SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 15, 2023

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Interim Chair David Sprinkle, Al Armstrong, BOG Co-Liaison Kevin Fay, Jeanine Lutzenhiser, Jenny Rydberg, Jim Riehl, Steve DeForest, Bill Cameron, Brian Comstock, Young Lawyer Liaison Sabiha Ahmad and Carolyn MacGregor, WSBA Sections Program Specialist. Not able to be present were Carole Grayson, Joe Gordon, Eleanor Doerrman, BOG Co-Liaison Jordan Crouch and Morrie Shore.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's (and Jeanine's) February Meeting Minutes were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

David, in Joe’s absence, presented the WSBA’s Statements of Activities for the months of December, 2022 and January, 2023. These reflected our Section’s month-to-month financial status as of the ends of those two months: balances of $14,840.98 and $16,191.54, respectively. Since the Statements were WSBA-generated, it was determined that formal approval was not necessary.

REPORT FROM BOG CO-LIAISON KEVIN FAY

Kevin, our District 9 Governor and BOG Co-Liaison, related some of the actions taken at the recent BOG meeting in Olympia. Matters were discussed relating to the WSBA’s efforts at increasing member engagement, such as increasing efforts at diversity, equity and inclusion, and seeking ways to facilitate rural legal practice. Other matters discussed included determining the WSBA’s future home—should it vacate its current abode and move out of Seattle, open several branch offices, etc.

YOUNG LAWYER SECTION LIAISON REPORT

Sabiha indicated she would like to be more involved with the Young Lawyers Section, as she is not yet a member. She has reached out to the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers’ Section regarding a possible mentorship arrangement.
SURVEY RESULTS

David circulated the results of our survey of our Section members prior to our meeting. David indicated that our survey of Section members drew 50 responses. David was pleased with this. He was, however, surprised about the lack of interest in mentoring that the survey revealed. The survey respondents generally thought highly of our newsletter. Attendance at an in-person CLE was favored by 76%, while over 85% said they would attend a CLE webinar. Relative to our past in-person CLEs, many survey respondents reported that they enjoy the opportunity to see and socialize with old friends that in-person CLE affords.

LIFE BEGINS NEWSLETTER

Jim mentioned that today (March 15) was the last day new items can be submitted for our next edition.

Jim indicated he wished to include an ethics column in subsequent editions, perhaps twice per year. He will reach out to Kurt Bulmer about this.

Jim stated that he is “building a library” of items for future publication in our newsletter. And “I am always looking for pictures and graphics.” Jim lauded Jenny’s travelogue about visiting Antarctica.

Ideas for future articles were shared. A study, that showed a correlation between low reading scores and later incarceration, was mentioned as a possibility. Former attorney general Rob McKenna was mentioned as a possible contributor.

INTERIM CHAIR POSITION

Jeanine volunteered to act as Interim Chair for the third quarter of the current fiscal year, April 1 to June 30, and Brian agreed to so act for the last quarter, July 1 through September 30, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

David adjourned the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote-attendance basis on April 19, 2023 at 10:30 am.