Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Senior Lawyers Section: January 18, 2023

Present via Zoom: David Sprinkle, Eleanor Doermann, Steve DeForest, Joe Gordon, Bill Cameron, Jenny Rydberg, Carolyn McGregor, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Al Armstrong (arrived late due to technical difficulties). Excused: Carole Grayson, Brian Comstock, YL Liaison Sabiha Ahmad, Jim Riehl, Morrie Shore.

December’s meeting minutes were approved.

Q1 Chair David Sprinkle noted that we still need a Q2 chair for April-June.

Treasurer’s Report: Joe reported that he obtained information from WSBA. Our balance is slightly less than August’s: at the end of September, we had a balance of $15,228.82. The only activity was due to interest and membership fees. We lost $352 for membership charges. In October (beginning of FY23), we had $14,833.64. Fees and credits for members have changed. A new budget is in effect, with a decrease of $395. We had one new member in October. In November, we had one new member ($25 credit) and a charge of $17.66. Balance $14,840.98.

Member Survey: Discussion on how to approve and execute the incentive gift cards; Carolyn McGregor suggested that this could come from the EC expenses in the budget. Eleanor suggested we vote to do this; vote was unanimous. David volunteered to buy gift cards. The survey should help the EC know what members are most interested in regarding CLEs and other activities.

Newsletter: The deadline for articles for the spring edition is 3/15. Carolyn reported that the winter edition is being reviewed.

Subscriber/non-attorney members: There was discussion about whether the section should consider admitting “subscriber,” i.e., non-attorney members. Some sections, such as Solo and Small Practice, have done this. David opened it for discussion, noting that this may dovetail with Brian’s earlier point about the advisability of expanding the section membership. Carolyn shared that in other sections, people like professors and members of the field at issue (e.g., health law) have joined. We’re not in danger of non-viability as a section due to numbers, so expanding the membership would be up to us. Our by-laws seem to permit it. Steve asked why we would recruit from different sources when we have 14,000 attorneys who could be members but aren’t. David noted that we have considered mentor/mentee opportunities, and we don’t need subscribers for that. He’s not sure it’s worth the effort (to recruit non-attorneys). Eleanor pointed out that we also don’t want people to join just to be able to market to seniors. Jenny noted that we need to know what the goal is, and once that’s defined, we can decide if admitting non-WSBA member subscribers achieves that goal. This may be a topic for further discussion by Brian’s task force on section membership. No further action on this was taken.

Next meeting will be via Zoom, 10:30 a.m. on February 15, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Jeanine Lutzenhiser