

**THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.**  
**Jackson Maynard's office**

Members Present: Heidi Raedel Magaro, Mark Wheeler, Bill Pope, Patrick O'Connor, Megan Card, Jim Laukkonen, Lenny Lucenko, Trevor Zandell, Jackson Maynard, Laura Murphy  
Members Absent: Terry Church  
Others Present: Heather Ligtenberg

1. **Call to order** 5:43pm
2. **Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2018 Board Meeting** - Laura moved to approve, seconded by Megan. The motion carried without objections.
3. **New Business**
  - 3.1 Holiday lunch 2019 venue (Heather) – A discussion took place about the venue for the 2019 Holiday lunch. Heather will call and reserve the Olympia Country Club again for a Friday in December.
  - 3.2 Annual Dinner (deciding entertainment) (Heidi & Trevor) – A discussion took place regarding the venue and entertainment for the annual dinner & meeting. May 4 & May 18 are options at the Olympia Yacht Club for a rental fee of \$400. Heritage Room is available on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> for a rental fee of \$1100. Entertainment options are: Comedian, Casino Night, Music/Dancing, and Trivia Night. Catering costs are an additional fee. After the discussion, the consensus is to have the event at the Olympia Yacht Club on May 18, 2019 with trivia and possibly music. Heidi will contact the trivia company. Trevor will contact the Olympia Yacht Club.
  - 3.3 Bylaws (Mark) – If we have any changes to the Bylaws we need to be doing that soon.
  - 3.4 2019 Law Day (Terry) – In Terry's absence, Patrick shared that he and Terry talked recently and the goal is to have six judges total (3 Judicial and 3 board members). The preliminary round will be in early April and the finals will be the first week of May. Topic is TBA.
  - 3.5 Paid Family & Medical Leave (Heather) –Heather will check with the accountant, Christine Garst, about how to do the monthly and quarterly payroll deductions.
4. **Old Business**
  - 4.1 Rules Committee update (Laura) – They meet next week and will report at the next meeting.
  - 4.2 Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family program update (Lenny) – There was more time to socialize at the lunch without having the Adopt-A-Family program at the lunch this year. There was \$2809.00 raised at the lunch for the Safeway gift cards for the Adopt-A-Family families. There was a great turnout at the holiday lunch this year. A couple of comments made about the holiday lunch was there was a lot of time to socialize and it was a little boring. Laura had an idea for next year to have a drawing with prizes and the money goes to the Salvation Army.
  - 4.3 Coming up with a clear plan to support the new courthouse update (Mark) - There is a meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Commissioner's office. It's possible that the site will be selected tomorrow. This will be discussed next month.
  - 4.4 Judicial Evaluation Survey update (Trevor) – Heather will send the questions we used last year to Trevor. A discussion took place regarding the questions for the survey. Trevor will revise the questions and email the Board the revised questions.

4.5 Open Board Position (Mark) – A discussion took place. Trevor moved to closing nominations seconded by Jackson. The motion carried without objections. Mark will contact Terry to obtain his vote. Mark will let Heather know who will then reach out to the Board to let them know which applicant received the most votes.

5. **Treasurer's Report** (Jim Laukkonen) – December 2018 Financial Report - Megan moved to approve, seconded by Laura. The motion carried without objections.

6. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (Laura Murphy) - The January luncheon is on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Jonathan Lack is the speaker and the topic is “Implicit Bias.” Laura is working with Anne Gwen for later this year. She contacted retired Judge Berschauer for a Mediation CLE, but he isn't available, but she will contact Judge McPhee to see if he is available.

## 7. **Committee Reports**

7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – Mark reached out to Pam Hartman Beyer but hasn't heard back from her yet regarding the meeting location for the next Bench/Bar meeting in June.

7.2 CLE (Bill, Megan, Heidi, Patrick, Laura, Jackson) – The committee had a meeting scheduled on Monday, but had to cancel last minute. Terry is working on a CLE on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Jackson is working on a four hour Employment Law CLE; How to Hire, Fire, and Keep Good Employees and has four speakers lined up already. Heidi is working on a CLE as well.

7.3 Newsletter (Heather) – The January Legal Brief is being mailed to members tomorrow. JAMS has asked if there is a discount for advertising all year in the Legal Brief? A discussion took place regarding the discount. The Board agreed to a 10% discount for JAMS if they pay 1 year in advance. The discount is based on their longevity and continued support of our newsletter. Bill moved to approve the discount for JAMS, seconded by Megan. The motion carried without objections.

The 10% discount will also be given to any advertisers that want to pay 1 year in advance.

Bill moved to approve, seconded by Jackson. The motion carried without objections.

7.4 New Courthouse (Marie Doctor & Jonathan Sprouffs) –

(Marie): There is no new information since the last update I sent. The next meeting – which is a continuation of the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting that was cut short due to the bomb threat – is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated or hoped at least that the site will be selected on or before this meeting or shortly thereafter.

(Jonathan): To the best of my knowledge no action has been taken since the last update.

## 8. **Section Reports**

8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) – Our first meeting of the year is next Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. I'm meeting with Judge Hirsch on Friday (day after tomorrow) to make sure the Family Law Section gets all of the updated information with the new calendaring system at Family and Juvenile Court, which should be released in the very near future. Our December meeting was the annual holiday potluck and get-together with the FLS and the GALs.

We had our first Family Law Section meeting of 2019 today. I would say it was rather well attended. All judicial officers were present, and many had several agenda items to discuss. Court administration was there, as well as our Clerk and Senior Deputy Clerk.

We had a relatively robust discussion about many topics. Specifically, the proposed Calendar Changes for the Judges at Family Court. Some of the concerns by Section Members is that trials are moved to Monday afternoon and Thursday and Friday. It is also approximately ½ half day less of trial time available. Currently, both judges are usually available for trial every week from Monday through Wednesday. The Court is actively seeking input from section members on the proposed calendars and how best to implement them.

The Court is proposing a change to the pretrial process at family court and also hoping to move trial confirmations (formerly “status conferences”) to 11 days before trial (instead of the

Thursday before trial week). Judge Hirsch would like the new pretrial process to be more “administrative” than it has been in the past. There is a meeting scheduled for January 29, 2019, at 12 noon in the law library. The purpose of the meeting is to draft a proposed rule for the new pretrial process. The court wants input from the family law section to help draft the rule. The Commissioners put forth some “best practices” reminders. Our family and juvenile court is a “unified family court.” The policy of the court is to try to implement the “one family, one judge” approach. Meaning, the Court does not want various judicial officers reviewing the same case or cases. Once a judicial officer has made a substantive ruling on a case, all further motions/issues should be before the same judicial officer.

That is pretty much the meeting boiled down to brass tacks. Almost everyone had a lot to say today. Please let me know if there is anything in particular you would like to know about our meetings (I tend to overshare).

8.2 Pro Bono (Terry Church) – No report

8.3 Young Lawyers (Ingrid Zerpa) - On Thursday, December 20th, the YL section met at the Westside Tavern to celebrate the New Year. The turnout was decent--about 8 people showed up. We had our January lunch today. It was lovely but due to the holidays not many people could make it. Two people showed up. I created a YL events google calendar to make it easy on people to stay informed.

8.4 Criminal Law (Larry Jefferson & Wayne Graham) - We have a meeting set on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at Noon, at the Thurston County Courthouse to discuss the New Flip System. The discussion will concern the successes and difficulties of the new Flip System and what changes the practitioners would like to see occur.

8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Heather Burgess) – The section did not meet in December. Our next event is a free lunchtime CLE to be held on January 30, 2019 at Mercato Ristorante in Olympia on the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (RCW 64.90), which took effect on July 1, 2018. The presentation will focus on key changes in the law applicable to plats, CCRs, and HOAs. The CLE has been approved by the TCBA Board and by the WSBA for 1.0 Legal credit. Registration is now open. Please note that the CLE is capped at 25 attendees due to space constraints, so early registration is encouraged. Lunch/networking begins at 11:30 AM and the program will begin at noon. Attendees will order a la carte from a list of available menu items. Our next event will be a no-host section social on February 21, 2019 from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Oly Tap Room.

## 9. **Additions to agenda**

9.1 Jackson shared that there is a Red Mass at St. Mikes on January 10, 2019 at noon.

9.2 Laura reached out to Mason and Lewis County Bar Associations to share the January CLE with them. Heather emailed the January flyer to the Mason County Bar Association President, Julie Nichols. Laura has not heard back from the Lewis County Bar Association President yet.

9.3 Megan shared that the YMCA Mock Trial is looking for volunteer raters. She will forward the email to Heather and Heather will email it to the members.

## 10. **Announcements**

11. **Date/location of next meeting:** Mark Wheeler’s office on February 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

12. **Adjourn** 7:25pm