Executive Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes -Monday, March 14, 2011
Civil Rights Law Section, Washington State Bar Association

Chair: Sharon Payant
Chair-Elect: Patricia Paul
Treasurer: Michelle Raiford
Secretary: Wilberforce Agyekum

Minutes Recorded by: Sharon Payant

Meeting called to order on March 14, 2011, 12:20.

In Attendance: Sharon Payant, Patricia Paul, and Michelle Raiford. Also present: Tracy Flood, BOG Liaison, and Joy Eckwood, WSBA.

Wilberforce Agyekum (absent)

Agenda

Approval of Minutes: Sharon moved to approve October 2010 minutes. Pat seconded and all voted for approval. Minutes approved.
Sharon moved to approve February 2011 minutes. Pat seconded and all voted for approval. Minutes approved.

Possible merger with SOGILI: Joy said the Sections' Executive Committees should meet with her and possibly also Mark Sideman to discuss the goals of a possible merger. Sharon advised she has been in contact with William, Chair of SOGILI, and is trying to arrange a meeting.

Joy advised of SOGILI meeting on **April 13th from 4-7 pm** across from the WSBA offices. Pupose of the meeting will be to discuss the Section's three options:

-Merger with Civil Rights Law Section
- Re-energizing the Section
- Discontinuing the Section altogether

The Civil Rights Law Section will be invited via e-blast. Our board should attend the meeting.

Club Contour event: Social on March 30th at Club Contour. Joy will send an eblast.

Member Survey: Pat discussed survey sent to World Peace through Law Section members. It might be a benefit for our Section to do a similar survey. We can put one together if board approves.

Legislation: Pat is monitoring legislation for the Section.

HB1963: Civil Marriage Equality. Referred to Judiciary Cmte. Still there.

SB5557 – consolidates agencies into Office of Civil Rights. Public hearing on Feb. 15th, no action taken in committee.

SB5828: Regarding Immigrant Students and Student Aid: First reading and referred to committee.

All above are still sitting in a committee. Pat advises it takes about three legislative sessions for bills to move forward.

Executive Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes -Monday, March 14, 2011
Civil Rights Law Section, Washington State Bar Association

Chair: Sharon Payant
Chair-Elect: Patricia Paul
Treasurer: Michelle Raiford
Secretary: Wilberforce Agyekum

Minutes Recorded by: Sharon Payant

Election: Sharon and Tracy discussed electing Kwame Amoateng as Chair of the nominating committee. Sharon so moved; Pat Seconded; all in favor. Appointment of Kwame approved. Tracy will contact him.

Newsletter: Tracy mentioned our newsletter to the Family Law Section and they may submit an article. Our next newsletter should include an update on the Race and Criminal Justice Task Force and info on the annual event, civil rights awards and elections, since it will be the last one of the year.

CLE: Michelle discussed the GR 33 CLE being organized by the WSBA Committee for Diversity. The Committee was enthusiastic about having our Section co-sponsor. It would be free for members. Michelle believes it will probably be in April.

Another possible CLE idea (from Pat): How to develop a career as a civil rights lawyer and overview of civil rights law. We could have it at the law school.

Michelle will contact Kristi Cruz to see if we can hold it at the SU law school and to see if she can suggest a speaker from the law school. Sharon will contact Lorena Gonzalez to see if she's interested in presenting.

Michelle will also see if we can get updated contact info for Kristi, who is supposed to be our WYLD liaison, but we must have outdated info since she is apparently now at Seattle U, not at Northwest Justice Project.

Next Meeting: We will try to meet next week to discuss the upcoming CLE. Sharon will contact everyone via email.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm