

Elder Law Executive Committee

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Meeting Minutes

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| X Kameron Kirkevold , Chair | ___ Mark Vohr , Outreach/Mentorship Co-Chair |
| X Megan Farr , Chair-Elect & Legislative Co-Chair | X Peggy Sanders , Outreach/Mentorship Co-Chair |
| ___ Miriam Ayoub , Secretary | |
| X Matthew Parker , Treasurer | X Meredith Childers , Grants Chair |
| X Ronald St. Hilaire , Trustee | X Carla Calogero , Immediate Past Chair |
| X Eric Watness , Trustee | |
| X Ann LoGerfo , Trustee | <u>Liaisons:</u> |
| X Karen Boxx , Legislative Co-Chair | X Katie Hurt , Young Lawyer Cmte.
Liaison/Legislative |
| X Suzanne Thompson Wininger , CLE Co-Chair | X Angela Hayes , BOG Liaison |
| X Michael Longyear , CLE Co-Chair | X Joe Terrenzio , Section Liaison |
| ___ Dick Sayre , Communications Co-Chair | X Alison Phelan , Legislative Affairs Manager |
| ___ Amy Freeman , Communications Co-Chair | |

Welcome, Announcements

Kameron Kirkevold took attendance and confirmed quorum.

February Meeting Minutes

Kameron confirmed review by members of minutes and asked for comments. There were no comments. Michael Longyear moved to approve. Peggy Sanders seconded. All members voted to approve the February meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Matthew Parker presented February treasury statements for the section. Section dues revenue was greater than predicted and there are more to collect. Also, the February summary report shows the \$10,000 donation made to Columbia Legal Services for the Elder Law fellowship. The new fund balance is \$62,607.73. We are currently below what we budgeted for expenses.

CLE Update

Michael Longyear and Suzanne Thompson Wininger reported the numbers for the CLE on Friday are low compared to last year: 26 people in person and 19 on webcast vs. last year with 31 people in person and 39 on webcast. There are several other competing CLEs, which could be the reason for low numbers. In the past, the "spring" CLE was in January when there was less competition. It may be worth revisiting a return to January in the future.

Bylaws Approval

On January 26, the WSBA Board of Governors (BOG) approved the proposed amendments to Article XI of the bar association's bylaws. We need to "harmonize" our section bylaws with the minimum standards and processes set forth in Article XI. Kameron sent an email from Joe Terrenzio with attachments about revising our section bylaws. We will need to submit our revised section bylaws for approval by the Board of Governors (BOG) in April or June. Kameron stated he had some questions about the revisions and invited Joe to provide input. Joe explained that

the bar provided redline version of our current bylaws that show minimal compliance and consistency with Article XI. One point of concern voiced by several meeting participants is the requirement that the executive committee members cannot vote by email without meeting first. Megan Farr, Alison Phelan, Angie Hayes and others expressed concern that this requirement would severely limit the section's participation in legislative work. Ronald St. Hilaire, Carla Calogero, Megan and Kameron agreed to be on a subcommittee to discuss section bylaw revisions.

Legislative Update

Alison Phelan provided legislative update:

- House Bill 1402 on Guardianship – moving, hearing tomorrow. Nice bipartisan support.
- Senate Bill 5577 on Guardianship – moving.
- Senate Bill 5081 on Notary Act – hearing last week. Expect it to reach house floor for vote and go on to governor desk. No issues or push back on bill.
- House Bill 1139 on OPG Expansion – haven't seen hearing or executive action, but must happen before next Wednesday.
- Senate biennial operating budget released today. Court system looks funded at maintenance level. Lots of other cuts/decreases/transferring of funds; it's a no-new-taxes budget. House will respond and release draft next week and we will have a good sense of where are two chambers in process (i.e. how far apart they are in the process).

Alison also announced that she is leaving the bar association at end of month and has accepted Director of Government Relations position at BECU. We can reach out to Clark and contract lobbyist for legislative needs.

Karen Boxx reported on Uniform Law Commissioners (ULC). She attended two conferences and learned that ULC is close to sending a proposed Uniform Guardianship Act to the board for approval. The Act will likely be out this summer and we should consider forming a subcommittee for review. Karen also brought up an issue with a company called Willing that provides digital wills. ULC is looking into uniform laws for digital wills.

Megan Farr provided the following report:

- Senate Bill 5691 on Guardianship. It states that judges should modify or terminate guardianship when less restrictive alternative available. It's not necessary. It will be heard in house tomorrow.
- Senate Bill 5012 on Trust decanting. It will probably pass. RPPT commented on it, but our section should be aware of it and probably have someone discuss it at the Fall CLE if it passes.
- House Bill 1153 on crimes against vulnerable persons. Adds new crime to address theft cases involving vulnerable adults with a 6 year SOL.

WINGS Report

Peggy Sanders and Katie Hurt reported on recent WINGS legislative committee meetings. They met last month and will meet again today.

WA Public Guardianship Task Force Update

Ann LoGerfo reported that the Task Force is meeting regularly and will be prepared to draft final recommendations in a few weeks. The Task Force is a very diverse group and meetings are productive. They are spending thoughtful time processing information.

LLLT Update

Kameron reported nothing new out of supreme court with regard to public responses to LLLT proposals. Paula Littlewood and Steve Crossland will talk at the RPPT meeting in first week in April 2017. They may have updates by then. Kameron will start drafting response to new LLLT proposals and circulate within the section executive committee. Angela Hayes suggested that we forward our response or comments to BOG. The BOG may weigh in with supreme court and is collecting information on LLLT at this time. It is likely the Supreme Court will request input from the BOG regarding the proposed expansion area at some point in the future. It may be a topic of discussion at the BOG's May 2017 meeting. Also, Peggy Sanders notes that the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) commented.

Outreach and Grants

Meredith Childers reports that Columbia Legal Services (CLS) has selected Xaxira Velasco, a first year law student at Seattle University, as the 2017 Peter Greenfield Summer Intern. Xaxira will attend Friday's CLE and Ann will introduce her briefly before lunch. CLS also hired Alison Bilow to the one-year Elder Law Fellow in the Basic Human Needs Project. The Grants Subcommittee will meet again soon and Meredith will report on their activity during the next meeting.

Final Announcements

- Spring Retreat: Kameron will send survey out for April or May Retreat.
- Fall CLE: Michael and Suzanne will start planning the September program soon pursuant to WSBA deadlines. Please email them if you have ideas for content.
- Section Leaders Meeting on April 17th: Joe encouraged us to attend. More information on the WSBA calendar.

Adjourn