

PRO BONO AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2020 – 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Present in Person: Nick Larson, Nancy Chupp, Brendan Vandor

Present by Phone: Althea Paulson, Kristina Ralls, Bonnie Aslagson, Paul Okner

Not Present: Yuan Ting, Andrew Phillips, Christine Anderson, Kathryn Tucker,

ATJ Liaison: Michelle Lucas

WSBA Staff: Paige Hardy

Meeting called to order at 1:13 PM

Action: Meeting Minutes

Nick made motion, motion seconded by Brendan. Passed unanimously.

BPBSC Mission, Vision, Values Discussion

Nick shared that on the agenda for next few months, we will be discussing the committee's mission, vision, and values. Attached with the meeting materials include: (1) document with a history of the committee that goes out to new committee members and (2) a welcome letter to new members that goes over the committee's past, present, and future projects. Currently, these are the only documents that discuss the committee's mission and purpose.

Goal for this discussion is to expand on the mission, to provide more information to people across the state, and to better define what the committee does. The strategic planning workgroup is going to be focusing on this and will be leading this discussion. The strategic planning workgroup will be drafting updated mission, vision, and values. Committee members are welcome to join this workgroup. Nancy noted the ongoing tasks that this committee needs to work on can be found on page 7 of meeting materials.

Workgroup Updates

- CLE Workgroup: Brendan shared that he had a meeting with Natalia from the Legal Foundation of Washington (LFW). LFW is really hoping to collaborate with this committee. The workgroup has been developing a survey to share with entities, specifically about family law CLEs. Liaisons should share this survey with their entities for feedback.
- Technology Workgroup: Paul shared that the workgroup took a hiatus over the holidays. However, they are in the process of sending out a new survey geared towards legal professionals (*e.g.* asking how legal professionals find pro bono opportunities). Nick shared that Paul and workgroup members have been circulating the survey. Survey will help inform updates to ProBonoWa.org. Committee members are encouraged to take and share the surveys. Paige shared that the survey has about 65 responses so far. Paul also shared that he met with Paladin (a for-profit company that connects pro bono opportunities with volunteer attorneys). This is something the technology workgroup will discuss and update the committee.
- Policy/Rules Workgroup: Bonnie went over proposed comment to RPC 6.5; this was previewed at the last BPBSC meeting. The workgroup will be soliciting support when proposal goes to the BOG. The goal is to have this proposal heard by BOG in March and April. The workgroup will work with Governor Kim Hunter, this committee's BOG liaison. Bonnie will share the materials once everything has been finalized.



- Publications/Communications Workgroup:

Liaison Updates

Nick called into the ATJ Board meeting on Friday. The ATJ Board's next meeting is right before the [Goldmark Luncheon](#), which takes place on February 14, 2020, at the Westin in Downtown Seattle. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

Committee members should connect with their entities before April.

New Business

MCLE update: Paige shared that although the BOG ultimately did not decide to support the MCLE Board's suggested amendments to APR 11, the MCLE Board did take their suggestion to the Washington Supreme Court. The MCLE Board received a letter from Chief Justice Fairhurst that the Court was rejecting the suggested amendment.

Emeritus Pro Bono: Nick shared that President Majumdar is very interested in the emeritus pro bono topic and wants to work with this committee. Althea's article really kick started this movement. Paige shared some of the work she has been doing with President Majumdar, such as providing historical research and context from this committee.

Althea noted that she does not believe we should push back on the timeframe given the momentum as the memo was close to finalization. The license fee issue and accountability mechanism could be explored rather quickly. The only missing piece would be soliciting stakeholder feedback. Althea is unsure how this feedback could best be gathered. Paige noted that the BOG could possibly assist with soliciting feedback from WSBA membership.

Nick identified next steps: (1) workgroup needs to meet to develop proposal for moving forward; (2) committee would need to vote on proposal at next meeting; (3) meeting with the committee, President Majumdar and Governor Hunter; this could all take place before April BOG meeting.

Althea noted that she herself has received 3-4 emails from WSBA members and that almost all of them mentioned the license fee issue. Vote next meeting for specific process for this committee, then the committee will reach out to President Majumdar and President-Elect Sciuchetti for a meeting.

Race Equity and Diversity training will be postponed until May. February will be a regular meeting from 1-2 pm. Paige will send an email with schedule changes to committee meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Next Meeting is on **February 4, 2020.**