

## Washington Young Lawyers Division (WYLD) Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting

October 9, 2010, 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Washington State Bar Association, Seattle, WA

**Present:** President Kari Petrasek; President-elect Dainen Penta; Immediate Past President Julia Bahner; Trustees Nanette Blackburn, Manish Borde, Beth Bratton, Marie Gallagher, Dan Gasperino, Robert Grant, Robin Haynes, Chris Maharry, Elizabeth McCormack, Grace O'Connor, Scott Husbands, Megan Vogel (phone), Alma Zuniga; Law Student Trustees Tatiana David and Katelyn Gravelle

**Absent:** Trustee Cyrus Habib; Law Student Trustee Dan Velloth

**WSBA Staff:** Director of Education and Outreach Mark Sideman, WYLD Liaison Brian Halcomb

**Guest:** American Bar Association (ABA) Young Lawyers Division (YLD) Chair Michael Bergmann

**\*\*\*President Petrasek called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.\*\*\***

### Introductions and Feedback on Orientation

Board members introduced themselves and reviewed the morning orientation with committee chairs. They expressed value in the face-to-face time, focus area discussions, and accountability developed through the orientation.

### President's Report

President Petrasek highlighted expectations for trustees:

- Meeting locations are determined for 2010-2011 BOT Meetings except for August 2011, which will likely be held in central Washington. Trustees should plan to attend all meetings and review attendance policy for missed meetings.
- She expects trustees to attend the WSBA Board of Governors (BOG) meeting if it takes place in their geographic district.

Trustee Gallagher moved to executive session; Trustee Borde seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Trustee Bratton moved out of executive session; President-elect Penta seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

President Petrasek continued:

- She clarified that voting members of the board include all trustees and the president-elect. The immediate past president and law student trustees are non-voting members, and the president only votes to break a tie.
- Law student trustees are funded to attend two meetings per year and may wish to seek additional funding from their schools. Calling in to meetings is generally an option.

President Petrasek reported that November 17<sup>th</sup> will be the WYLD/WSBA Sections "Open Section Night." The event will be supported by 19 young lawyer liaisons to sections and law student trustees are encouraged to bring 25 students per school. The event should encourage attendees to get involved in sections and build relationships for practice assistance and mentoring.

## **President-elect Report**

President-elect Penta reported:

- He attended the Washington Women Lawyers' dinner in Spokane and will attend the ABA YLD Fall Conference in Santa Fe
- He was appointed to sit on the BOG Governance Committee
- The WYLD Committee for Diversity (CFD) has integrated well with the WSBA CFD and WYLD members were appointed to sub-committees on the WSBA CFD.

Trustees Haynes and Gallagher expressed support for further integration of WYLD committees with WSBA committees.

## **Law School Outreach**

The Board discussed opportunities to connect law students with the WYLD. Considerations included: beginning with events requiring small commitment; forwarding "press releases" to law student trustees for distribution; focus on networking support; and connection with pre-admission New Lawyer Education requirement.

Trustees expressed a general interest in more targeted and region-specific advertising of WYLD opportunities; Liaison Halcomb offered to work with trustees and committees to streamline information and noted that Trustee Blackburn has good examples of district outreach.

## **Liaison Report**

Liaison Halcomb directed attention to the final fiscal year 2011 budget.

## **Pro Bono/Public Service Focus Area Conversation**

Trustee Vogel, Director of Pro Bono/Public Service Focus Area, led a discussion on the goals and projects of the committees and programs under her area:

- Trustee Vogel noted that with the exception of the WYLD Public Service/Pro Bono Committee, the WYLD mainly has stand alone programs. She summarized that the committee is looking for new direction, but expressed concern that the committee serve as a constant incubator of new programs because it is hard to build stability.
- Trustee O'Connor commented that she believes the committee's role is to help bring programs to counties around the state.
- President Petrasek presented the ABA "Serving our Seniors" program and suggested it be adopted.
- Trustee Vogel described that figuring out priorities given limited resources of people and money is vital. She would like the programs/committees to have some autonomy, but would like the Board to develop a charge to give to them.
- Trustee Gallagher and President-elect Penta suggested focusing on building depth and resources by teaming up with other WSBA projects like moderate means, home foreclosure, and a statewide pro bono directory. The WYLD's role may best be through reaching out to members to dispense information.

## **Meeting Minutes**

President-elect Penta moved to approve the August 14, 2010 meeting minutes; Trustee Maharry seconded. Motion passed, three abstentions.

## **Parliamentarian**

Trustee Bratton moved to elect Trustee Blackburn the 2010-2011 WYLD Parliamentarian; Trustee O'Connor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **WYLD 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Immediate Past President Bahner relayed that the three goals for the celebration of the WYLD's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary are to: 1) serve and engage WYLD members; 2) reach out to past WYLD leaders ("fellows"); 3) highlight the accomplishments of the division. She announced an event following the meeting to include past presidents Tom Fitzpatrick and Kathleen Hopkins.

## **ABA YLD Fall Conference**

Mr. Bergmann reported:

- The ABA YLD is the largest entity within the ABA, totaling 154,000 members.
- ABA YLD conferences generally range between 200-250 attendees.
- The ABA YLD selects a public service project each year and provides resources to implement on the affiliate level.
- The fall conference in Seattle will take place October 13-15, 2011 at the Hyatt Olive 8 hotel and will include (among other things) plenary and individual sessions and a Friday night gala dinner.

## **Adjournment**

President-elect Penta moved to adjourn the meeting; Trustee Borde seconded. Motion passed unanimously.