

Washington State Bar Association  
Senior Lawyers Section Executive Committee  
October 16, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by John Bergmann, the Chair. Present were members Gene Annis, Al Armstrong, Steve DeForest, Linda Eide, Fred Frederickson, Phil Ginsberg, Carole Grayson, Jerry Greenan, Jerry Jager, Roy Mocerri, and Dudley Panchot. Paris Seabrook, WSBA Section Liaison attended. Brian Comstock, Jerry Curtis and Tom Wampold did not attend. BOG Liaison Bill Viall did not attend.

1. Chair's Report. Bergmann and DeForest met with Kathy Burrows from WSBA's CLE Department. She noted that CLE attendance is down slightly. WSBA will do two seminar brochure mailings for our CLE (not mailed to all WSBA members). We could reduce postage costs with a single sheet mailing.
2. The Minutes. The Committee unanimously approved the September 18, 2012 minutes.
3. Treasurer's Report. Roy Mocerri presented the Treasurer's Report for 2012 Fiscal Year End (FYE) showing a loss based on the extraordinary expense of our June 2012 retreat and a small loss on the May 2012 annual CLE (exclusive of the \$2,500 Union Bank contribution), with about 12 fewer attendees. Our fund balance at 2012 FYE is about \$2,000. We have 327 members, the same as the prior FYE.

DeForest noted that our retreat facilitator has not yet provided the name of her charity for the \$500 we agreed to donate.

Our section dues increased to \$25 effective FYE 2013. Dues are credited to our account as paid, with most received in January.

Thanks to Jager's securing of the \$2,500 from Union Bank we made a \$1,957 profit on the 2012 CLE. WSBA suggests we raise the CLE's cost to \$220. Last year we charged \$150. Also, DeForest reported that last year there was an issue as to whether a late registrant could get the discounted price for joining the section.

4. Increasing Membership. DeForest summarized the recent membership survey showing 34,923 WSBA members with 15,000 or 42.6% in King County and 7,693 age 65 or older. But our section membership remains at 325 members.

**Marketing Subcommittee.** DeForest, Panchot, Armstrong, Greenan and Grayson will form a subcommittee to confer with Seabrook to discuss marketing the section. They will try to meet before the next regular meeting.

How can we increase the value of section membership? The previously appointed Annis subcommittee will focus on the transition to retirement. Seabrook is researching what other state bar associations with senior lawyer sections have done, but there may not be too many and to date, her research shows that they seem to focus on transition issues. Hawaii did a 2009 survey and Oregon is interested in a survey (maybe with Washington?). Grayson asked what other sections offer as membership benefits. Seabrook responded that benefits might include: listserv; mini-CLEs of 1-2 hours; social events (sometimes in conjunction with a mini CLE); scholarships to their CLEs.

DeForest suggested that we might increase membership with a name change to Experienced Lawyers Section. After some discussion, the suggestion was tabled and it was noted that such a by-law change requires BOG approval.

5. 2013 Annual CLE. Bergmann reported that our program and registration fee needs to be set in January to meet the February 13, 2013 WSBA deadline. He requests that we explore availability of potential speakers without making a definite commitment that they will have a spot on the final program. Suggested topics include:
  - A. **Transition to Retirement Panel.** Frederickson suggests panelists might include someone contemplating retirement, someone in mid-retirement and someone retired for a long time. WSBA LaSD Director Michael Badger is suggested as a Moderator. Seabrook points out that the BOG kicked over to its November meeting the issue of CLE credit for things like transition planning, so at the moment we could not promise CLE credit for such a program.
  - B. **Police Conduct Review.** Ginsberg and others suggest that this remains a timely topic. Possible panelists include Jenny Durkan, Connie Rice, Kathryn Olson (although she is on her way out), with Terry Carroll suggested as a moderator.
  - C. **Communications/Elections Issues.** Frederickson reports that UW Prof. David Domke, who chairs the Communications Department, did an excellent presentation at Arts & Lectures. He will explore his availability.
  - D. **Judge.** Speakers suggested include Tallman, McGovern and Gonzalez. Grayson will contact Gonzalez about a 45-60 minute speech on a topic of his choosing.
  - E. **Judge in Death Penalty Case.** Annis will review his prior suggestion regarding the judge who heard a death penalty case.

- F. ***Union Bank Speaker.*** Jager will approach Union Bank again as a CLE sponsor. Also, he will explore whether they would bring up a speaker for about 30 minutes.
- G. ***Miscellaneous.*** Additional possible topics include the following:
  - a. Michael Badger
  - b. Mark Fucile [writes on ethics issues for Bar News]
  - c. David Niven [Annis reports he represents a terrorist suspect]
  - d. John Henry Browne [Ginsberg notes he represents Bales with a preliminary hearing coming up soon]
  - e. John Strait or Dave Boerner [law professors] on social media issues

6. Life Begins.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:30. The next meeting will be at the same venue on November 20, 2012 commencing at 10:30. We do not meet in December.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda B. Eide,  
Secretary