



WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Taxation Section

WSBA Tax Section Executive Committee – Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 15, 2023; 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. (Meeting via Zoom)

In Attendance

Kristi Richards
Megan Tahl
Jason Harn
John Clynch
Jessica Bejerea
Ellen Tung
Tina Poley
Darek Jarski
Kimberly Anderson
Jay Jetter
Sofia Meglioli
Daniel Ng
Rich Johnson
Aaron Johnson
Brett Durbin
Carolyn MacGregor

1. Called to order 8:04 am
2. Call to Order, Attendance, Approval of Minutes Meetings
3. Treasurer's Report (Jason Harn)
 - Section's draft FY24 budget was submitted in July
 - i. Budget was similar to FY23 final budget
 - Received very few notes and comments from WSBA re: draft FY24 budget
 - i. Section's final FY24 budget was submitted in August, substantially similar to draft budget.
4. New/Ongoing Items
 - Website Update:
 - i. The Section has received suggestions from WSBA re: improvements to Section's website
 - ii. Jay is working with the DEI committee to add its content to the website
 - iii. Jay invites any comments or requests re: website updates
 - New Committee Chairs:
 - i. Transactional Tax:
 1. Daniel Ng will be joining as a co-chair of the Transactional Tax Committee
 2. WSBA has requested we hold a vote to appoint Daniel in October
 - ii. IRS Liaison:
 1. Najja Bullock will be joining as the new IRS liaison, replacing Logan

2. Currently, there are some delays in internal approvals from the IRS; hopefully, approvals will be obtained by the October meeting.
- WSBA Updates from Carolyn:
 - i. Section Leaders Orientation
 1. Will occur virtually on October 13th from 9:00-11:00 am
 2. Aimed at new incoming section leaders; however, it is a good refresher for returning leaders
 3. Highly encourage at least one section representative at the least
 4. Orientation will be recorded
 - ii. Higher Logic
 1. WSBA will be piloting a new platform called Higher Logic
 2. Intended to help organizations with collaboration, meeting and event logistics, media and file storage, and communications
 3. WSBA is looking into making it available for all entities, but is currently piloting with 10 entities
 4. WSBA is looking for a few sections to participate in the pilot. A form will be circulated in the near future to apply.
 - a. Requesting that all pilot participants use the platform for all executive work.
 - Monthly Meeting Start Time:
 - i. Noted and discussed that 8:00 am start time makes it difficult to juggle with kids' school starting at 9 am; suggested perhaps discussing moving start time to later in the morning.

5. Committee / Liaison Reports, Ideas, Goals

- Estate & Gift Tax (Cat Connell & Reed Jones)
 - i. Not on call/ no report
- International Tax (Al Sierra)
 - i. Not on call/ no report
- Transactional Tax (Dan Sito)
 - i. Not on call/ no report
- IRS Liaison (Rich Johnson)
 - i. No report
- DOR Liaison (Kimberly Anderson & Tina Poley)
 - i. Mini-CLE on WFTC was successful.
 - ii. DOR New Parttime TRO Positions:
 1. DOR historically has struggled to hire.
 2. Part-time TRO positions coming available soon; 20-35 hr./week consideration.
 3. Prospective new higher could potentially keep other part-time work (provided no conflicts exist).
 4. Recruitment for the positions will open October 1st.
- Legislative (Brett Durbin & Callie Castillo)
 - i. Nothing active right now.
- Communications & Website (Jay Jetter)
 - i. WSBA is open to and willing to work with Section to update website.
 - ii. Jay has met with the DEI Committee in furtherance of putting DEI content on the website.
 - iii. Jay is interested in hearing feedback from the EC re: ideas for updates.
- Young Lawyers (Daniel French)
 - i. Not on call/ no report

- Outreach/Scholarship (Jennifer Gellner)
 - i. Not on call/ no report
 - ii. Per Carolyn:
 1. Section raised \$1,803 in donations for the Section’s scholarship
 2. 2023 scholarship was paid out in late July
- Pro Bono Committee (Darin Jensen)
 - i. Not on call/ no report
 - ii. Per John Clynch:
 1. Afghan Refugee Legal Support Center event: 4-day event. Not a ton of folks sought tax advice; but the volunteers were able to help some people. Further, the tax community volunteers were able to establish our presence among the other volunteering programs/non-profits
 2. UW LITC: Clynch is back with the LITC as a staff attorney; asking any folks who are interested in volunteering with the LITC to contact him at (206) 616-6266 or clyncher@uw.edu
 3. Tax Court Settlement Day: coming up soon—Clynch will update us when the date is announced. S calendar on December 18th.
 4. Stotter Award Nominee Recommendation: believes Scott Schumacher should be considered.
- State & Local Tax (SALT) (Aaron Johnson)
 - i. Top 25 Priorities List recently published; not mentioned in the list is an apportionment rule (Rule 19402)→Tina: Department is close to getting the rule out and adopted
 - ii. Capital gains trailer bill has some good things in it, particularly, the two-year transition penalty waiver provided for in the bill.
 - iii. Department is aware that Rule 15503 (concerning digital products) is out of date on the website and is working on it.
 - iv. People were not particularly kind during recent rulemaking public hearing.
 - v. *Quinn v. WA DOR* (capital gains case): Petition for Writ of Cert. filed with SCOTUS in August.
 - vi. *Antio, LLC et al. v. WA DOR* (investment income case): Petition for Review filed in July; Committee interested in possible stakeholders meeting to discuss issues.
- CLE (Sofia Meglioli & Jason Harn)
 - i. Held the WFTC mini-CLE last month; went well and the presentation was great.
- DEI (Ellen Tung & Jessica Bejerea)
 - i. Mentoring Program:
 1. Preparing to launch the program in the near future.
 2. Committee has met with Jay and Kristi regarding website updates, which will be vital to the program. The committee is currently putting content together.
 3. Would like for an e-blast to be sent to the Section to announce the program and ask for mentors, as recruiting mentors is typically the most difficult part of establishing a mentoring program.
 - Based on other sections’ experiences, successfully pairing five mentor-mentees is considered a success.
 - However, the recent survey results suggest the Section’s program should do better than that.
 - ii. K-12 Civics Program: Annie Barouh is reaching out to Seattle schools right now.

6. Adjourned at 8:57 am