

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

CRIMINAL LAW SECTION

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for *Saturday, March 13, 2014*

Meeting Location: 13 Coins, Seatac

Called to order: 9:13 am

Adjourned: 10:30 am

Present: John Fairgrieve, Tessa Gorman (& Ingrid), Ronald Hammett, Kim Hunter, Jana Jorgensen, Blythe Phillips, Dale Slack, John Strait, Mark Vovos, Aaron Wolff
Hugh Birgenheier (late due to family emergency)

Absent: Edwin Aralica, James Hershey, Jimmy Hung, Leesa Manion, John Sheeran, ,

Meeting Discussion

- **Minutes from Last Meeting:** no additions, John S moved to approve, Kim seconded – passed
- **Membership**
 - Two new Board members positions open
 - Jana Jorgensen (Prosecutor, Rea's position)
 - John Fairgrieve (Prosecutor, Jimmy's position)
 - Tessa moved to approve new board members, Blythe seconded → motion passed
 - Law school visits
 - **John S** (Seattle U)– has set something at the law school, working on a date with Criminal Law Focus groups, looking at meeting in April
 - **Mark V** (Gonzaga) – will arrange and advertise a pizza lunch lasting about 20-25 minutes, can spend up to about \$200 on pizza, etc.
 - Looking for participation from others on the eastern side of the state
 - Dale Slack will join Mark at Gonzaga
- **Financials:**
 - Kim provided the January Summary of Financial Activities to the section
 - Blythe reported on Member Fees:
 - New and renewing members :
 - 50 for November, totaling \$1,500.00 revenue
 - 55 for December, totaling \$1,637.75 revenue
 - 233 for January, totaling \$6,990.00 revenue
 - December's summary reflects a different member dues revenue figure of \$2,147.75.
Kim stated she would follow up with the WSBA on the discrepancy.
- **Survey issue and meeting location/method**
 - Rea Culwell resigned following a disagreement with Kim about whether an anonymous survey was an appropriate way to evaluate the current method of conducting section meetings. The current method is in-person meetings every 2-3 months, located in Seatac, WA. Kim explained that she refused to send out an anonymous survey because open discussion among the group was important. There was general agreement that open discussion is the appropriate forum.
 - A discussion followed about the value of the current location and method of conducting section meetings:

- Seatac was chosen because it is an easy location for people who have fly in from other parts of the state
- A few meetings were attempted in Spokane some years ago, but with little success
- Question: do we need to have all the meetings in person?
 - Generally, committee members are open to meeting via video
 - Telephone meetings are easy to attend, but awkward and can stifle discussion
 - Legislative session season has a lot of tight deadlines, but those are adequately addressed by discussion via email
- Next steps: **Kim** will look into Skype options; the section will keep in-person meetings every three months
- **Legislative Update**
 - Is it possible to involve student groups in the legislative review process? John S will talk to John Weaver at SU Law school to ask about involving the SU Legislative Drafting Lab
 - May be able to provide more detailed analysis than the bill summary
 - The Legislative Committee role should not change – it still vets the bills that come to the section for review
 - The bar encourages CLS to draft legislation – Hugh would like to see us draft legislation, this is a new undertaking for the section
 - The process would need to begin now, a work group would need to begin the process in the summer
 - **Everyone** should think of ideas for legislation that applies to their practice areas so we can brainstorm as a group – ideas should be sent to **Hugh Birgenheier** at hbirgen@co.pierce.wa.us
 - **Kim** will send an email to the section for ideas for legislation.
- **CJI 2014**
 - October 9, 10 2014 are the tentative dates; **Kim** will check to see if Oct 2 & 3 are available
 - Hugh reported that only 1 weekend was available
 - Topics – please offer ideas
 - Members, please speak!
 - John S will do an ethics piece
 - Especially need speakers from outside of Seattle
 - Hugh & Jimmy or Tom McBride of WAPA to cover hits and misses of legislative session
 - Wet lab proposed: this has been a successful session in the past – a group volunteers to be the test group for the new Dräger breathalyzer system (which was the subject of a presentation last year) – designated drivers will be required!
- **Newsletter**
 - Dale Slack will take the lead;
 - Aim for publication in August or September, that way there can be hard copies available at CJI
- **Member Benefit CLE schedule** – tabled until next meeting
 - Member Benefit CLE is free to section members, lasts ½ day - usually on Saturday morning at Seattle U, t
 - A couple of meetings ago it Thursday afternoons were discussed as a time that might generate better attendance, but the law school isn't available

- Last year's was on October 26, but CJI was mid-September. With CJI in October this year, it was suggested that we move it to December, but there is too much going on that month.
- **Next Meeting**
 - ~~May 31~~ – changed to **June 7**
 - August 16
- **Old Business** - none
- **New Business** none
- **Good of the Order**
 - Students can join section for \$17.75