7) 2018-2019 Annual Conference Contracts Update – Jennifer Currin reports that the biggest change to the contract was the room rates. Sunriver Resort agreed to limit the room increase to just \$5.00 each year, which essentially gives us the same rates as if we had the conference Friday through Sunday instead of Thursday through Saturday. While not thrilled because will go up \$5.00 every year, something to keep in mind in future negotiations.

Jennifer has not sent out the contract because she went through it line by line and noticed three to four other changes that were not discussed. They increased the resort fee from \$20 to \$25. For the past two years, a \$2,500 deposit was required, now they want a \$5,000 for 2018 and \$10,000 in 2019. Another concerning change that wasn't highlight by Sunriver is with the deposit, the attrition rate and amounts we are required to guarantee are not proportionate. For example, we are required to guarantee \$38,000 in 2017, but for 2018 it was \$63,000. In conversations with Sunriver, there would be a small increase that was proportionate, and this doesn't seem proportionate. The frustration is that they are requesting more money up front as time goes on that is disproportionate in the increase for the continued years we go there. They want more guaranteed money from us if we cancel or if we do not make our rates.

8) New Business –

May 18, 2017 – Admission of new bar members, who are sworn in in Salem. Our section can go down and hand out flyers, so there needs to be a couple of volunteers.

Jennifer received a letter to nominate someone for the Edwin J. Peterson Award, we can nominate someone from our section who demonstrates the spirit of the law. This is for everyone in the bar to nominate. The letter will be sent out to everyone.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:52 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by Stephanie F. Wilson, 2017 Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.

/s/_____

Stephanie F. Wilson

*****Next meeting: Thursday, April 20, 2017 @ 3:00 p.m. via telephone conference.*****