

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 MINUTES**

**Present:** Hon. Erin Fennerty, 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

**Also Participating:** Amy Zubko, OSB

**Absent:** Adam Shelton, Zachary Gottlieb, Keri Smith

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:03 p.m. The meeting took place via Zoom. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes.** The Minutes of the Family Law Section Executive Committee (FLEC) meeting held August 3, 2023, were circulated in advance of the meeting. Laura Eckstein moved to approve the Amended Minutes; Adam Shelton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Samantha Benton (no statement for August). The report will be sent out after it is received. Approved contract with OSB to move forward with conference and contract.

**There will not be a Zoom meeting in October. We will meet at the conference.**

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

- **Annual Conference Subcommittee.** Committee members: Alex Jones, Keri Smith, Pat Melendy, Kayla Steindorf, Samantha Benton, Zach Gottlieb.
  - We have 6 vendors paying \$100/table, and sponsors.
  - The Bar will only send three emails to promote the conference. We are limited to the number of sections to send emails out.
  - At this point, we have met our room requirements; only have 1 room left for Thurs/Fri. The rest of the rooms have been released.
  - Bar will not be sending people to help at conference. Alex will get the materials. Kayla will help with the video. Amanda, Shallon, Kacie, Fennerty, Melendy will help with registration.

- There may be an eclipse Saturday @ 9:30am. May need to do some rescheduling.
  - Hoping to get 100 people to trivia on Thursday
  - Golf activity – only 4 people signed up
  - We are about 80% prepared and hope to get CLE credits approved before the conference starts.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> OSB announcement goes out Sept 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Judge Fennerty will calendar 9/25 to send email reminders regarding registration, trivia, and golf tournament.
- **Awards Subcommittee.** Committee members: Brittany Berkey, Kristi Skalman, Adam Shelton. Chair: Brittany Berkey.
    - *Brittany Berkey reports:* An awards plaque received. Everything is on track. Hoping to meet after the conference to strategize additional interest.
- **Legislative Subcommittee.** Committee members: Amanda Thorpe, Annelisa Smith, Kacie Bitzenburg, and Shala Kudlac.
    - No update.
    - Need to approve boilerplate response when approached about supporting or advancing proposed legislation. Will have a proposed response to present at the meeting in October.
- **Family Law Newsletter.** Committee members: Amanda Thorpe and Samantha Benton.
    - Samantha & Amanda report: They have pivoted to looking into pay-for-play people. Looking into other options.
    - Plan to bring need for editor at the conference. Could include flyer at registration table. Judge F will put flyer together.
- **Conference Location Committee.** Committee members: Kacie Bitzenburg, Chair, Alex Jones, Pat Melendey, Amanda Thorpe, and Shala Kudlack.
    - Amanda reports that she has been in touch with Salishan & Sun River. At first, Sun River didn't have our dates available. Booked with Salishan for 2024. Then looking at options 2025-2026. Salishan is willing to break off the 2024/2025 to just 2024 and they are willing to renegotiate.
    - Amanda suggests moving forward with Salishan.
    - Sun River wants our business back. They are willing to put together a competitive package.
    - Discussed pursuing Salishan for next year. They have added more complimentary rooms. Still the same contract, but they added their own force majeure language, but expect they will allow language changes. The contract is signed by the Bar.
    - Salishan for 2024. October 10-12, 2024.

- Amanda moved to book Salishan to hold the 2024 Family Law Conference on October 10-12, 2024. Patrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Amanda will send contract to the Bar and will inform Salishan.
- Need to set aside rooms for speakers/conference members for 2024 and set aside a block of rooms. (We are using just under 40 rooms this year). Plan to set aside 50 rooms for 2024.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Nominating Committee.** Bylaws require new members to be nominated and we need a nomination committee. Elections will take place by the end of the year. The committee will put together a slate for elections. (The slate has to be approved by the executive committee. Then slate gets voted on at elections.) The latest this group could approve is December. The committee needs to be getting to work SOON. 2022 Nominating Committee: Debra Dority, Lauren Saucy, Judge Fennerty, & Murray Pettit.
  - Judge Fennerty will come up with a list of terms of service/expiring terms. Logan (OSB) will send a list out soon.
  - Patrick & Laura are on the committee. Need two others who are willing to serve on the nominating committee. Discussed asking Shannon Snow, Stefanie Wilson, and Kimberly Quash; Judge Fennerty will reach out and if they are willing to serve, we can appoint the committee at the October meeting. By then, we should have info from Logan. The slate is needed by the first week of December.
  - Patrick will spearhead communications on behalf of the Board.
- **Dues.** The deadline to raise dues is October 15<sup>th</sup>. To be discussed at the conference.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:52 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** October 14, 2023, at 7:00 a.m. at Conference. (Room TBA)

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