

Washington State Bar Association  
Senior Lawyers Section Executive Committee  
Minutes of Meeting of February 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by John Bergmann, the Secretary and acting Chair. Present were members Al Armstrong, John Bergmann, Gerald Curtis, Linda Eide, Fred Frederickson, Phil Ginsberg, Carole Grayson, Jerry Jager, Roy Mocerri, Dudley Panchot, and Tom Wampold.

1. The Secretary reported that the Chair was out of town and not able to attend.
2. The Minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting, as previously circulated to the members, were unanimously approved.
3. The Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$8,476.00. Last year's CLE produced a net profit of \$2,800.00. There are currently 226 paid members. Last year we had 338 members. The Treasurer is hopeful that paid membership will increase as the CLE registration progresses.
4. 2012 Annual CLE.

The Members present reviewed the speakers and topics agreed to at the last meeting. Phil Ginsberg suggested Judge Erlick, the author of the trial court opinion on the Constitutionality of School Funding, as the third member of the panel scheduled to discuss that issue. He also suggested Judge Coughenour as an alternate on this topic. Jerry Jager reported that Art Swanson was not available to speak at the CLE. There was also discussion on the general issue of including some topic that would provide Ethics credit. Phil Ginsberg and Linda Eide agreed to work together to identify an appropriate speaker and topic. They will advise the Chair once they have secured this commitment.

a. Promotion

Carol Grayson reported that Life Begins will be out in about two weeks with the Seminar Registration included. Gerry Curtis reported that he and Steve DeForest have revised and finalized a proposed brochure for mailing.

b. Sponsors:

Jerry Jager has lunch scheduled Friday, February 24, with representatives of Union Bank. He will report to the Chair on any agreement he secures for sponsorship. The goal is to secure a commitment of \$2,500 from this potential sponsor. Jerry strongly suggested that next year we make it a priority to secure sponsorship from one of the larger law firms in the area. Those contacts should be made sooner than later.

c. Book Contest

Discussion was tabled pending the President's return.

5. Executive Committee Retreat

There was extensive discussion about whether a retreat would benefit the work of the Board, whether the retreat should proceed at the Sleeping Lady, whether it should cover two nights or just one day, and what portion of the cost of the retreat, including lodging and meals, should be paid by funds on hand in the Section's account. Tom Wampold moved, Jerry Jager seconded, that the Board retreat take place at the Sleeping Lady for two nights at a cost per board member of \$556.96, total \$7,430.00 to be paid entirely with Section funds. The Motion failed by a vote of 6 against, 3 in favor. Dudley Panchot then moved that the retreat be held for two nights as scheduled with the Section paying a total of \$5,000.00. The remaining cost would be divided into equal shares to be paid by each board member. This Motion passed. Expenses for spouses attending will be paid by the members.

6. WSBA Member Referendum on reducing annual dues. After considerable discussion, Tom Wampold moved, with Al Armstrong seconding, that the Board endorse the referendum to lower the dues. The Motion failed. Jerry Jager moved, with Dudley Panchot seconding, that the Board take no position on the referendum. This motion passed.

7. Dependency CASA Program Pro Bono Attorney Training. The Board reviewed a notice that Attorney Training for Volunteer Lawyers for this program will take place on March 9, 2012. Interested attorneys were invited to attend.

8. Member Town Hall. The Board reviewed a notice of a Member Town Hall scheduled for February 23 at the WSBA Conference Center to discuss a Proposed Legal Technician's Rule. The WSBA Board of Governors opposes the rule. The Supreme Court is expected to vote on the proposal in June of this year. The Board took no formal action with regard to this proposed rule.

9. Life Begins: Carole confirmed that she expects the next issue will be available within the next two weeks, with the possibility of another issue to follow later. Linda Eide will approach Bob Weldon to request that he author an appropriate article for Life Begins.

10. Section Website: Jerry Greenan was not able to attend the meeting; he had previously advised John Bergmann that he had reviewed the Section website and found it to be in good order.

Linda Eide provided to the members an article from the Professional Lawyer on Senior Lawyers serving Public Interests: Pro Bono and Second-Stage Career.

The Meeting adjourned at 11:50. The next meeting will be March 20, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

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John G. Bergmann,  
Secretary