



WSBA

Diversity Committee

January 18, 2016

12:00-1:30 pm

Conference Call

Phone information:

1-866-577-9294 - Code: 52680#

The Washington State Bar Association's Diversity Committee works to support and implement the WSBA's Diversity and Inclusion Plan; support historically underrepresented groups to enter and stay in the profession; and works to raise awareness in the community building coalitions through collaborative relationships on the benefits of diversity through the continued use of the membership study.

In attendance by phone: Ailene Limric, Allison Ross, Gov. Andrea Jarmon, Carrie Blackwood, Cynthia Chen-Weller, Jennifer Cruz, Kristine Olmstead, Laura Reed, Laura Wulf, Lionel Greaves, Gov. Mario Cava, Navjot Kaur, Oscar Chaves, Gov. Rajeev Majumdar, Robert King, Stephanie Anderson

Absent: Douglas Baier, Gov. Sean Davis, Joy Williams

Staff: Dana Barnett, Kelly Nee

1. Call to Order and Welcome—Gov. Andrea Jarmon

Gov. Andrea Jarmon called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM, Robert King moved to approve November 2016 minutes, Allison Ross seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously by the committee.

2. Talking Points—Cynthia Chen-Weller

Cynthia Chen-Weller reviewed the talking points, and committee members offered their feedback, and Dana Barnett clarified that talking points are directed towards WSBA programming, and that the Diversity Committee works to support this programming, not necessarily work with each and every program. She suggested that at the March in person meeting the committee engages in a facilitated process to practice “stump speeches.” There was a suggestion that the committee also engages with the research and studies produced by the Diversity Program to become more familiar with the key points. Ailene Limric, Carrie Blackwood, Laura Wulf, and Jennifer Cruz volunteered to help facilitate the process of looking at the research.

3. Committee Application Timeline—Dana Barnett

Dana Barnett informed the committee that each committee member serves 2 years, and up to 2 term, with the 2nd term requiring reapplication through individual MyWSBA accounts. February 28th is the deadline for reapplying, please contact Dana if you have questions about your status.

4. Committee Purpose Statement- Joy Williams

Joy Williams was out sick, Committee Purpose Statement will be tabled until the next meeting.

5. **Project Updates**

a. **IL Activities – Lionel Greaves**

Lionel Greaves spoke about the ongoing resume review project, he spoke about the upcoming: SU Mock Interview Program on January 25, Laura Wulf, Jennifer Cruz, Stephanie Anderson, and Lionel Greaves will be participating. Lionel also informed the committee that the IL mixer in May is now cancelled due to date conflicts between the law schools.

b. **MBA Meetings**

Dana Barnett spoke about quarterly MBA meetings, there have been 6 meetings this quarter so far. Committee members are attending meetings. A summary of common topics will be shared with the committee following the meetings. A survey has gone out to the MBA's to update their information and check-in to see if quarterly meetings are too frequent, this will be a biannual survey

c. **Community Networking Events – Kelly Nee**

Kelly Nee updated the committee about upcoming Community Networking Events. Currently there are 4 upcoming that are confirmed:

a. 2/9/17 Bremerton (Toro Lounge), in partnership with WWL and WSVBA
Lionel, Cynthia, Laura W., and Oscar have signed up to attend

b. 2/16/17 Tacoma (The Harmon Restaurant), in partnership with WWL,
WSVBA, and Cardozo

Lionel, Cynthia, Laura W., Sean, Jennifer, Ailene, Robert, and Andrea have signed up to attend

c. 2/23/17 Vancouver (Gray's at the Park), in partnership with WWL
Kris Olmstead has signed up to attend

d. 3/23/17 Olympia (Ramblin Jack's), in partnership with WWL
Laura W., Oscar, and Sean have signed up to attend.

d. **Legal Lunchbox**

The Diversity Program is partnering with WSBA CLE to put together 3 legal lunchboxes in FY17. They will be held in May, June and September. The committee brainstormed topics including looking at stigmas around mental health in the legal profession. This topic was already being covered in April by the LAP (Law Office Assistance Program) Lunchbox. Dana met with LAP and offered consultation and direction for the topic and faculty based on the committees suggestions. Other topics that were discussed were for May/June: History of law and civil rights / The Legal Profession and Injustice under the Law, and September: Lawyers who are religious minorities. The committee also discussed topics for the next Beyond the Dialogue Town Halls. Topics included: Women, Race and Age Part 2: The Role of Allies in the spring, Bias and Accountability and Policing in the summer, and Disability in the fall. A topic that is still TBD is taking current issues into account.

6. **BOG Update – Gov. Andrea Jarmon**

Andrea Jarmon informed the committee that there are 5 BOG seats open in 2017, more to come after the January 26th BOG meeting

7. **Blog and NW Lawyer- Dana**

Dana Barnett spoke about the opportunity to write on programs, current issues, etc. Rajeev Majumdar and Stephanie Anderson expressed interest. The committee requested to review the list of topics which the committee brainstormed last year, at the February meeting.

Governor Andrea Jarmon motioned to adjourn at 1:09, seconded by Rajeev Majumdar

Next Meeting: Conference Call: 1-866-577-9294 access code: 52680, February 15, 12 PM – 1:30 PM

If you need special accommodations contact diversity@wsba.org