

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2020

Members Present: Interim Chair Doug Walsh, Michele Carney, Michael Cherry, Prof. George Critchlow, Prof. Drew Simshaw, Gary Swearingen, Mir Tariq, Jennifer Unger, and Joseph Williams.

Members Excused: Trena Berton, Brooks Goode, Sonya Kraski, Amber Rush, and Sunitha Anjilvel (BOG Liaison).

Also Attending: Ellen Reed (ATJ Tech Committee Liaison), Julie Shankland (WSBA General Counsel), and Kyla Jones (WSBA Paralegal).

Interim Chair Doug Walsh called the meeting to order at once a quorum was established.

PUBLIC SESSION

1. MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 18, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

2. APPLICATIONS

The Board has three applications for review, and anticipates receiving one more. The Board will review all applications at the August 20, 2020 meeting.

3. WSBA EQUITY AND DISPARITY WORK GROUP

President Majumdar asked the POLB to appoint a delegate to the WSBA Equity and Disparity Work Group. The Board appointed Mir Tariq to the Work Group.

4. MCLE BOARD

The POLB discussed the MCLE Board's suggestion to amend APR 11 to require at least one ethics credit on the topic of equity, inclusion, and the mitigation of bias per each three year MCLE reporting period. A motion was made and seconded to support this amendment. The motion passed unanimously. WSBA staff will deliver this information to the MCLE Board.



5. REQUEST FOR AMICUS BRIEF

The POLB again reviewed the available pleadings in regards to a request for WSBA to file an amicus brief in a case that has filed a petition for review before the Washington Supreme Court. The Board's consensus was that (1) there is currently not enough information to determine whether this case meets the standards for WSBA amicus involvement, and (2) any decision whether the WSBA should provide an amicus brief should be delayed until it is determined if the Court will accept review. A motion was made and seconded to relay this information to President Majumdar. The motion passed by consensus.

6. NEXT MEETING

The Board will meet next on August 20, 2020 via Zoom from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Note: Although not discussed during the meeting, the working group from the POLB and the Access to Justice Technology group would like to note that there has been a first meeting to discuss GR 24 and online and automated legal services. At the first meeting, the scope of the issue was discussed, and a second meeting is being scheduled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board tabled the executive session agenda items to the August 20, 2020 meeting due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned.

