**PRO BONO AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**November 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Jacqui Merrill Martin, Michael Addams, Parvin Price, Ritu Jain, Paul Alig, Elizabeth Baldwin, Evangeline Stratton, Gabriel Hinman, Tacy Gillespie, David Weafer

WSBA Staff: Saleena Salango, Nicholas Mejia

Absent:

Meeting called to order at 1:02 PM

**November Meeting Agenda**

**October Meeting Minutes**

The committee approved the October meeting minutes with no amendments.

**Subcommittee Updates**

*Communications Subcommittee* – Ritu Jain shared that the committee met last week. The subcommittee is working to develop newsletter to keep organizations informed about the work our committee does and continue to improve and expand Pro Bono WA. The subcommittee is also researching potential topics to write articles for the Bar News.

*Rules & Policy Subcommittee* – No updates. The next Rules & Policy Subcommittee meeting will be on Monday, November 28th. Jacqui Merrill Martin shared that the Rules & Policy Subcommittee could consider a research project to consider what other jurisdictions are doing to get ideas for what to move forward with. Saleena Salango also shared whether the subcommittee might consider a rule change to make pro bono hours mandatory, or mandating reporting of pro bono hours.

*CLE Subcommittee* – Erin Fortney shared that the October Legal Lunchbox occurred on October 26th and centered on changes to protection order laws. There were almost 2,000 registrants for the CLE. The CLE was very well-received. The next action will be to circle back to the research analysis to see what ideas could be proposed for free CLEs for QLSP individuals.

**Pro Bono Conference**

Michael Addams and Jacqui Martin shared an idea for the committee to host a conference that centers on pro bono in Washington. The purpose of the conference is to gather different pro bono organizations to help WSBA members find opportunities to engage in pro bono. Erin Fortney suggested a CLE component with an Ethics credit. David Weafer shared that we could alternate on years when the ATJ conference is happening; if we are doing so annually, we should be sure not to schedule during that same time. We should ensure that attendees know what they will be getting out of the meeting and what incentives are. Evangeline Stratton inquired about the budget for the committee, and if we could partner with some of the pro bono coordinators at big law firms, or one of the law schools to do this project to get financial support for this project. Paul Alig shared that involving county pro bono coordinators would be a great source for opportunities, trainings, and getting malpractice insurance. The next steps are to put together a proposal. The CLE subcommittee will work to put together potential dates and consider a CLE component.

**Roundtable items**

Saleena Salango mentioned creating an intentional recruitment plan to diversify our committee. Elizabeth Baldwin recommended working with Minority Bar Associations for recruitment. Diana Singleton and Saleena Salango will be leading a training for chairs and co-chairs of the committee on Tuesday, December 13th, that centers on creating an inclusive and equitable space in committees. Several members inquired about whether other committee members can attend, especially those who might be interested in a leadership role next year on the committee.

Gabe Hinman also inquired about connecting with the Pro Bono Council on rule changes surrounding the pro bono commitment or mandatory pro bono hour reporting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 PM