

Washington State Bar Association
Senior Lawyers Section Executive Committee
Minutes of Meeting of January 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Steve DeForest, the Chair. Present were members Gene Annis, John Bergmann, Brian Comstock, Carole Grayson, Dudley Panchot, Jerry Jager, Phil Ginsberg, Linda Eide, Tom Wampold and Bill Viall, WSBA liaison to the Section.

1. The Chair reported:

A. The Petition to roll back WSBA dues from \$450 to \$325 was validated. The WSBA Board will mail ballots to the members in early March.

B. He recently received a letter from the WSBA MCLE Board indicating that an amendment to APR 103(l), which would allow CLE credits for retirement planning, is still under consideration.

2. The Minutes of the November 15, 2011 meeting, as previously circulated to the members, were unanimously approved.

3. In the Treasurer's absence the Chair reported a bank balance of \$9,714.35.00. The balance reflects the contribution of \$5,000 made to the Campaign for Equal Justice.

4. 2012 Annual CLE.

A. Speakers and Topics:

i. Gene Annis confirmed that he has secured the agreement of Vicki Williams, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean at Gonzaga Law School to speak on Health Care funding under the Health Care Act.

ii. Jerry Jager confirmed that Art Swanson has agreed to speak. His topic has not been confirmed. Jerry will follow through with Art to identify the topic this month.

iii. Justice Debra Stephens will focus on new Constitutional issues before the court.

iv. Dudley Panchot reported that Sam Donaldson will be unable to speak this year due to a scheduling conflict. The Chair reported that Karen Boxx has agreed to speak. He will contact her to confirm the specific topic on which she will speak.

v. Hugh Spitzer will chair a panel discussing the Constitutionality of School Funding. Panel members will include Ross Hunter, Tom Ahearne who argued the matter before the Supreme Court, and a third person to be identified.

vi. The topic of Charitable Gift Giving was also discussed with the names of Dr. Frank Minton, Retired Judge Don Horowitz and Russell Speidel identified as possible speakers.

There was also discussion on the general issue of including some topic that would provide Ethics credit.

B. PRICING

After discussion regarding the likely number of attendees, hotel costs, and a net profit target, it was moved and seconded by Carole Grayson and Tom Wampold to retain last year's fees of \$150.00 for members and \$170.00 for non-members. The motion passed.

C. SPONSORS

Jerry Jager expects that he will secure a minimum sponsorship of \$2,500 and possibly \$5,000.

D. PROMOTION

The Chair reported that there will be a mailing followed by an email blast from the WSBA and a second mailing. The Chair encouraged each Board member to solicit attendees from their respective firms and contacts. Phil Ginsberg recommended that each Board member make personal calls to attorneys they know. Brian Comstock suggested an ad in the KCBA newsletter. Gene Annis suggested an ad be placed in the Spokane Bar Association newsletter, and was authorized to spend up to \$150.00 for such an ad.

5. The Campaign for Equal Justice has requested a contribution similar to what was made last year. No action was taken pending the financial outcome of the annual CLE.

6. The Chair reported receipt of a letter from an inactive lawyer requesting that the tuition for the annual CLE be waived, with payment only for lunch. The Board will not take any such action and the Chair was authorized to reply to the attorney.

7. The location and timing of the proposed Executive Committee retreat was discussed. Tom Wampold reported availability at the Sleeping Lady in Leavenworth on May 25, 26, June 1, 2; June 8, 9 and June 15, 16. The Board agreed the May date would not work due to its preceding the Memorial Day weekend. Cost is a concern. We will need up to 10 rooms for the Board and the facilitator. Megan Sommerville has agreed to serve as facilitator. The Chair will email the Board to determine the best available date.

8. Carole Grayson reported that she hopes to have an issue of Life Begins available late in the first quarter of 2012. There was a discussion about getting the issue out as soon as possible and perhaps a shorter edition closer to the Seminar.

9. In the absence of Jerry Greenan a report on the Section website was tabled.

10. The Chair introduced Bill Viall, the new WSBA Board Liaison to the Section. He had attended this meeting and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to meet the Board. He looks forward to attending as many meetings as he can.

11. The next Meeting will be February 21, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Bergmann,
Secretary