

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION
October 14, 2023 MINUTES**

Present: Hon. Erin Fennerty, President
Keri Smith, Vice President
Shallon Halttunen, Secretary

Members at Large: Kacie Bitzenburg, Kayla Steindorf, Brittany Berkey Patrick Melendy, Annelisa Smith, Kristi Skalman, Samantha Benton, Shala Kudlac, Laura Eckstein, Alexander Jones, Amanda Thorpe, Adam Shelton, and Zachary Gottlieb.

Others Present: Matt shields, OSB

Call to Order. Hon. Erin Fennerty called the meeting to order at approximately 7:07 a.m. The meeting took place in person at Salishan Resort. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes. The Minutes of the Family Law Section Executive Committee (FLEC) meeting held September 7, 2023, were circulated in advance of the meeting. Amanda Thorpe moved to approve the Minutes; Samantha Benton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (Keri Smith, Adam Shelton, and Zach Gottlieb abstained).

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- **Annual Conference Subcommittee.** Committee members: Alex Jones, Keri Smith, Pat Melendy, Kayla Steindorf, Samantha Benton, Zach Gottlieb.
- **Awards Subcommittee.** Committee members: Brittany Berkey, Kristi Skalman, Adam Shelton. Chair: Brittany Berkey.
 - Discussed presentation of award and importance of professionalism award.
- **Legislative Subcommittee.** Committee members: Amanda Thorpe, Annelisa Smith, Kacie Bitzenburg, and Shala Kudlac.
 - Amanda reports: Still need to approve forms. Our ability to work on proposed bills is narrow and governed by bylaws. Addressed administration of justice vs positional stance. We would have to get approval from the Bar and they have to get approval from BOG. If people route proposed legislation/bills to us, we give them a formal response. Discussed hearing more from individuals.
 - Discussed legislative workgroup (relocation).
- **Family Law Newsletter.** Committee members: Amanda Thorpe and Samantha Benton.
 - Amanda reports we received some interest from individuals; the committee will follow up.

- **Conference Location Committee.** Committee members: Kacie Bitzenburg, Chair, Alex Jones, Pat Melendey, Amanda Thorpe, and Shala Kudlack.
 - Amanda reports: We are locked in with for Salishan in 2024. Dates are **October 10-12**. Still Talking to Sun River about 2025. We need to decide whether we're going to keep live or recording.
 - Discussed importance of keeping the in-person conference. Hybrid cost would be substantially higher.
 - Discussed additional CLE in spring (virtual) for basics. Discussed having a 2-hour meeting to discuss.

Special Recognition: Award to Hon. Judge Fennerty for her position and leadership as Chair of the Board. Thanks to Alexander Jones for his work as Chair of the Conference Committee. Alexander Jones extended his gratitude to Keri Smith and Patrick Melendey for their work; Patrick helped with sponsors; Keri held Trivia night; and to Kayla Steindorf for helping with room reservations and Zachary Gottleib for helping with vendors; and Samantha Benton for her work on the budget.

2024 Conference Chair:

Discussion: Historically the Board selects a conference chair at this meeting. Request for volunteers. Kayla Steindorf agreed to serve as Chair of the 2024 Conference Committee.

- **Nominating Committee:**
 - Judge Fenerty reports she reached out to Kimberly Quach and Shannon Snow, and both agreed to serve.
 - Judge Fennerty moved to appoint nominating committee as follows: Kimberley Quach, Shannon Snow, Patrick Melendey, and Laura Eckstein; Keri Smith seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - Need to have the election slate to the Bar by December 12, 2023 so must approve the proposed slate by the December meeting.
 - Patrick will send out meeting link to get started. Request for timely responses to Pat's email about interest in continuing on FLEC.
- **Treasurer's report –**
 - Samantha reports we are waiting for numbers from this event; we received all sponsor/vendor checks; and we have information about next year's budget. 325 people registered this year; 7-10 didn't pick up their name tags; about 10 registered at the door.
 - Budget deadline is due in December.
 - Surplus form is due soon. If we have too much money, the Bar will increase their charges.
 - Discussion about not changing (increasing) dues.
 - Discussed possibility of having an in-person meeting in June.

Next meeting December 7th via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48am.

Minutes prepared by Shallon Halttunen, Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.